

# Terms Of Business

# Astute Money Financial Planning Ltd Brookside, Mary Tavy, Tavistock PL19 9PR

Astute Money Financial Planning Ltd is an Appointed Representative of Quilter Financial Services Ltd and Quilter Mortgage Planning Ltd, who are both authorised and regulated in the UK by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and are registered on the FCA Register with Firm Reference Number: 440703 and 440718. Astute Money Financial Planning Ltd is also registered on the FCA register with firm reference number: 616372.

- This document sets out the terms of business between our firm (as an Appointed Representative) and its clients.
- These 'Terms of Business' apply until further notice and must be read in conjunction with the 'Guide to Our Services'. In case of any ambiguity between the documents, this 'Terms of Business' will take precedence.
- Either we or you can end these terms at any time, without penalty and this
  will not affect any outstanding transactions being carried out on your behalf.

# Contents

CONFIRMATION OF OUR ADVICE AREAS	. 3
CONFIRMATION OF WHOSE PRODUCTS WE OFFER	. 4
WHAT YOU WILL PAY FOR OUR SERVICES	. 5
INVESTMENT FEES - STANDARD	.8
ONGOING SERVICES & FEES - INVESTMENTS	13
ADVICE FEES - AD HOC / WHERE NO ONGOING SERVICE IN PLACE	16
ONGOING SERVICES & FEES – PROTECTION ONLY	18
OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION WE FEEL YOU OUGHT TO KNOW	19

# **CONFIRMATION OF OUR ADVICE AREAS**

Insurance			
✓	We will advise and make a recommendation for you after we have assessed your needs for Life Assurance, Critical Illness, Income Protection, Accident Sickness & Unemployment, Home Insurance, and Private Medical Insurance as an insurance intermediary.		
You will not receive advice or a recommendation from me. We make some questions to narrow down the selection of products that we will provide details on. You will then need to make your own choice about how to proceed.			
	Investment		
<b>✓</b>	Advice – we will advise and make a recommendation for you after we have assessed your needs.		
No advice – You will not receive advice or a recommendation f me. We may ask some questions to narrow down the selection of products that we will provide details on. You will then need to myour own choice about how to proceed.			
	Lifetime Mortgage and Home Reversion Schemes		
✓	We will advise and make a recommendation for you on lifetime mortgages and home reversion schemes after we have assessed your needs.		
	You will not receive advice or a recommendation from me. We may ask some questions to narrow down the selection of products that we will provide details on. You will then need to make your own choice about how to proceed.		

# **CONFIRMATION OF WHOSE PRODUCTS WE OFFER**

Life Insurance			
	We offer Life, Critical Illness, Private Medical Insurance, Income Protection Whole of Life and General Insurance products from a range of insurers.		
<b>✓</b>	We offer products from the whole of the market based on a fair and personal analysis of the market for Private Medical Insurance.		
✓	We offer products from a range of insurers based on a fair and personal analysis of the market for Life Assurance, Critical Illness, Income Protection and Whole of Life. Ask us for a list of insurers we offer insurance from.		
We offer General insurance* products from LV=GI.  *If LV=GI cannot insure you for Buildings and Contents, we may us a range of other providers.			
Lifetime Mo	Lifetime Mortgage and Home Reversion Schemes		
<b>✓</b>	We offer lifetime mortgages and home reversion plans from the whole market.		
	We only offer lifetime mortgages and home reversion plans from a limited number of lenders. Ask me for a list of the companies I offer products from.		
	We only offer lifetime mortgages and home reversion plans from a single lender.		

Investments			
	Independent advice – Our recommendation will be based on a comprehensive and fair analysis of the market, and include a sufficient range of financial instruments, structured deposits and other retail investment products.		
✓	Restricted advice – Our recommendation will be limited to suitable investment and pension products from a panel of leading investment companies. We will be happy to provide you with a list of the companies on the panel at your request.		

# WHAT YOU WILL PAY FOR OUR SERVICES

Insurance			
	A fee.		
✓	No fee for Life Assurance, Critical Illness, Income Protection, Accident Sickness & Unemployment, Home Insurance, and Private Medical Insurance. We will be paid by commission from the company, that has already been included in the premium.		
You will receive an illustration that will tell you about any other fees relating to any particular insurance policy.			
Lifetime Mortgage and Home Reversion Schemes			
	Lifetime Mortgages and Home Reversion Schemes:		
	We charge a minimum fee of £495.00 plus VAT to research and recommend an Equity Release Mortgage.		
<b>\</b>	On production of an Equity Release Mortgage offer we charge a fee of 2.00% of the facility (subject to a minimum of £1,500) being arranged. This is payable on receipt of an acceptable mortgage offer. This fee is for advice, research, recommendation and implementation (e.g. application, administration of arranging the loan). We will also be paid commission from the lender.		

Should you wish you can request to view the commission rates from each of the lenders we have considered at the time that we make our recommendation to you. NB- The amount of commission will vary depending on individual circumstances; the lender and product. The exact amount of the commission will be explained to you before you apply for a loan. You will receive a mortgage illustration when considering a particular mortgage, which will tell you about any fees relating to it. Refund of mortgage fees If we charge you a fee, and your mortgage does not go ahead, you will receive: A full refund if the lender rejects your application. **V** No refund. **Investment Work** Ad hoc fees – where you do not wish to subscribe to an ongoing **V** service, or where you want specific advice or project work. It is likely that VAT may be due on these fees. **Standard fees** – where you wish to take advantage of our full advice process, or our ongoing service options. These are shown by way of **>** implementation and ongoing service fees, and it is likely that no VAT is due on these fees.

# Message from the Financial Conduct Authority

Think carefully about this information before deciding whether you want to go ahead. If you are at all unsure about which equity release product is right for you, you should ask your adviser to make a recommendation.

#### **INVESTMENT FEES - STANDARD**

As your adviser we will be paid by you for the advice we give you both initially and ongoing.

You will not incur any fees until we have agreed what they will be.

The sections below set out the different ways in which we can calculate the correct level of fee for the initial advice. Only one of these will apply and once we have a better understanding of your situation, we will confirm the appropriate fee structure and be able to give you the actual fee amount that will apply to you.

- We will act as the intermediary between the product provider(s) and you
  with a view to arranging the purchase of the Retail Investment Products
  as we have agreed.
- Unless otherwise explained the fees below will cover a full advice process: understanding your current situation, objectives, attitude to risk, research to identify suitable solutions, documenting our recommendations and implementing the agreed solutions.

Fees for the design, production and implementation of a financial strategy are calculated as follows:

#### In Respect of Lump Sum Investments and Single Premium Pensions

The fee is calculated according to the size of the transaction, as set out below.

# **Initial Advice Options fees:**

Unless otherwise explained the charges below will cover a full advice process: understanding your current situation, objectives, attitude to risk, research to identify suitable solutions, documenting our recommendations and implementing the agreed solutions.

#### **Initial Feels**

1. Percentage of Investment or Transfer amount

# In Respect of Lump Sum Investments and Single Premium Pensions

The fee is calculated according to the size of the transaction, as set out below:-

When our work involves investing a lump sum of money, our fees are:

- 5% on first £150,000,
- 3% on the next £100,000 and
- 2% on any balance
- Our typical charge for an investment of £75,000 would be £2,250 which is 3.0% of sum invested.
- Our typical charge for an investment of £100,000 would be £3,000 which is 3.0% of sum invested.

All investments, no matter how small, require a certain amount of work, therefore the fee will typically be higher, as a percentage of the amount invested, for smaller investments than larger ones.

Should you invest through regular contributions, we will charge a fixed fee of up to £1,200 depending on the level of premium and complexity involved.

The fees outlined above are raised when the investment is made, and it is likely that no VAT is due on these fees.

If you ask us to stop work after agreeing to these fees you will be invoiced a minimum fee of £495, depending on the amount and complexity of the work conducted.

If detailed recommendations with illustrations have not been provided and discussed with you at this point, the fee will be subject to VAT at the standard rate.

# 2. Hourly Rate.

Our fee may be based on the amount of time involved to undertake work at the following hourly rates:

Advice - Director £330
 Para planning support £150
 Travel and Administration £80

Based on our experience and the anticipated complexity of your circumstances we will give you an estimate of the cost for pieces of work in advance of starting chargeable work and will not exceed this estimate without your clear agreement. Travel time is charged if meetings are not held in our offices.

The typical time involved to complete the advice process at our offices by a diploma qualified adviser for a client with a single investment or to set up a pension arrangement will be:

Adviser – 6 hours at a cost of £1,980 Para-planner – 5 hours at a cost of £750 A total of - £2,730

# For a Personal Pension Transfer from two ceding schemes, advised in our office will be:

Adviser – 6 hours at a cost of £1,980 Para-planner – 8 hours at a cost of £1,200 A total of - £3,180.

# (All Personal Pension Transfers, Annuity Purchases or Transfer to Drawdown incur a minimum charge of £2,800).

If you ask us to stop work after agreeing to these fees you will be invoiced for the time spent on your case before we receive your instructions.

If detailed recommendations with illustrations have not been provided and discussed with you at this point, it is likely that VAT is due on these fees.

#### 3. Fixed Rates

We offer a range of advice services at fixed rates, set after an initial consultation. Full details of all fixed price services available will be provided on request but our typical fees are:

#### • Full Financial Review from £1,500.

A fully documented review of your assets and liabilities and net worth; current and projected income and expenses (e.g., projected into retirement); insurance policies, retirement provision and other investments, including an analysis of current product and fund features and estimated inheritance tax liabilities with generic recommendations to meet your broad financial objectives.

#### • Basic Financial Review from £750.

A simple documented review of current arrangements in relation to your objectives, orientated to meet a particular need (such as retirement income) with generic recommendations.

If no further work is undertaken leading to an actual investment; it is likely that VAT is due on these fees.

Charges calculated using an hourly or fixed rate may be paid directly or be converted to a % of a subsequent investment, facilitated by the Product Provider.

#### Minimum Fees & VAT

The fees outlined above are raised when the investment is made and will NOT be subject to VAT.

Any variation to this amount will be confirmed in writing to you before proceeding further. This may be for example for larger or more complex loans, or where your personal situation is more complex regarding income sources, taxation, residence and credit rating.

If you ask us to stop work after agreeing to these fees you will be invoiced with a minimum fee of £1,200 or a proportion of the agreed fee depending on when you ask us to stop working:

- After agreeing the fees, but before we do any work = 0% of agreed fees
- After we have started researching your current arrangements and/or solutions, but before designing a solution = 25% of agreed fees;
- After we have started designing a solution, but before we present our recommendation = 50% of agreed fees.
- After we have presented our recommendation, but before we start implementation = 75% of agreed fees.
- After starting the implementation process = 100% of agreed fees.

If detailed recommendations with illustrations have not been provided and discussed with you at this point, it is likely that VAT is due on these fees.

# **Existing client discount:**

We are committed to treating clients fairly. Our research has shown that the time it takes to work with a new client is longer than an existing client, mainly related to getting to know them to advise them comprehensively.

To reflect that and to reward the loyalty of our existing clients, we offer the following:

- Discounts on implementation fees of 15%.
- The removal of minimum fee levels for implementation fees.

An existing client is defined as:

• A client who has implemented mortgage business with your adviser in the last 3 years, or a non-mortgage client who has affected a plan where we had received ongoing income (trail commission or fee) in the previous 12 months.

# Family member discount:

Retaining your wealth and ensuring it is passed on as ethically as possible to the right people at the right time is key for all our clients. To help facilitate that it is beneficial to know as much about your family unit that is appropriate to your circumstances so that we can help at that critical time. To assist with this we also offer:

- Discounts on implementation fees for family members of 15%.
- The removal of minimum fee levels for implementation fees for family members

A family member includes a person's parents, spouses, siblings, children, grandparents and grandchildren, whether connected by birth, adoption, guardianship, marriage, civil partnership or cohabitation.

#### **ONGOING SERVICES & FEES - INVESTMENTS**

Set out below are the detailed elements for the indicative levels of ongoing service that we deliver to our clients. You can if you wish to, add or enhance levels of service with your adviser if you feel appropriate. Our fees for these services can be seen below

Premier Five Star Service	Where client's portfolios grow in terms of value, and potentially complexity, these need to be managed and reviewed appropriately. Building on our annual review services, this offering has more frequent reviews and opportunities to ensure clients are kept informed of performance, and plans maintained in line with client's circumstances and objectives. This may well include consultations with other specialist advisers.
Standard Three Star Service	A comprehensive service aimed at initial analysis, recommendation and implementation in line with a client's immediate needs. With ongoing review and recommendation, this is a service to adapt to a client's changing needs and circumstances.
Annual Telephone/ Email Postal Service	A straightforward advice service typically centered on immediate client issues and needs that require initial analysis and recommendations. With ongoing review delivered remotely and via advisory updates, this still brings client awareness and peace of mind.

#### At a review, we will cover:

- Assessment of personal circumstances
- Review of your goals & objectives
- Reassessment of your attitude to investment risk/return & market sectors (asset allocation
- Review of investment performance & holdings
- Valuations & investment commentary
- Where appropriate, recommendations in order to keep your new and existing\* plans in line with your objectives

Service will include recommending changes to existing investments to help meet your goals at an acceptable level of investment risk, providing fund analysis and valuations and a wide range of associated ad hoc services.

<sup>\*</sup>Advice on new investments/savings will be subject to our 'initial fees' as shown under our 'Investment Fees - Standard' section earlier.

All service levels include a review, it is simply the style and frequency that alters as shown in the table overleaf:

On Going Service Offering	Premier Service	Standard Annual Service	Telephone/ Postal Service
Keeping you informed with pertinent and relevant information	YES	YES	YES
Annual valuation of plans invested via ourselves	YES	YES	YES
Telephone and e mail access to your adviser included	YES	YES	YES
Option of an annual telephone review of your plans	YES	YES	YES
Regulatory and taxation updates	YES	YES	YES
Valuations on request	YES	YES	YES
Quarterly E-Newsletter	YES	YES	YES
Annual review meeting – either Face to Face or via video conferencing call	YES	YES	NO
Risk Profiling and Fund Assessment	YES	YES	NO
Half Yearly review meeting – either Face to Face or via video conferencing call	YES	NO	NO
Liaising with your other professional advisers i.e. legal, accountancy without extra charge	YES	NO	NO
Free amendment to holdings as required / when advised	YES	NO	NO

Minimum Annual fees that will apply	£5,000	£1,500	£600
Annual Service Charge (Based on value of assets under our care)	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
Automatic utilisation of annual ISA allowances where appropriate	YES	NO	NO

Please note that as the fee is based on the investment value, the actual amount we received will increase (or decrease) in proportion to any increase (or decrease) in the value of your portfolio.

Alternatively, for clients and their families with more complex financial arrangements likely to need a range of support services over time such as IHT planning, remortgaging, taking retirement benefits over time and regular cash flow monitoring, we may agree a monthly retainer that reflects the service required, paid by standing order or direct debit. A typical fee will be £500 per month.

Details are available on request.

# **Examples of Ongoing Fees**

If we look after you via our 'Premier' service (as detailed above) and your investments are valued at £500,000, our fee is 1.0%. Therefore, the annual payment to us will be £5,000.

If we look after you via our 'Standard Touch' service (as detailed above) and your investments are valued at £240,000, our fee is 1.0%. Therefore, the annual payment to us will be £2,400.

If we look after you via our 'Postal Service' service (as detailed above) and your investments are valued at £60,000, our fee is 1.0%. Therefore, the annual payment to us will be £600.

The elements that make up your ongoing servicing package are subject to alteration I will notify you in advance and in writing if any of these aspects change.

#### **Impacts Of Fees**

When you make an investment there will be costs involved that will impact on your investment returns. These costs will typically comprise of the platform charge, the fund managers charge and our advice fee.

As a typical example these charges may amount to 2.5% a year, so your investment return will be reduced by this amount each year. Your personalised illustration will clearly show the actual costs that will apply to your investment.

# ADVICE FEES - AD HOC / WHERE NO ONGOING SERVICE IN PLACE

If you do not wish to subscribe to an ongoing service, we provide many services on an 'ad-hoc' basis. Should you require any services as noted below, or bespoke work to be carried out, we will be able to tailor a specific service.

# Please note that implementation fees are in addition to the examples shown below.

An additional fee may be required, typically calculated in accordance with our hourly rates, as shown at the bottom of the table below.

Prior to any work being agreed and carried out we will give an indication of the approximate amount of time that these tasks might take. These additional fees might be paid by single payment (e.g., by cheque), charged from your investment plan(s) or via regular monthly retainer payments (e.g. standing order).

Fees will depend on individual circumstances, but are typically:

Face to face meeting to review your financial planning, confirm your existing provisions, and identify areas of need and/or concern	£295.00
Advice and recommendation to address an agreed area of need / concern (e.g., retirement planning, estate planning, investment solution)	£2,800.00
Additional Research fee per existing pension scheme	£295.00
Advice on withdrawing money from your retirement funds	£495.00
Regulatory & taxation updates	No Charge
Annual valuation	£295.00
Annual risk profile questionnaire	£295.00
Annual telephone advisory update	£295.00
Additional reviews per session	£495.00
Quarterly E-Newsletter facility	£30 per annum
Pure time related hourly rate work	£250 - £330 per hour

Arranging ad hoc withdrawals, full surrenders or arranging payment of Income from investment or retirement portfolio's

£295.00

For example, where a client wishes to invest £100,000 and <u>does not wish to be</u> <u>part of our ongoing advice services</u>. The fees from the table that would typically apply are:

'Face to face meeting' to review your financial planning, confirm your existing provisions, and identify areas of need and/or concern - £295.00

Plus

Sending letters of authority to providers and researching existing arrangements - £295.00

Plus

'Advice and recommendation' to address an agreed area of need / concern (e.g. retirement planning, estate planning, investment solution) = £2,800

Total fee for advice and implementation:

Initial face to face meeting and research of existing provisions £ 295.00

Research fee – Existing Arrangements £ 295.00

Advice and Recommendation £2,800.00

£3,390.00

Please note that these services on their own are likely to attract Valued Added Tax (VAT), in accordance with current HMRC (His Majesty's Revenue and Customs) guidelines.

Where any of the above services are included in an ongoing service option, you will not be charged separately for these services.

#### ONGOING SERVICES & FEES - PROTECTION ONLY

Set out below are the details for the ongoing service that we deliver to our clients.

You can if you wish to, add or enhance levels of service with your adviser if you feel appropriate (usually for an agreed fee).

There is no fee for the following level of service, as we will have been paid commission from the mortgage lender or insurance provider at inception of your mortgage or protection plans.

- 1. **Communication** In order to provide you with a high quality service we may want to contact you regarding items we consider are of interest to you, or to make you aware of new opportunities. If this happens, we would like to contact you
- 2. **Protection** It is important to ensure your current protection plans and provisions remain in line with your requirements, which may change over time.

We will make reasonable endeavors to contact you.

#### OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION WE FEEL YOU OUGHT TO KNOW

# The Permitted Scope of Our Advice

We have set out above the general permitted business of Quilter Financial Services Limited and Quilter Mortgage Planning Limited by the FCA.

However, we are only able to offer advice from certain leading investment, insurance and mortgage companies. By restricting the permitted business to a selected panel of product providers and to a carefully chosen range of their products Quilter Financial Services Limited and Quilter Mortgage Planning Limited ensure that we are able to meet the needs of our clients and deliver the high standards they expect and deserve.

We provide a list of the companies on our panel on request.

Examples of products and services which we are prohibited from recommending include the following:

Any overseas service or product (for example QROPS and QNUPS but excluding Offshore bonds designed for UK resident clients); and 'Non Mainstream Pooled Investments (NMPIs)', such as Unregulated Collective Investments Schemes (UCIS).

In the event that you wish to consider a product or service which is not included in the Quilter Financial Planning authorised list, and which is outside of the offering of any other Quilter group company, we may be able to introduce you to a third party who might be able to provide you with further information and/or advice on a particular product or service.

Please note though that in such circumstances, any such introduction and any information and/or advice on the product and service provided by that third party will be separate and distinct to those offered by any Quilter company. As such, Quilter does not accept any responsibility for any such introduction or for information and/or advice provided by any third party.

Please do not hesitate to call us should you have any queries or concerns on 07792 158801.

# Complaints - If You Are Not Happy With Our Service

If you are not happy with our service or have a complaint about your Adviser or any financial advice you have received from your Adviser, please contact us:

# In writing:

Quilter Financial Planning Complaints Department, Sunderland, SR43 4JR.

Email: QFPcomplaints@quilter.com

By phone: 0191 241 0700

We will be happy to provide you with a summary of the internal procedures for handling complaints, this is available without charge upon request or will be provided to you when we acknowledge your complaint.

If you cannot settle your complaint with us, you may be entitled to refer it to the Financial Ombudsman Service.

The Financial Ombudsman Service can be contacted as follows: The Financial Ombudsman Service, Exchange Tower. London E14 9SR

Telephone 0300 1239123

Email: complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk

Website: www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk

You should note that if your product is not regulated by the FCA (for example, a buy-to-let mortgage), you may NOT be entitled to refer the complaint to the Financial Ombudsman Service.

This is the current process. Should it change we will notify you the next time we meet by issuing you with an updated version of this document. If, however, you want to have the updated version sooner you can request them at any time, and I will provide you with the updated compensation process.

Our Contact Details - Astute Money Financial Planning Ltd

You may communicate with us at any time using the following contact details:

'Brookside' Mary Tavy Tavistock PL19 9PR

Tel: 07792 158801

Email: darren@astutemoney.co.uk

# Our Regulator – The Financial Conduct Authority

Astute Money Financial Planning Ltd, FCA register number 616372 is an Appointed Representative of Quilter Financial Services (FCA Register number is 440703) and Quilter Mortgage Planning Limited (FCA Register number is 440718) of Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4AB which are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

The permitted business of Quilter Financial Services Limited and Quilter Mortgage Planning Limited is advising on and arranging pensions, investments, mortgages, life assurance and general insurance.

You can check this on the FCA's Register by visiting the FCA's website <a href="https://register.fca.org.uk/s/">https://register.fca.org.uk/s/</a> or by contacting the FCA on 0300 500 8082 or 0800 111 6768

The FCA address is: 12 Endeavour Square, London. E20 1JN

#### Client Classification Levels For Your Protection

The FCA has rules which affect the rights you have as a client. In our dealings with you we will be representing you as the client.

By default, we classify all our individual customers as 'retail' clients. The range of financial products and investments we recommend are tailored to meet the needs of retail clients. As a retail client, you will have rights under the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) and the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). These rights will apply to the provision of the advice we provide.

In most cases these rights will also apply to the products we recommend. However, there are some exemptions for specialist products such as Enterprise Investment Schemes and Venture Capital Trusts. Your adviser will let you know if the product recommended will not have rights under the FOS or FSCS.

There are other classifications of customer that don't have these rights. These are "professional" customers and "eligible counterparties".

You have the right to be classified as a professional client and revoke your retail client status on request. Should you feel you have the skills, knowledge and experience to be a Professional client and don't wish to have the same protection afforded to retail clients, (as explained above) please let me know and we will complete the forms necessary to re-categorise you.

If you have any questions regarding your categorisation (e.g., if you are a large company), please write to Quilter Financial Planning Compliance Department, Sunderland, SR43 4JR, or using the contact details above.

# **Client Money Peace of Mind**

We do not handle Client Money. We never handle cash and will only accept a cheque made out to us in settlement of an invoice raised in respect of Advice and Service fees. Our preferred method of payment is via bank transfer.

# **Your Duty of Disclosure**

Any financial advice we provide will be based on your personal financial circumstances and objectives. It is important that the information you give us is both accurate and a true reflection of your current circumstances.

It is your responsibility to provide complete and accurate information to a provider (a provider being for example, an organisation that provides insurance, mortgage, or investment related plans).

It is important that all statements made on any proposal form, or on any additional documentation are full and accurate.

Please be aware that if you fail to disclose any relevant information, or any change of circumstances to a provider, then the terms of your desired plan may be invalidated (e.g., an insurance claim may not be paid). We strongly recommend that the information you provide is checked thoroughly prior to submission.

#### **Client Risk**

The value of investments can fall as well as rise. You may get back less than you originally invested. The price of investments that we recommend to you may depend on fluctuations in financial markets or other economic factors that are beyond our control. The past performance of an investment or product is not a reliable indicator of future results. You should therefore carefully consider all investment/product decisions.

Any specific warnings relevant to particular investments, investment strategies, or products will be provided to you in your Suitability Advice Report and/or your Demands and Needs Statement.

# Investment & Protection Advice and Recommendations Scope

Any investment or protection advice your adviser provides will be based on your personal financial circumstances and objectives. We will confirm these and the reasons for any recommendation in your Written Advice.

If you have asked for any restrictions on the types of investment or the markets you wish to invest in, these will be confirmed in your Written Advice. We will

always make it clear when products are not within the 'regulated' scope and advise you of your rights.

# **Paying For Advised Services**

Where payments are facilitated through a product, this will impact the actual amount remaining invested. Payment of the initial Advice and Ongoing Service fees facilitated by the relevant Product Providers or Platform administrators will be as a percentage of contributions invested or of the value of the plan's value/funds under management as at the anniversary of the initial investment. As such, the cash equivalent amount will vary depending on the value at the time.

Providers/Platform administrators will detail the specific process they operate to facilitate a fee in their literature. If you opt to pay the Adviser Charge directly (not through a product) an invoice will also be provided, which must be settled within 14 days of issue (we reserve the right to charge interest on late payments at a rate of 3% above Bank base rate).

Full details of the final Advice will be provided in the Suitability Advice Report. Full details of the any future Service fee will be provided either in the Suitability Advice Report or 'Authority to Proceed' document prepared for you by your Adviser. You may also be asked to sign and return a copy of the Authority to Proceed document to confirm your understanding and acceptance of the arrangements.

Other costs, including taxes, related to transactions may arise that are not paid via us or imposed by us. For further details on how to pay for our services, please read the "Guide to Our Services". There are no additional charges for our services for using a means of distance communication.

#### **Implementing Investment Solutions**

As with most investments there is a risk of loss, especially in the short-term (over periods of less than five years). If you need access to your money in the very short-term, then holding it in a risk-free bank account could be the right course of action. We will discuss these options with you, as well as providing a detailed Suitability Advice Report for you to read in your own time, before we implement our recommendations. This will help ensure you understand the advice you have been given. Of course, if you have any questions, we will be happy to help. You are not obliged to implement any of our recommendations. However, we may still charge a fee for our advice.

When we arrange an investment for you it will typically be made into a collective investment fund. These funds have a range of different investment strategies so we will recommend one that aligns with your attitude to risk and the period of time you wish to invest for.

These funds will typically be bought via an investment platform that we recommend for you. Once we have completed the advice process the investment will be made for you in a timely manner, and in accordance with our Best Execution Policy.

For example, for the majority of collective investments, they will be bought or sold at the next Valuation Point (typically 12.00 Midday) the next business day, after the instruction has been received by the platform.

Once we have agreed on an appropriate solution, we will provide you with full details of the investment fund, platform, and all associated costs.

## **Cancellation / Termination of Authority**

You can cancel these terms of business at any time without penalty. This will not affect any outstanding transactions being carried out on your behalf and you may still have to pay a fee to us – see Investment Advice Refunds below.

To cancel these terms of business you should notify us using the contact details above.

The Ongoing Service fee or our authority to act on your behalf can be cancelled at any time without any penalty by email or post using contact details provided. These methods ensure we have an audit trail for your instruction. You will be responsible for cancelling any instructions from your bank. If the fee is being taken from your investments, we will endeavour to instruct the Provider, Platform or DFM to stop the fee within 5 working days of receiving your instructions and refund any over payment if we are unable to meet this commitment.

You may ask us for an updated estimate of your advice fee at any time and you may ask us not to exceed a given amount without checking with you first.

#### **Investment Advice Refunds**

Our standard policy is that in circumstances where this agreement is terminated, a recommendation is not followed through to implementation, or a product arranged is cancelled at any time, no refunds will be given, and all work undertaken will be billable and due. Please note that this does not affect your statutory rights or ability to complain.

If you cancel your investment(s) in the cooling off period or stop regular contribution payments the fee will no longer be due unless a minimum fee is stated in this Terms of Business and your Adviser Charging Agreement/Authority to Proceed.

# Language

Unless agreed by us at outset all communication will be completed in English. We will communicate in a manner that is convenient to you, this could include Face-to-Face meetings, Post, E-mail and telephone using the contact details above.

#### **Location of Advice**

All advice will be conducted in the UK. We do not have permissions to give advice when either you or ourselves are located in any overseas location (outside the UK).

## **Timing of Written Advice**

Financial Planning: I will send you a Suitability Advice Report setting out the reasons for my recommendation at the time of my recommendation and where applicable before implementing any advice that I have recommended.

Protection Advice: I will send you a Demands and Needs Statement setting out the reasons for my recommendation, before the policy starts. If I am advising you by telephone, and the policy starts on the same day the Demands and Needs statement will be sent by the end of the next working day.

# **VAT**

The service we provide is described as an 'intermediation' service. This means we provide advice with the intention of acting between you and a product provider to arrange a financial product or service. If we did not do this, we would be liable for VAT on the fees charged. VAT is not applicable on the fees we charge for intermediation services. In arranging the sale of retail financial products an adviser fee made for advice, even if you decide not to proceed with the purchase of the recommended product, will remain VAT free where the adviser has provided you with full advice services up to that point, including all relevant documentation.

The adviser fee made for an ongoing service is also VAT free provided it is in respect of an intermediation service. This means activities such as topping up an investment or utilising available investment tax allowances, such as the ISA allowance. In the event that the advice services we provide become ancillary to our intermediation services, VAT may become chargeable (e.g., we review your entire financial circumstances but make no or limited recommendations).

Should this change in the future, and where VAT becomes due, we will notify you before conducting any further work. In any case, where VAT is payable on our services it will be charged in addition to the agreed fee.

However, where a Discretionary Fund Manager (DFM) forms part of a solution, then VAT may become chargeable.

#### **Declaration of Other Interests**

To ensure that client interests are always put first, we operate a robust Conflict of Interest and Inducements Policy. If a potential conflict of interest does arise it will be actively managed, and we have arrangements in place to ensure that all our clients are treated fairly. If we feel that our interests conflict with yours, you will be contacted, and we will obtain your consent to proceed. Our Conflict of Interest policy is available on request.

# **Minor Non-Monetary Benefits**

We are not able to receive or retain any inducements from a product provider. Should we receive any additional fee, commission or monetary or non-monetary benefit as a result of a recommendation made to you, we will return this to the product provider or transfer it to you (as appropriate) and attempt to stop further payments or inducements being received.

# Our Loans and Ownership

Quilter Financial Services Ltd and Quilter Mortgage Planning Ltd are part of the Quilter Group. The Quilter Group of companies offers a range of pension, protection, and investment solutions through both a UK and International platform. This may give rise to a potential conflict of interest where a company within Quilter Group has a suitable solution for your needs. If such a situation occurs, I will ensure that my recommendation is the best execution of your needs. I will also highlight the potential conflict of interest at the time of making the recommendation.

#### **Addressing Financial Crime**

All transactions relating to the services provided by us are covered by Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Transfer of Funds Regulations 2017. The FCA also requires that we have appropriate measures in place to prevent the furtherance of financial crime.

Our responsibilities include but are not limited to verifying the identity and address of our clients and any third-party making payments on their behalf. If required, you must supply proof of your identity in accordance of the above Regulations. Identity verification checks may include electronic searches of the electoral roll and the use of credit reference agencies, which will result in a soft 'foot-print' on your credit records.

This footprint is not visible to other financial service providers and does not affect your credit rating in any way. In accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 acceptance of these terms and conditions represents your permission for us to access this information.

# Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) Current limits

We are covered by the FSCS. You may be entitled to compensation from the scheme if we cannot meet our obligations. This depends on the type of business and the circumstances of the claim. i.e., it differs for investments, insurance, mortgages and bank accounts.

Further information about compensation scheme arrangements including the conditions governing compensation and the formalities which must be completed to obtain compensation is available from the FSCS via its website at www.fscs.org.uk.

# The Law that we operate under

All of our agreements provided are governed and construed in accordance with the laws of England and Wales. In relation to any dispute, for your protection you agree to submit to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts.

#### **Data Protection**

The personal information you provide will assist your financial adviser in offering you the best advice as required by the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000. The personal data you provide will be used and stored in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) under UK law. Before collecting any data from you, you will be issued with a Privacy Notice, which will explain in full how we collect, process and store your personal data as well as the purposes for which we require your personal data under the relevant UK laws, and you will be asked to agree to the collecting, storing and use of your Personal Data and any Special Category Data for the purpose of providing advice.

# **Privacy Notice**

We, together with Quilter Financial Services Limited and Quilter Mortgage Planning Limited (collectively to be known as Quilter) are the joint data controllers of any personal data you provide to us in accordance with these terms of business and any further information which you provide to us during our relationship with you.

We and Quilter each have a legal obligation to comply with applicable data protection legislation. Information on our uses of your personal data is set out in your Advisor's Privacy notice which can be accessed on their website or on request.

We will collect and use your personal data such as your name and contact details and other information for the provision of financial advice and to provide you with financial products or services, including related services such as administration, risk assessment, fraud prevention and regulatory purposes.

In order to provide these services, we may share the personal data you provide with, The Quilter group of companies, third parties such as other advisors within the Quilter network, product and service providers, administrators of a scheme relating to your investment plan, and third-party companies providing administration services. We may also need to share it with HM Revenue and Customs and our regulators such as the Financial Conduct Authority or the Prudential Regulation Authority in certain circumstances.

# Your rights and how to contact us

For further information on how we use your personal data and your rights in relation to your personal data, please see your Advisor's Privacy Notice which can be provided on request.

Should you have any enquiries relating to the personal data that Quilter may hold about you, how your personal data is processed, or how to exercise your rights you can contact our Data Protection Officer, at QFPdataguardian@quilter.com

# **Accessibility**

Please note that a paper / hard copy of this document is available, upon request.

If you would like this document or any other document in an alternative format e.g., Braille, Moon, Clear and Large Print, Audio documents (Cassette, CD, MP3 or Wav) or any other languages please let me know.