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**TERMS OF BUSINESS**

These Terms of Business effective from 28/07/2021 and set out the general terms under which we will provide business services to you and the respective duties and responsibilities of both ourselves and you in relation to such services.

Please ensure that you read these terms thoroughly and if you have any queries, we will be happy to clarify them. If any material changes are made to these terms, we will notify you.

**AUTHORISATION & CODES OF CONDUCT**

Pax Asset Management DAC trading as Pax Financial Planning, Pax Asset Management, AskPaul, Expertpensions & Pax Financial is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Our Authorisation code is C50617. We are subject to Consumer Protection Code, Minimum Competency Code and Fitness & Probity Standards which offer protection to consumers. The Central Bank of Ireland holds registers of regulated firms. You may contact the Central Bank of Ireland on 1890 777 777 or alternatively visit their website at [www.centralbank.ie](http://www.centralbank.ie) to verify our credentials and these codes.

**OUR SERVICES**

We are an Insurance, Investment Intermediary, and a Mortgage Credit Intermediary. Our principal business is to provide advice and arrange transactions on behalf of clients in relation to Life, Pensions, Investments and Mortgages.

We are not under a contractual obligation to conduct Insurance distribution business exclusively with one or more Insurance Undertakings and do not give advice on the basis of a fair and personal analysis, we do however provide advice from the selection of products provided by the Companies and Lenders we have agencies with. We recommend the product that, in our professional opinion, is best suited to your needs and objectives from this selection of products. Pax Financial Planning are member of Brokers Ireland.

As part of the process when giving our clients advice on Investments we will need to gather information with regards your investment knowledge and experience, if this information is not provided, we will not be in a position to determine whether the product is appropriate for you.

Companies and Lenders we have agencies with:

<b>Investment and Life Companies</b>	
Aviva Life & Pensions Ireland Dac	Irish Life Assurance Plc
BCP Asset Management DAC	MMPI Limited
Bespoke Investments Ltd	Merrion Stockbrokers
Blackbee Investments Ltd	New Ireland Assurance plc
Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland Ltd	Royal London
Conexim Advisors Ltd	Standard Life
J & E Davy	Wealth Options Limited
Greenman Investments	Zurich Life Assurance plc
Independent Trustee Co Ltd	
<b>Mortgages</b>	
Brokers Ireland Network Services Ltd	Dilosk Dac
Haven Mortgages Ltd	Broker Assist Ltd
Finance Ireland Credit Solutions DAC	Seniors Money Mortgages (Ireland) Dac

We will need to collect sufficient information from you before we can offer any advice on housing loans. This is due to the fact that a key issue in relation to mortgage advice is affordability. Such information should be produced promptly upon our request. Where the creditor is unable to carry out an assessment of creditworthiness because the consumer chooses not to provide the information or verification necessary for an assessment of creditworthiness, the credit cannot be granted.

**DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION**

We act as your representative to the companies we have agencies with, and we will provide assistance to you for any queries you may have in relation to the policies or in the event of a claim during the life of the policies and we will explain to you the various restrictions, conditions and exclusions attached to your policy. However, it is your responsibility to read the policy documents, literature and brochures to ensure that you understand the nature of the policy cover. Material information about medical history, non-smoker status, occupation category and any hazardous pursuits are central to underwriting decisions and it is imperative that all information you provide to the insurer is accurate and complete.

You are under a duty to answer all questions posed by the insurer or ourselves on your behalf, honestly and with reasonable care. It is presumed, unless the contrary is shown, that you would know all questions in an application or at renewal is material to the risk undertaken by the insurer or the calculation of the premium by that insurer, or both. Any failure to disclose material information may invalidate a claim and render your policy void. You must inform and disclose any material information including any material changes that might take place between the time

you complete an application form and the time you pay the first premium.

To assist us in providing you with a comprehensive service and to keep our records as up-to date as soon as possible, please notify us of any changes to your personal circumstances, e.g., name change, change of address, etc.

### **Adverse Sustainability Impacts Statement**

After due consideration with regards the legislation on Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation, due to our size and the type of business we transact with our clients, we have decided not to consider adverse impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors in our investment and insurance-based Investment advice. The reason we have decided this course of action is because we do not produce these investments, it is the Product Producers we have agencies with that build the Investment Products we advise on. Within the next year we will consider whether we will continue with this view, to ensure we stay within the guidelines of the legislation. All information re Sustainable Finance Disclosures will be adhered to by the Product Producers and their brochures and documents will outline their disclosures.

If any of the investments we provide advice on have a Sustainability Finance Disclosure, these investments will be produced by the product providers we have agencies with, and their brochures and documents will have full details of the areas that are considered.

### **REMUNERATION**

Ask Paul is remunerated by commission and other payments from product producers on the completion of business. You may choose to pay in full for our services by means of a fee. Where we receive recurring commission, this forms part of the remuneration for ongoing advice with regards to the business we advise you on and we will provide you with an annual update on your Investment business.

If we receive commission from a product provider, this will not be offset against the fee which we may charge you. Where the commission is greater than the fee due, the commission will become the amount payable to the firm unless an arrangement to the contrary is made.

Although we will not be considering adverse impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors in our investment and insurance-based Investment advice, we will keep an eye on the changes the Product Providers put in place and note any adverse effect on the cost to you if any.

We may receive up to 1% (or whatever maximum is applicable) of your loan for arranging mortgage finance from the lenders. The actual amount of commission will be disclosed at a later stage in the ESIS (European Standardised Information Sheet) which will be forwarded to you at loan offer stage. Please note that lenders may charge specific fees in certain circumstances and if this applies, these fees will be specified in your Loan Offer. A full list of lenders and remuneration is available on request. All costs valuations etc. must be paid by you.

We may charge you a fee for advice on mortgages which is payable in addition to any commission we may be paid by the lenders.

A summary of the details of all arrangements for any fee, commission, other reward or remuneration paid or provided to us by the product producers” is available on our website. If you need further explanation on this information, please do not hesitate to call us.

### **FEES**

You may elect to deal with us on a fee basis. The following hourly rates apply:

Certified Financial Planner:	€250 per hour
Qualified Financial Advisor:	€150 per hour

Additional fees may be payable for complex cases or to reflect value, specialist skills or urgency. This can range from €200 per hour to €500 per hour. We will notify you in writing in advance and agree the scale of fees to be charged. Our services do not include ongoing suitability assessments.

### **REGULAR REVIEWS**

It is in your best interests that you review, on a regular basis, the products which we have arranged for you. As your circumstances change, your needs will change. Please advise us of those changes and request a review of the relevant policy so that we can ensure that you are provided with up-to-date advice and products best suited to your needs.

### **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

It is our policy to avoid conflicts of interest in providing services to you. However, where an unavoidable conflict of interest arises, we will advise you of this in writing before providing you with any service. As per above remuneration policy we receive payment from the companies/lenders we have agencies with, for the business you transact. One of our directors is on the Investment Committee of Greenman Investments who we have an agency with.

## **DEFAULTS ON PAYMENTS BY CLIENTS**

Ask Paul will exercise its legal rights to receive payments due to it from clients (fees) for services provided. Mortgage lenders may seek early repayment of a loan and interest if you default on your repayments. Your home is at risk if you do not maintain your agreed repayments.

## **CLIENT MONIES & RECEIPTS**

We request that all cheques or negotiable instruments are made payable to the appropriate Product Provider for Life, Pensions, Investment business. We shall issue a receipt for each payment received, these receipts are issued with your protection in mind and should be stored safely. Every effort is made to ensure that clients' money is transmitted to the appropriate Product Provider without delay. We are not authorised to accept cash.

The acceptance by Ask Paul of a completed proposal DOES NOT in itself constitute the effecting of a policy. It is only when the Provider or Lender confirms the policy is in place or loan is drawn down that your policy is live.

## **COMPLAINTS**

We have a complaints procedure in place which is available on request. Your complaint can be in writing, email, telephone or face to face. If your complaint is face to face or by phone, we will write to you to confirm our understanding of your complaint. We will acknowledge your complaint within 5 business days, advising you of the name of the person dealing with your complaint on behalf of the company. If in the event, a complainant is dissatisfied with the outcome of our investigation, you are entitled to refer the matter to the Financial Services & Pensions Ombudsman, Lincoln House, Lincoln Place, Dublin 2, Lo call 01 5677000 email [info@fspoi.ie](mailto:info@fspoi.ie). All complaints should be sent for the attention of Conor Byrne, Pax Financial Planning, 10 Sandyford Office Park, Sandyford, Dublin 18.

## **DATA PROTECTION**

We comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Acts 1988-2018. Ask Paul is committed to protecting and respecting your privacy. Our Data Privacy Notice will be given to you at the time of data collection. We may use 3<sup>rd</sup> party providers for onboarding of clients, these companies will also be regulated and adhere to the GDPR and Central Bank rules.

## **COMPENSATION SCHEME**

We are members of the Investor Compensation Scheme. The Investor Compensation Act, 1998 provides for the establishment of a compensation scheme and the payment, in certain circumstances, of compensation to certain clients (known as eligible investors) of authorised investment firms, as defined in that Act. Compensation may be payable where money or investment instruments owed or belonging to clients and held, administered or managed by the firm cannot be returned to those clients for the time being and where there is no reasonably foreseeable opportunity of the firm being able to do so. A right to compensation will arise only: If the client is an eligible investor as defined in the Act; and If it transpires that the firm is not in a position to return client money or investment instruments owned or belonging to the clients of the firm; and To the extent that the client's loss is recognised for the purposes of the Act. Where an entitlement to compensation is established, the compensation payable will be the lesser of: 90% of the amount of the client's loss which is recognised for the purposes of the Investor Compensation Act, 1998; or compensation of up to €20,000. For further information, contact the Investor Compensation Company Ltd. at (01) 224 4955.

## **GOVERNING LAW AND BUSINESS SUCCESSION**

These Terms of Business shall be governed by and construed in all respects according to the laws of the Republic of Ireland and will be deemed to cover any successors in business to Ask Paul.