

**A seamless integrated insurance solution for professionals.**

Please read this wording, together with any **endorsements** and the schedule, very carefully. If anything is not correct, please notify **us** immediately.

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**Our promise to you**

In return for the premium **you** have paid, **we** agree to insure **you** in accordance with the terms and conditions of the **policy**.



**Steve Langan**  
CEO, Hiscox Insurance Company

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**Complaints procedure**

Hiscox aims to ensure that all aspects of **your** insurance are dealt with promptly, efficiently and fairly. At all times Hiscox are committed to providing **you** with the highest standard of service. If **you** have any concerns about **your policy** or **you** are dissatisfied about the handling of a claim and wish to complain **you** should, in the first instance, contact Hiscox Customer Relations in writing at:

Hiscox Customer Relations  
The Hiscox Building  
Peasholme Green  
York YO1 7PR  
United Kingdom

or by telephone on +44 (0)800 116 4627 or +44 (0)1904 681 198  
or by email at [customer.relations@hiscox.com](mailto:customer.relations@hiscox.com).

Where **you** are not satisfied with the final response from Hiscox, **you** also have the right to refer **your** complaint to the Financial Ombudsman Service. For more information regarding the scope of the Financial Ombudsman Service, please refer to [www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk](http://www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk).

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<b>General definitions</b>	Words shown in <b>bold</b> type have the same meaning wherever they appear in this <b>policy</b> . The words defined below are used throughout this <b>policy</b> . Any other definitions are shown in the section to which they apply.
<b>Asbestos risks</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. The mining, processing, manufacturing, use, testing, ownership, sale or removal of asbestos, asbestos fibres or material containing asbestos; or</li><li>b. exposure to asbestos, asbestos fibres or materials containing asbestos; or</li><li>c. the provision of instructions, recommendations, notices, warnings, supervision or advice given, or which should have been given, in connection with asbestos, asbestos fibres or structures or materials containing asbestos.</li></ol>
<b>Business</b>	<b>Your</b> business or profession as shown in the schedule.
<b>Confiscation</b>	Confiscation, nationalisation, requisition, expropriation, deprivation, destruction of or damage to property by or under the order of any government or public or local authority.
<b>Date recognition</b>	Any failure by any equipment (including any hardware or software) to correctly recognise any given date or to process any data or to operate properly due to any failure to correctly recognise any given date.
<b>Endorsement</b>	A change to the terms of the <b>policy</b> .
<b>Excess</b>	The amount <b>you</b> must bear as the first part of each agreed claim or loss.
<b>Geographical limits</b>	The geographical area shown in the schedule.
<b>Nuclear risks</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Any sort of nuclear material, nuclear reaction, nuclear radiation or radioactive contamination;</li><li>b. any products or services which include, involve or relate in any way to anything in a. above, or the storage, handling or disposal of anything in a. above;</li><li>c. all operations carried out on any site or premises on which anything in a. or b. above is located.</li></ol>
<b>Period of insurance</b>	The time for which this <b>policy</b> is in force as shown in the schedule.
<b>Policy</b>	This insurance document and the schedule, including any <b>endorsements</b> .
<b>Program</b>	A set of instructions written in a computer language which tells a computer how to process data or interact with ancillary equipment.
<b>Terrorism</b>	An act, or the threat of an act, by any person or group of persons, whether acting alone or on behalf of or in connection with any organisation or government, that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. is committed for political, religious, ideological or similar purposes; and</li><li>b. is intended to influence any government or to put the public, or any section of the public, in fear; and</li><li>c. <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. involves violence against one or more persons; or</li><li>ii. involves damage to property; or</li><li>iii. endangers life other than that of the person committing the action; or</li><li>iv. creates a risk to health or safety of the public or a section of the public; or</li><li>v. is designed to interfere with or to disrupt an electronic system.</li></ol></li></ol>
<b>Virus</b>	<b>Programmes</b> that are secretly introduced without <b>your</b> permission or knowledge including, but not limited to, malware, worms, trojans, rootkits, spyware, dishonest adware, crimeware and other malicious unwanted software.
<b>War</b>	War, invasion, act of foreign enemies, hostilities (whether war be declared or not), civil war, rebellion, revolution, insurrection, military or usurped power.
<b>We/us/our</b>	The insurers named in the schedule.
<b>You/your</b>	The insured named in the schedule.

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**General conditions**

The following conditions apply to the whole of this **policy**. Any other conditions are shown in the section to which they apply.

## Presentation of the risk

1. In agreeing to insure **you** and in setting the terms and premium, **we** have relied on the information **you** have given **us**. **You** must provide a fair presentation of the risk and must take care when answering any questions **we** ask by ensuring that all information provided is accurate and complete. A fair presentation is one which clearly discloses in a reasonably clear and accessible manner all material facts which **you** (including **your** senior management and those responsible for arranging this insurance) know or ought to know following a reasonable search.

## If you fail to make a fair presentation

2.
  - a. If **we** establish that **you** deliberately or recklessly failed to present the risk to **us** fairly, **we** may treat this **policy** as if it never existed and refuse to make any payment under it. **You** must reimburse all payments already made by **us** and **we** will be entitled to retain all premiums paid.
  - b. If **we** establish that **you** failed to present the risk to **us** fairly but that **your** failure was not deliberate or reckless, the remedy **we** will have available to **us** will depend upon what **we** would have done had **you** made a fair presentation of the risk, as follows:
    - i. if **we** would not have provided this **policy**, **we** may treat it as if it never existed and refuse to make any payment under it. **You** must reimburse all payments already made by **us**. **We** will refund any premiums **you** have paid; or
    - ii. if **we** would have provided this **policy** on different terms (other than as to premium), **we** will treat it as if it had been provided on such different terms from the start of the **period of insurance**. This may result in **us** making no payment for a particular claim or loss. **You** must reimburse any payment made by **us** that **we** would not have paid if such terms had been in effect.

## Change of circumstances

3. **You** must tell **us** as soon as reasonably possible of any change in circumstances during the **period of insurance** which may materially affect this **policy** (a material fact or circumstance is one which might affect **our** decision to provide insurance or the conditions of that insurance). **We** may then change the terms and conditions of this **policy** or cancel it in accordance with the Cancellation condition,

## If you fail to notify us of a change of circumstances

4.
  - a. If **we** establish that **you** deliberately or recklessly failed to:
    - i. notify **us** of a change of circumstances which may materially affect the **policy**; or
    - ii. comply with the obligation in 1. above to make a fair presentation of the risk to **us** when providing us with information in relation to a change of circumstances;

**we** may treat this **policy** as if it no longer existed from the date of such change of circumstances and refuse to make any payment under it in respect of any claim made or any loss occurring after that date. **You** must reimburse all payments already made by **us** relating to claims made or losses occurring after such date. **We** will be entitled to retain all premiums paid.
  - b. If **we** establish that **you** failed to notify **us** of a change of circumstances or to make a fair presentation of the risk to **us** when providing **us** with information in relation to a change of circumstances, but that **your** failure was not deliberate or reckless, the remedy **we** will have available to **us** will depend upon what **we** would have done had **you** fairly presented the change of circumstances to **us**, as follows:
    - i. if **we** would have cancelled this **policy**, **we** may treat it as cancelled from the date that such cancellation would have been effective and refuse to make any payment under it in respect of any claim made or any incident occurring after that date. **You** must reimburse any payments already made by **us** relating to claims made or losses occurring after such date. **We** will refund any premiums **you** have paid in respect of any period after the date when cancellation would have been effective; or
    - ii. if **we** would have provided this **policy** on different terms (other than as to premium), **we** will treat it as if it had been provided on such different terms from the date when **your** circumstances changed. This may result in **us** making no payment for a particular claim or loss.

## General terms and conditions

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|-------------------------------|--|
| Reasonable precautions        | 5. <b>You</b> must take reasonable steps to prevent accident or injury and to protect <b>your</b> property against loss or damage. <b>You</b> must keep any property insured under this <b>policy</b> in good condition and repair. <b>We</b> will not make any payment under this <b>policy</b> in respect of any incident occurring whilst <b>you</b> are not in compliance with this condition unless <b>you</b> can demonstrate that such non-compliance could not have increased the risk of the loss, damage, accident or injury occurring in the circumstances in which it occurred.  |
| Premium payment               | 6. <b>We</b> will not make any payment under this <b>policy</b> until <b>you</b> have paid the premium.  |
| Cancellation                  | 7. <b>You</b> or <b>we</b> can cancel the <b>policy</b> by giving 30 days' written notice. <b>We</b> will give <b>you</b> a pro-rata refund of the premium for the remaining portion of the <b>period of insurance</b> after the effective date of cancellation for which <b>you</b> have already paid. However, <b>we</b> will not refund any premium under £20.<br><br>If <b>we</b> have agreed that <b>you</b> can pay <b>us</b> the premium by instalments and <b>we</b> have not received an instalment 14 days after the due date, <b>we</b> may cancel the <b>policy</b> . In this event, the <b>period of insurance</b> will equate to the period for which premium instalments have been paid to <b>us</b> . <b>We</b> will confirm the cancellation and amended <b>period of insurance</b> to <b>you</b> in writing. |
| Multiple insureds             | 8. The most <b>we</b> will pay is the relevant amount shown in the schedule.<br><br>If more than one insured is named in the schedule, the total amount <b>we</b> will pay will not exceed the amount <b>we</b> would be liable to pay to any one of <b>you</b> .<br><br><b>You</b> agree that the insured named in the schedule, or if there is more than one insured named in the schedule the first of them, is authorised to receive all notices and agree any amendments to the <b>policy</b> .   |
| Aggregate limit               | 9. Where this <b>policy</b> specifies an aggregate limit, this means <b>our</b> maximum payment for all relevant claims or losses covered under the <b>policy</b> during the <b>period of insurance</b> .<br><br>If the <b>period of insurance</b> is continuous, the aggregate limit will apply to all relevant claims or losses covered under the <b>policy</b> during the 12 months from the date the continuous cover starts. Each aggregate limit will be reinstated to the level shown in the schedule at each anniversary.  |
| Rights of third parties       | 10. <b>You</b> and <b>we</b> are the only parties to this <b>policy</b> . Nothing in this <b>policy</b> is intended to give any person any right to enforce any term of this <b>policy</b> which that person would not have had but for the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.  |
| Other insurance               | 11. <b>We</b> will not make any payment under this <b>policy</b> where <b>you</b> would be entitled to be paid under any other insurance if this <b>policy</b> did not exist except in respect of any amount in excess of the amount that would have been payable under such other insurance had this <b>policy</b> not been effected. If such other insurance is provided by <b>us</b> the most <b>we</b> will pay under this <b>policy</b> will be reduced by the amount payable under such other insurance.   |
| Cover under multiple sections | 12. Where <b>you</b> , including anyone within the meaning of 'you' or 'insured person' in any section of the <b>policy</b> , are entitled to cover under more than one section of the <b>policy</b> in respect of the same claim or loss, or any part of a claim or loss, <b>we</b> shall only provide cover under one section of the <b>policy</b> , being the section that provides the most advantageous cover to <b>you</b> or the party entitled to cover.   |
| Governing law                 | 13. Unless some other law is agreed in writing, this <b>policy</b> will be governed by the laws of England.  |
| Arbitration                   | 14. Any dispute arising out of or relating to this insurance, including over its construction, application and validity, will be referred to a single arbitrator in accordance with the Arbitration Act then in force.   |

**General claims conditions**

The following claims conditions apply to the whole of this **policy**. **You** must also comply with the conditions shown in each section of the **policy** under the heading **Your obligations**.

## Your obligations

1. **We** will not make any payment under this **policy** unless **you**:
  - a. give **us** prompt notice of anything which is likely to give rise to a claim under this **policy** in accordance with the terms of each section; and
  - b. give **us**, at **your** expense, any information which **we** may reasonably require and co-operate fully in the investigation of any claim under this **policy**.
2. **You** must:
  - a. make every reasonable effort to minimise any loss, damage or liability and take appropriate emergency measures immediately if they are required to reduce any claim; and
  - b. give us all assistance which **we** may reasonably require to pursue recovery of amounts **we** may become legally liable to pay under this **policy**, in **your** name but at **our** expense.

If **you** fail to do so, **you** shall be liable to **us** for an amount equal to the detriment **we** have suffered as a result of **your** failure to comply with this obligation, which **we** may deduct from any payment **we** make under this **policy**.

## Fraud

3. If **you** or anyone entitled to cover in respect of any claim or loss, or anyone on behalf of you or such other person, tries to deceive **us** by deliberately giving **us** false information or making a fraudulent claim under this **policy** then:
  - a. **we** shall be entitled to give **you** notice of termination of the **policy** with effect from the date of any fraudulent act or claim or the provision of such false information;
  - b. **we** shall be entitled to refuse to make any payment under the **policy** in respect of any claim made or any loss occurring after the date of any fraudulent act or claim or the provision of such false information;
  - c. **you** must reimburse all payments already made by **us** relating to claims made or losses occurring after the date of any fraudulent act or claim or the provision of such false information; and
  - d. **we** shall be entitled to retain all premiums paid.

This does not affect **your** rights in relation to any claim made or loss occurring before the date of any fraudulent act or claim or the provision of such false information.
4. Where this **policy** provides cover for any individual who, or entity that, is not a party to the **policy**, and where such an individual or entity (or anyone on their behalf) tries to deceive **us** by deliberately giving **us** false information or making a fraudulent claim under this **policy**, **our** rights set out in 3. above apply only to any individual or entity that gave the false information or made the fraudulent claim.

The General terms and conditions and the following terms and conditions all apply to this section.

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**Special definitions for this section**

<b>Business activity</b>	The activities shown in the schedule, which <b>you</b> perform in the course of <b>your business</b> .
<b>Defence costs</b>	Costs incurred with <b>our</b> prior written agreement to investigate, settle or defend a claim against <b>you</b> .
<b>You / your</b>	Also includes any person who was, is or during the <b>period of insurance</b> becomes <b>your</b> partner or director or senior manager in actual control of <b>your</b> operations.

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**What is covered**

Claims against you	<p>If during the <b>period of insurance</b>, and as a result of <b>your business activity</b> within the <b>geographical limits</b> for clients, any party brings a claim against <b>you</b> for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>negligence or breach of a duty of care,</li><li>negligent misstatement or negligent misrepresentation,</li><li>infringement of intellectual property rights including copyright, patent, trademark or moral rights or any act of passing-off,</li><li>breach of confidence or misuse of any information, which is either confidential or subject to statutory restrictions on its use,</li><li>defamation,</li><li>dishonesty of <b>your</b> individual partners, directors, employees or self-employed freelancers directly contracted to <b>you</b> and under <b>your</b> supervision,</li><li>any other civil liability unless excluded under <b>What is not covered</b> below,</li></ol>
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**we** will indemnify **you** against the sums **you** have to pay as compensation.

**We** will also pay **defence costs** but **we** will not pay costs for any part of a claim not covered by this section.

Avoiding a potential claim against you	<p>If <b>your</b> client has reasonable grounds for being dissatisfied with the work <b>you</b> have done, refuses to pay for any or all of it, including amounts <b>you</b> legally owe to subcontractors at the date of the refusal, and threatens to bring a claim against <b>you</b> for more than the amount owed, it may be possible to settle the dispute with the client by <b>your</b> agreeing not to press for the disputed amount. If so, <b>we</b> will pay <b>you</b> the amount owed to <b>you</b> at that time if <b>we</b> believe that this will avoid a legitimate claim for a greater amount and <b>we</b> have given <b>our</b> prior written approval to settling in this way and for this amount.</p>
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Alternatively, if it is not possible to reach agreement with the client on this basis but **we** still believe that by not pressing for the disputed amount **you** will avoid a legitimate claim or counterclaim for a greater amount, **we** will pay the amount owed to **you** at that time. If a claim is still brought, **we** will deal with it but **our** total payment, including what **we** have already paid **you** or on **your** behalf, will not exceed the applicable limit of indemnity shown in the schedule. **You** must return the amount **we** have paid if **you** eventually recover the debt less **your** reasonable expenses.

Once **we** agree to make this payment **you** will assign to **us** such rights as **you** have in relation to the amounts owed to **you**.

**We** will not make any payment for any part of a claim not covered by this section.

### Your own losses

Losses from dishonesty

If during the **period of insurance**, and in the performance of **your business activity** within the **geographical limits**, **you** suffer a loss from the dishonesty of **your** employees or self-employed freelancers directly contracted to you and under **your** supervision, where there was a clear intention to cause **you** loss or damage and to obtain a personal financial gain over and above any salary, bonus or commission, **we** will indemnify **you** against **your** direct financial loss.

Loss of documents

If during the **period of insurance**, any document, information or data of **yours** which is necessary for the performance of **your business activity** is lost, damaged or destroyed while in **your** possession, **we** will cover **you** against the cost of restoring or replacing it.

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### What is not covered

Matters specific to your business

- A. **We** will not make any payment for any claim or loss directly or indirectly due to:
1. any investment of, or direct advice on the investment of, client funds.
  2. any survey or valuation of physical property or any construction or erection work, other than heating, lighting, electrical, venting and other work normally undertaken by a Building Services Engineer.
  3. **your** operation or administration of any pension or employee benefit scheme or trust fund, or the sale or purchase of or dealing in any stocks, shares or securities or the misuse of any information relating to them, or **your** breach of any legislation or regulation related to these activities.
  4. **your** breach of any taxation, competition, restraint of trade or anti-trust legislation or regulation.
  5. any pollution or contamination, including noise, electromagnetic fields, radiation and radio waves.
  6. the work of any personnel supplied by **you** to a client, unless **you** have breached a duty of care in supplying them.
  7. transmission of a computer **virus**.
  8. **your** liability under any contract which is greater than the liability **you** would have at law without the contract.

Matters insurable elsewhere

9. the death or any bodily or mental injury or disease suffered by anyone, unless arising directly from **your** breach of a duty of care in the performance of a **business activity**.
10. anyone's employment with or work for **you**, or any breach of an obligation owed by **you** as an employer or any kind of discrimination, harassment or unfair treatment.
11. the ownership, possession or use of any land or building, any animal, any aircraft, watercraft or any motor vehicle.
12. the loss, damage or destruction of any tangible property:
  - a. other than documents in **your** care, custody or control in connection with a **business activity** for a client; or
  - b. unless arising directly from **your** breach of a duty of care in the performance of a **business activity**.

This clause does not apply to **your** own loss under the Loss of documents cover in **What is covered**.
13. the loss, damage or destruction of any bearer bonds, coupons, share certificates, stamps, money or other negotiable paper.
14. the loss or distortion of any data held electronically.
15. any personal liability incurred by a director or officer of **yours** when acting in that capacity or managing **your** business, or **your** breach of any fiduciary duty, other than when performing a **business activity** for a client, or any statement, representation or information concerning **you** or **your** business contained in **your** accounts, reports or financial statements.
16. **your** supply, manufacture, sale, installation or maintenance of any product.

## Professional indemnity for accountants

### Policy wording

Deliberate, reckless or dishonest acts	<p>17. any statement <b>you</b> knew, or ought reasonably to have known, was defamatory at the time of publication.</p> <p>18. any act, breach, omission or infringement <b>you</b> deliberately, spitefully, dishonestly or recklessly commit, condone or ignore. This does not apply to any claim or <b>your</b> own loss under the dishonesty cover in <b>What is covered</b>, but <b>we</b> will not in any event provide cover to any party who actually commits, condones or ignores any dishonesty.</p>
Pre-existing problems	19. any shortcoming in <b>your</b> work or <b>your</b> own loss which <b>you</b> knew about, or ought reasonably to have known about, before <b>we</b> agreed to insure <b>you</b> .
Date recognition	20. <b>date recognition</b> .
War, terrorism and nuclear	21. <b>war, terrorism or nuclear risks</b> .
Asbestos	22. <b>asbestos risks</b> .
	B. <b>We</b> will not make any payment for:
Claims brought by a related party	1. any claim brought by an insured within the definition of <b>you</b> or any party with a financial, executive or managerial interest in <b>you</b> , including any parent company or any party in which <b>you</b> have a financial, executive or managerial interest, including any subsidiary company. This does not apply to a claim based on a liability to an independent third party directly arising out of the performance of <b>your business activity</b> .
Restricted recovery rights	2. that part of any claim where <b>your</b> right of recovery is restricted by any contract.
Other losses	3. <b>your</b> lost profit, mark-up or liability for VAT or its equivalent.
	4. any trading loss or trading liability including those arising from the loss of any client, account or business.
Non-compensatory payments	5. fines and contractual penalties, aggravated, punitive or exemplary damages, and also additional damages under section 97(2) of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 or any statutory successor to that section.
Claims outside the applicable courts	6. any claim, including arbitration, brought outside the countries set out in the schedule under applicable courts.  This applies to proceedings in the applicable courts to enforce, or which are based on, a judgment or award from outside the applicable courts.

### How much we will pay

**We** will pay up to the limit of indemnity shown in the schedule unless limited below. **We** will also pay for **defence costs**. However, if a payment greater than the limit of indemnity has to be made for a claim **our** liability for **defence costs** will be limited to the same proportion that the limit of indemnity bears to the amount paid. **You** must pay the relevant **excess** shown in the schedule.

When **we** settle **your** own losses from dishonesty, **we** will deduct any sums **you** owe or the value of any property **you** hold belonging to the perpetrator.

For lost, damaged or destroyed documents, information or data, **we** will pay the reasonable expenses **you** incur with **our** prior written consent in restoring or replacing them.

All claims and losses which arise from the same original cause, a single source or a repeated or continuing shortcoming in **your** work will be regarded as one claim. This includes such claims and losses arising after, as well as during, the **period of insurance**.

### Special limits

For claims and **your** own losses arising from dishonesty and from the physical loss or destruction of or damage to tangible property and from the death, disease or bodily or mental injury of anyone, the most **we** will pay is a single limit of indemnity for the total of all such claims, their **defence costs** and **your** own losses. **You** must pay the relevant **excess** shown in the schedule.

Paying out the limit of indemnity

At any stage of a claim **we** can pay **you** the applicable limit of indemnity or what remains after any earlier payment from that limit. **We** will pay **defence costs** already incurred at the date of **our** payment. **We** will then have no further liability for that claim or its **defence costs**.

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### Your obligations

If a problem arises

**We** will not make any payment under this section:

1. unless **you** notify **us** promptly of the following within the **period of insurance** or at the latest within 14 days after it expires for any problem **you** first become aware of in the seven days before expiry:
  - a. **your** first awareness of a shortcoming in **your** work for a client which is likely to lead to a claim against **you**. This includes any criticism of **your** work even though regarded by **you** as unjustifiable.  
If **we** accept **your** notification **we** will regard any subsequent claim as notified to this insurance.
  - b. any claim or threatened claim against **you**.
  - c. **your** discovery, or the existence of reasonable grounds for **your** suspicion, that any partner, director, employee or self-employed freelancer has acted dishonestly.
2. if, when dealing with **your** client or a third party, **you** admit that **you** are liable for what has happened or make any offer, deal or payment, unless **you** have **our** prior written agreement. **You** must also not reveal the amount of cover available under this insurance, unless **you** had to give these details in negotiating a contract with **your** client or have **our** prior written agreement.

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### Control of defence

**We** have the right, but not the obligation, to take control of and conduct in **your** name, the investigation, settlement or defence of any claim. If **we** think it necessary **we** will appoint an adjuster, solicitor or any other appropriate person to deal with the claim. **We** may appoint **your** own solicitor but on a similar fee basis as **our** solicitor and only for work done with **our** prior written approval. Proceedings will only be defended if there is a reasonable prospect of success and taking into account the commercial considerations of the costs of defence.