

# **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

This is your Home Emergency policy – it includes everything you need to know about the emergency cover we provide. We suggest you keep this document in a safe and easily accessible place as you will need to refer to it in an emergency.

This policy is designed to offer 24-hour assistance within your home for emergencies associated with:

- Roof damage
- Plumbing and drainage
- Main heating system
- Domestic power supply
- Toilet unit

- Home security
- Lost keys.

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# **WELCOME TO DAS HOME EMERGENCY**

Thank **you** for purchasing this Home Emergency Assistance policy. **You** are now protected by Europe's leading legal expenses insurer.

To make sure **you** get the most from **your** DAS cover, please take time to read this policy which explains the contract between **you** and **us**. If **you** have any questions or would like more information, please contact **your** insurance adviser.

# **HOW WE CAN HELP**

Before asking for help, please check that the problem is covered by this policy. It is important that **you** contact **our** assistance centre as soon as possible after the **home emergency**. **Our** phone lines are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Do not arrange for a contractor yourself, as **we** will not pay for this. **We** will also not pay for any work which has not been authorised in advance by **us**.

**We** will provide assistance only if **we** have given **our** agreement and only if there is someone aged 18 or over at **home** when **our** approved contractor arrives.

## To claim under your policy, please phone us on 0800 072 3514 and state:

- your name and your home address including postcode;
- the nature of the problem.

When **you** have given **us** details of **your** claim and **we** have accepted it, **we** will arrange for one of **our** approved contractors to help **you** as quickly as possible. **We** will tell **you** what to do next. All phone calls to **us** are monitored and may be recorded as part of **our** training and quality assurance programmes. By using this service **you** are agreeing to **us** recording **your** call.

# WHEN WE CANNOT HELP

In a situation that could result in serious risk to **you** or substantial damage to **your home**, **you** should immediately contact the emergency services (fire, police or ambulance). If **you** think there is a gas leak, **you** should contact the National Gas Emergency Service on **0800 111 999**. If there is an emergency relating to a service such as water or electricity, **you** should also contact any company responsible for supplying the service.

Please note that **our** usual service standards may be affected by circumstances beyond **our** reasonable control such as remote locations, bad weather or availability of parts.

We will not be able to help if conditions make repairs dangerous, for example we cannot carry out roof repairs in high winds or repair damp electrics.

Please also refer to **WHAT WE WILL NOT PAY** on page 6, **POLICY EXCLUSIONS** on pages 8 and 9 and **POLICY CONDITIONS** on page 10.

At all times we will decide the best way of providing help.

# **DAS Head and Registered Office:**

DAS Legal Expenses Insurance Company Limited | DAS House | Quay Side | Temple Back | Bristol | BS1 6NH Registered in England and Wales | Company Number 103274 | Website: www.das.co.uk

DAS Legal Expenses Insurance Company Limited is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FRN202106) and the Prudential Regulation Authority.

Andrew Burke

**Chief Executive Officer, DAS Group** 

# **Financial Services Compensation Scheme:**

We are covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). Compensation from the scheme may be claimed if we cannot meet our obligations. This will be dependent on the type of business and the circumstances of the claim. More information on the compensation scheme arrangements can be found on the FSCS website, www.fscs.org.uk

# THE MEANING OF WORDS IN THIS POLICY

Wherever they appear in this policy in **bold**, the following terms have the specific meanings given below.

**Emergency** 

The sudden or unexpected occurrence of an insured incident during the **period of cover**, which necessitates immediate corrective action to:

- (a) prevent damage or further damage to your home; or
- (b) make your home secure; or
- (c) relieve unreasonable discomfort, risk or difficulty to an insured person.

**Emergency Assistance Limit** 

£500 (including VAT) for the call-out charge, labour costs, parts and materials for each insured incident following an **emergency**. This does not include any amount payable in respect of **hotel accommodation**.

**Home** 

**Your** principal private residence. This includes attached or integral garages but does not include walls, gates, hedges, fences, outbuildings, sheds, detached garages or anything outside the legal boundary of the property. **Your home** must not have more than 15 rooms and must be situated in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands.

**Hotel accommodation** 

The room-only cost of one night's accommodation for **insured people** if **your home** remains uninhabitable following an **emergency**. The most **we** will pay for **hotel accommodation** is £100 (including VAT) per person subject to a maximum total of £250 (including VAT).

Insured person/people

**You** and any person who lives in or is staying at **your home**.

Main heating system

The main hot-water or central-heating system in **your home**. This includes pipes that connect components of the system but not coldwater supply or drainage pipes. It does not include any non-domestic heating or non-domestic hot-water systems or any form of solar heating.

Period of cover

The period for which we have agreed to cover you.

Plumbing and drainage

The cold-water supply and drainage system within the boundary of **your home** and for which **you** are legally responsible. This does not include:

- (a) pipes for which **your** water supply or sewerage company are responsible;
- (b) rainwater drains and soakaways.

We, us, our

DAS Legal Expenses Insurance Company Limited.

You, your

The person who has taken out this policy.

# **OUR AGREEMENT**

We agree to provide the assistance described in this policy, in return for payment of the premium and subject to the terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations set out in this policy, provided that the insured incident happens during the **period of cover** and within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands.

If this policy does not cover the service **you** need, **we** will try (if **you** wish) to arrange it at **your** expense. The terms of such a service are a matter for **you** and the supplier.

# WHAT WE WILL PAY

- (a) We will arrange and pay for a contractor to take action to resolve the **emergency**. The action taken will depend on what would be fair and reasonable in the circumstances and will be either to:
  - (i) carry out a temporary repair (or a permanent repair if this is no more expensive); or
  - (ii) take other action, such as isolating a leaking component or gaining access to your home if the only available set of keys have been lost, stolen or damaged and unusable.
- (b) We will pay up to the emergency assistance limit for each insured incident following an emergency.
- (c) If your home remains uninhabitable overnight following an insured incident, we will pay for hotel accommodation. The decision on whether your home is uninhabitable will take into account whether it would be fair and reasonable to remain in your home.

# WHAT WE WILL NOT PAY

- (a) Any costs per emergency which exceed the emergency assistance limit; and/or
- (b) Any costs of overnight accommodation which exceed the amounts specified under hotel accommodation.

# **INSURED INCIDENTS WE WILL COVER**

### 1 ROOF DAMAGE

Any damage to the roof of your home where internal damage has been caused or is likely.

#### 2 PLUMBING AND DRAINAGE

Damage to, or blockage, breakage or leaking of, the drains or plumbing system that **you** are responsible for in **your home**.

### **3 MAIN HEATING SYSTEM**

Failure to function of the main heating system in your home.

#### 4 DOMESTIC POWER SUPPLY

Failure of your home's domestic electricity, or domestic gas supply, but not the failure of the mains supply.

#### **5 TOILET UNIT**

Impact damage to, or mechanical failure of, a toilet bowl or cistern that results in complete loss of function of the only toilet, or of all toilets in **your home**. If there is at least one functioning toilet in **your home**, there is no cover.

## **6 HOME SECURITY**

Damage to, or the failure of, external doors, windows or locks which leaves your home insecure.

#### 7 LOST KEYS

The only available set of keys to **your home** are lost, stolen or damaged and unusable and **you** cannot replace them, or cannot gain normal access.

# **POLICY EXCLUSIONS**

# 1 Waiting period

A claim following an insured incident which happens during the first 48 hours from the start of the **period of cover** if **you** take out this policy at a different time from any other related agreement.

### 2 Unoccupied homes

A claim where your home has been left unoccupied for 30 or more consecutive days.

## 3 Nobody at home

Costs incurred where **our** approved contractor has attended at an agreed time but nobody aged 18 or over was at **your home**.

### 4 Costs we have not agreed

Costs incurred by an insured person before we have accepted a claim.

## 5 Risk to health and safety

A claim where the insured incident cannot be resolved safely by **our** approved contractor (or which requires specialist assistance) because of the presence of dangerous substances or materials (such as asbestos), or where conditions make attempting a repair dangerous.

#### 6 Home maintenance

Normal day-to-day **home** maintenance that an **insured person** should carry out or pay for (such as servicing of heating and hot-water systems).

#### 7 Deliberate acts

A claim arising from a deliberate act or omission by an **insured person**.

# 8 Rented properties and second homes

A property that you rent or let or that you own that is not your main residence.

### 9 Replacement boilers or appliances

The costs (or any contribution towards the costs) of replacing a boiler or storage heater or any other heating or domestic appliance if:

- (a) it cannot be repaired; or
- (b) the appliance is beyond economic repair (the cost of repairing the appliance is more than the cost of replacing it); or
- (c) repairs will cost more than the emergency assistance limit (we will pay up to the emergency assistance limit for any repairs that are carried out).

#### 10 Failure to carry out previously recommended repairs

Any insured incident which arises from an **insured person's** failure to carry out work or repairs that an **insured person** has previously been advised to undertake to avoid the insured incident occurring or recurring.

## 11 Guarantee and warranty

A claim for parts or labour if the equipment or facility is still under guarantee or warranty from the maker, supplier or installer.

## 12 Incorrect installations or repairs

A claim relating to the failure of equipment or facilities that results from them being incorrectly installed, repaired, modified or maintained, or that is caused by a design fault that makes them inadequate or unfit for use.

#### 13 Damage caused during repairs

Damage caused where it is necessary to gain access to carry out repairs.

## 14 Mains supplies

A claim relating to the interruption, failure or disconnection of the mains electricity, mains gas or mains water supply, or an **insured person's** failure to buy or provide enough gas, electricity or other fuel source.

### 15 Septic tanks, cess pits and fuel tanks

The malfunction or blockage of septic tanks, cess pits or fuel tanks.

## 16 Subsidence, landslip and heave

A claim arising from subsidence, landslip or heave.

### 17 Nuclear, war and terrorism risks

A claim caused by, contributed to by or arising from:

- (a) ionising radiation or contamination by radioactivity from any nuclear fuel or from any nuclear waste from burning nuclear fuel; or
- (b) the radioactive, toxic, explosive or other hazardous properties of any explosive nuclear assembly or nuclear part of it; or
- (c) war, invasion, act of foreign enemy, hostilities (whether war is declared or not), civil war, rebellion, revolution, military force or coup, or any other act of terrorism or alleged act of terrorism as defined in the Terrorism Act 2000; or
- (d) pressure waves caused by aircraft or any other airborne devices travelling at sonic or supersonic speeds.

#### 18 Communal areas

Any claim which would require us to undertake repairs or any other remedial or corrective action to:

- (a) any shared areas or communal parts of a property (or for which you do not have sole responsibility); or
- (b) any shared fixtures and fittings, facilities or services outside the legal boundary of your home.

# **POLICY CONDITIONS**

# 1 Keeping to the policy terms

An insured person must:

- (a) keep to the terms and conditions of this policy;
- (b) maintain your home in a reasonable condition, carry out any inspections or services of fittings in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and complete any necessary maintenance to the structure of your home;
- (c) try to prevent anything happening that may cause a claim;
- (d) take reasonable steps to keep any amount we have to pay as low as possible.

# 2 Replacement parts

We will attempt to provide replacement parts where necessary but cannot be held responsible if these are delayed or unavailable.

### 3 Circumstances beyond our control

**We** will make every effort to provide the service at all times, but **we** will not be responsible for any liability arising from **our** inability to provide assistance as a result of circumstances beyond **our** reasonable control.

## 4 Cancelling the policy

**You** can cancel this policy by telling **us** within 14 days of taking it out. Provided no claims have been made within that period, the person who sold **you** this policy will give **you** a full refund of the premium, subject to any separate charges that they may apply.

You may also cancel this policy at any time afterwards as long as you tell us at least 14 days beforehand. We can cancel this policy at any time as long as we tell you at least 14 days beforehand.

If the policy is cancelled after 14 days of taking it out, subject to the terms of business between **you** and the person who sold **you** this policy, **you** may be entitled to a partial refund of the premium.

It is important to note that charges may apply to any refund subject to the individual terms of business between **you** and the person who sold **you** this policy. Please contact them directly for full details of charges.

## 5 Fraudulent claims

**We** will, at **our** discretion, void the policy (make it invalid) from the date of claim, or alleged claim, and/or **we** will not pay the claim if:

- (a) a claim an insured person has made to obtain benefit under this policy is fraudulent or intentionally exaggerated; or
- (b) a false declaration or statement is made in support of a claim.

Where the above circumstances apply, as part of **our** fraud prevention measures, **we** will, at **our** discretion, also share information with other parties such as the police, government bodies and anti-fraud organisations.

## 6 Losses not directly covered by this policy

**We** will not pay for losses that are not directly covered by this policy. For example, **we** will not pay to replace a carpet damaged by a leak or for time taken off work because of an insured incident.

### 7 Other insurances

If any claim covered under this policy is also covered by another policy, or would have been covered if this policy did not exist, we will only pay our share of the claim even if the other insurer refuses the claim.

# 8 Law that applies

This policy is governed by the law that applies in the part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Channel Islands or Isle of Man where you normally live.

# **DATA PROTECTION**

To comply with data protection regulations **we** are committed to processing the **insured person's** personal information fairly and transparently. This section is designed to provide a brief understanding of how **we** collect and use this information.

We may collect personal details, including the **insured person's** name, address and, on occasion, other information. This is for the purpose of managing the **insured person's** products and services, and this may include underwriting and claims handling.

# **WHO WE ARE**

**DAS** is part of DAS UK Holdings Limited (DAS UK Group). The uses of the **insured person's** personal data by **us** and members of the DAS UK Group are covered by **our** individual company registrations with the Information Commissioner's Office.

# **HOW WE WILL USE YOUR INFORMATION**

We may need to send the **insured person's** information to other parties, such as service providers, engineers, insurance intermediaries, insurance companies, specialist agencies so they may contact the **insured person** to ask for their feedback, or members of the DAS UK Group.

We will not disclose the **insured person's** personal data to any other person or organisation unless we are required to by **our** legal and regulatory obligations. For example, we may use and share the **insured person's** data with other organisations and public bodies, including the police and anti-fraud organisations, for the prevention and detection of crime, including fraud and financial sanctions. If false or inaccurate information is provided and fraud is identified, details will be passed to fraud prevention agencies to prevent fraud and money laundering. Further details explaining how the information held by fraud prevention agencies may be used can be obtained by writing to, or telephoning **DAS**. A copy is also accessible and can be downloaded via **our** website.

# **GOT A QUESTION?**

If the **insured person** has any questions or comments about how **we** store, use or protect their information, or if the **insured person** wishes to request to see the information held about them, they can do this by calling **0800 072 3514**, by writing to the Data Protection Officer at **our DAS** Head Office address – please see page 4 or by visiting **www.das.co.uk** 

# **HOW TO MAKE A COMPLAINT**

We always aim to give you a high quality service. If you think we have let you down, you can contact us by:

- phoning 0344 893 9013
- emailing customerrelations@das.co.uk
- writing to the Customer Relations Department | DAS Legal Expenses Insurance Company Limited |
  DAS House | Quay Side | Temple Back | Bristol | BS1 6NH
- completing our online complaint form at www.das.co.uk/about-das/complaints

Further details of our internal complaint-handling procedures are available on request.

If you are not happy with the complaint outcome or if we've been unable to respond to your complaint within 8 weeks, you can ask the Financial Ombudsman Service for a free and independent review of your complaint.

You can contact them by:

- phoning 0800 023 4567 (free from mobile phones and landlines) or 0300 123 9123
- emailing complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk
- writing to The Financial Ombudsman Service | Exchange Tower | London | E14 9SR

Further information is available on their website: www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk

Using this service does not affect **your** right to take legal action.

The Financial Ombudsman's role is to assess **our** handling of a claim in light of the policy terms. It is not to assess the quality of legal advice. If **you** are unhappy with the service provided by an **appointed representative** the relevant complaint-handling procedure is available on request.

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