Home Sellers Protection Insurance

Policy Wording



About this policy

This policy has been arranged by Rhino Protect Limited and is administered by ARAG plc who is a coverholder of the *insurer*, ARAG Allgemeine Versicherungs-AG Branch UK.

ARAG plc is registered in England number 02585818. Registered address: 9 Whiteladies Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 INN. ARAG plc is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority firm registration number 452369. This can be checked by visiting the FCA website at www.fca.org.uk/register.

ARAG Allegemeine Vesicherungs- AG Branch United Kingdom is authorised and regulated by BAFin (firm reference number VU5455) and subject to limited regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority. Firm reference number 722744.

This document and the schedule form a legally binding contract of insurance between *You* and *Us*. The contract does not give, or intend to give, rights to anyone else. No one else has the right to enforce any part of this contract. *We* may cancel or change any part of the contract without getting anyone else's permission.

In return for the payment of *Your* premium *We* will provide the insurance cover detailed in this policy document, subject to the terms, conditions, and limitations shown below or as amended in writing by *Us* and during the *period of insurance*.

Making a claim

You must tell Us immediately after You first become aware of any cause, event or circumstances which could give rise to a claim under this policy.

If You need to notify a potential Claim, please call or write to:

Claims Department
Rhino Protect Limited
Windsor House
Troon Way Business Centre
Humberstone Lane
Thurmaston
Leicestershire
LE4 9HA

Email: claims@rhinoprotectinsurance.com

Tel: 01455 852100

You should provide *Your* policy number and a description of the circumstances of the *Claim*. A claim form will then be provided and *You* should complete this and return it without delay.

Definitions

The following words or phrases have the same meaning whenever they appear in italics in this document.

Claim date

The date upon which You are notified either verbally or in writing of an insured event occurring that affects the sale of the property and is covered by this policy.

Computer Virus

A set of corrupting, harmful, or otherwise unauthorised instructions or code, whether these have been introduced maliciously or otherwise, and multiply themselves through a computer system or network of whatsoever nature.

Contract race

Where You have received two or more offers for the *property* with the intention of selling to the party that is ready to exchange contracts first.

Conveyancing

The legal process conducted by Your solicitor whereby the ownership of the property is transferred from You to the buyer.

Conveyancing fees

The amount charged by Your solicitor as their fees for the conveyancing.

Costs & expenses

Conveyancing fees, Legal fees and disbursements incurred by You as part of Your sale of the property.

Electronic Data

Facts, concepts and information stored to form useable data for communications, interpretations, or processing by electronic or electromechanical data processing or other electronically controlled hardware, software and other coded instructions for the processing and manipulation of data, or the direction and manipulation of such hardware.

End date

The date Your cover ends being the date of the first of the following:

- 1. You make a claim on this policy; or
- 2. You or We cancel this policy; or
- 3. You complete on the sale of the property; or
- 4. The policy expiry date has been reached (as detailed on Your policy schedule.)

Insured event

Any of the following events, that occur during the period of insurance and lead to Your sale of the property failing:

- 1. The buyer has an adverse search on the *property*, which either restricts, or is seriously detrimental to a successful transaction
- 2. The mortgage lender's valuation of the property being less than 90% of the sum You have accepted
- 3. Structural defects to the property and the cost of rectification works is more than 10% of the sum *You* have accepted
- 4. The buyer's death and any surviving partner being unable or unwilling to continue with the purchase
- 5. The buyer being diagnosed with a terminal illness and being unable or unwilling to continue with the purchase
- 6. The buyer being given notice of redundancy and is unable or unwilling to continue with the purchase
- 7. The buyer's employers' relocation not completing.

Insurer

ARAG plc who is a coverholder of the insurer, ARAG Allgemeine Versicherungs-AG Branch UK.

Limit of indemnity

The maximum costs & expenses the insurer will pay, as detailed on Your policy schedule, relating to the sale of the property that You are legally liable for or have incurred up to the claim date.

Period of insurance

The period which must commence within seven days of the start date and finishes on the end date.

Property

A property that has been built or converted for private use only and is subject to local council tax (at any rate) and is a permanently-constructed domestic dwelling situated within the *territorial limits*, that *You* have received an offer from the buyer and that offer has been accepted by *You*. We do not cover, mobile homes, caravans or any other type of non-permanent dwelling.

Redundancy

Where the person(s) buying the *property* are unable to work due to being made redundant as defined in Section 139 of the Employment Rights Act 1996. To qualify for this cover the person buying the *property* must have been in full time employment for a minimum of six months prior to the start date and not be aware of any impending redundancy at the *start date* of this policy.

Relocation

Where the person(s) buying the *property* are advised that they are to be permanently relocated to an alternative place of work which is greater than fifty miles from the *property*.

Scheme administrator

As detailed on Your policy schedule.

Self-employed

Means You are: (i) Actively working for financial gain in a business or profession, alone or in association with others, and paying Class 2 National Insurance Benefit Contributions, or (ii) A non-salaried partner in a partnership, or (iii) A director of (or someone who has a shareholding in) a private limited company with an issued and fully paid share capital of less than £1,000.

Solicitor

Means either: (i) a professional lawyer or firm of lawyers, registered and authorised by the Law Society of England & Wales to practice; or (ii) a Licensed Conveyancer.

Start date

Within 7 days of *Your* acceptance of the buyers offer to purchase the property, *You* send written confirmation of the acceptance to the buyer or their representatives.

Territorial limits

England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Terrorism

Any act including but not limited to the use, or threat, of violence or force by any person or organisation involving, causing or threatening harm or putting the public or any section of the public in fear if it is likely that the purpose is of a political, religious, ideological (of an intellectual or rational nature) or similar nature.

We, Us or Our

Rhino Protect Limited who are authorised to administer this insurance on behalf of the insurer.

You/Your

The person selling the *property* and may include *You* or any person selling the *property* with *You* who resides in the *property* with *You*, or anyone appointed to act on *Your* behalf.

This policy will cover

Following an insured event the insurer will pay Your costs & expenses up to the limit of indemnity provided that, at the start date:

- 1. You are over 18 years of age; and
- 2. The sale of the property is not subject to a contract race or sealed bids; and
- 3. You are using a solicitor or a Licensed Conveyancer to conduct the conveyancing of the property; and
- 4. You have not had a survey carried out on the property.

This policy will not cover

- 1. You are not covered for costs & expenses: a. Incurred to obtain information or document to support Your claim.
 - b. Incurred before the start date.
 - c. For fines, penalties, compensation or damages which *You* are ordered to pay by a court or other authority.
 - d. If *You* withdraw from the sale of the *property* for any reasons other than those specifically covered by this policy.
 - e. If You are aware of a previous survey having been carried out to the *property* up to 90 days prior to the start date, that may give cause for the sale to fail.
 - f. If *You* are aware, prior to the *start date*, of any circumstances which could lead to a claim being made under this policy.
 - g. If You deliberately and knowingly cause a delay or behave in a manner that results in the failed sale.
 - h. Where they can be reimbursed by Your employer.
 - i. Where You are able to obtain a refund.
 - j. Where, in the case of redundancy: i. You are self-employed;
 - ii. You are a company director or partner of the company giving notice of redundancy; or,
 - iii. The redundancy is voluntary.
- 2. Any claim relating to any illness, injury or condition *You* had prior to the *start date* of this policy.
- 3. Any claim relating to physiological injury or mental illness.
- 4. Any property used for business or commercial use.
- 5. Any claim arising from or relating to flooding, potential flooding or the *property* being classified on a flood risk area.
- 6. Any defect in title which can be rectified or for which an insurance policy can provide cover for.
- 7. Any direct or indirect consequence of war, civil war, invasion, acts of foreign enemies (whether war be declared or not), rebellion, revolution, insurrection, military or usurped power, or confiscation, nationalisation, requisition, destruction of or damage to property by or under the order of any government or public or local authority.
- 8. Any direct or indirect consequence of:
 - i. irradiation or contamination by nuclear material; or
 - ii. the radioactive, toxic, explosive or other hazardous or contaminating properties of any radioactive matter; or
 - iii. any device or weapon employing atomic or nuclear fission and / or fusion or other like reaction or radioactive force or matter.
- 9. Any consequence, howsoever caused, including but not limited to Computer Virus in Electronic Data being lost, destroyed, distorted, altered or otherwise corrupted.
- Any direct or indirect consequence of terrorism as defined by the Terrorism Act 2000 and any amending or substituting legislation.

General conditions

Failure to keep to any of these conditions may lead the *insurer* to cancel *Your* policy, refuse a claim or withdraw from an ongoing claim. The *insurer* also reserves the right to recover *costs* & *expenses* from *You* should this occur.

1. Our consent

We must give Our written consent to pay any claim under the policy.

2. Dual insurance

The *insurer* will not pay for any claim covered by another policy, or any claim that would have been covered by any other policy if this policy did not exist.

3. Fraudulent claims

You must not act in a fraudulent way. If You or anyone acting for You:

- fails to reveal or hides a fact likely to influence whether We accept Your proposal, Your renewal, or any adjustment to Your policy;
- b. fails to reveal or hides a fact likely to influence the cover We provide;
- c. makes a statement to Us or anyone acting on Our behalf, knowing the statement to be false;
- d. sends Us or anyone acting on Our behalf a document, knowing the document to be forged or false;
- e. makes a claim under the policy, knowing the claim to be false or fraudulent in any way; or
- f. makes a claim for any loss or damage You caused deliberately or with Your knowledge.

Failure to keep to any of these conditions may lead the *insurer* to cancel *Your* policy, refuse a claim or withdraw from an ongoing claim. The *insurer* also reserves the right to recover *costs* & *expenses* from *You* should this occur.

If Your claim is in any way dishonest or exaggerated, We will not pay any benefit under this policy or return any premium to You and We may cancel Your policy immediately and backdate the cancellation to the date of the fraudulent claim. We may also take legal action against You and inform the appropriate authorities.

4. Subrogation

If You claim under this insurance We may take over Your rights of action against any third party for Our own benefit, before or after We have paid Your claim, to recover any costs or payments We may make.

5. Recovery of costs & expenses

If We make a payment to You under the terms of this insurance and subsequently You successfully sell the property, We may request from You full reimbursement of any moneys paid by Us.

6. Governing law

Unless some other law is agreed in writing, this policy is governed by English law. If there is a dispute, it will only be dealt with in the courts of England or of the country within the United Kingdom in which *Your* main residence is situated.

7. Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999

A person who is not party to this contract has no right to enforce the terms and conditions of this policy under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.

8. Changes to Your circumstances

You are required by the provisions of the Consumer Insurance (Disclosure and Representations) Act 2012 to take care to:

- a. supply accurate and complete answers to all the questions *We* or the administrator may ask as part of *Your* application for cover under the policy
- b. to make sure that all information supplied as part of Your application for cover is true and correct
- c. tell Us of any changes to the answers You have given as soon as possible.

You must take reasonable care to provide complete and accurate answers to the questions We ask when You take out, make changes to and renew Your policy. If any information You provide is not complete and accurate, this may mean Your policy is invalid and that it does not operate in the event of a claim or We may not pay any claim in full.

Cancellation

If You decide that for any reason, this Policy does not meet Your insurance needs then please return it to Rhino Protect Limited within 14 days from the day of purchase or the day on which You receive Your policy documentation, whichever is the later. On the condition that no claims have been made or are pending, We will then refund Your premium in full.

Thereafter You may cancel the insurance cover at any time by informing Rhino Protect Limited however no refund of premium will be payable.

We shall not be bound to accept renewal of any insurance and may at any time cancel any insurance document by giving 14 days' notice in writing where there is a valid reason for doing so. A cancellation letter will be sent to *You* at *Your* last known address. Valid reasons may include but are not limited to:

- a. Where We reasonably suspect fraud
- b. Non-payment of premium
- c. Threatening and abusive behaviour
- d. Non-compliance with policy terms and conditions
- e. You have not taken reasonable care to provide complete and accurate answers to the questions We ask.

If We cancel the policy and/or any additional covers You will receive a refund of any premiums You have paid for the cancelled cover, less a proportionate deduction for the time We have provided cover.

Where *Our* investigations provide evidence of fraud or misrepresentation, *We* may cancel the policy immediately and backdate the cancellation to the date of the fraud or the date when *You* provided *Your* administrator / *Your* agent with incomplete or inaccurate information. This may result in *Your* policy being cancelled from the date *You* originally took it out and *We* will be entitled to keep the premium.

If Your policy is cancelled because of fraud or misrepresentation, this may affect Your eligibility for insurance with Us, as well as other insurers, in the future.

Complaints

It is the intention to give *You* the best possible service but if *You* do have any questions or concerns about this insurance or the handling of a claim *You* should follow the Complaints Procedure below:

1. Complaints regarding the sale of the policy:

Please contact the agent who arranged the Insurance on your behalf.

2. Complaints regarding claims:

Please contact in the first instance:

The Nominated Complaints Handler Rhino Protect Limited Windsor House Troon Way Business Centre Humberstone Lane Thurmaston Leicestershire LE4 9HA

Tel: 01455 852050

Email: feedback@rhinoprotectinsurance.com

If it is not possible to reach an agreement, *You* have the right to make an appeal to the Financial Ombudsman Service. This also applies if *You* are insured in a business capacity and have an annual turnover of less than £6.5million and which either; have up to 50 employees, or a balance sheet threshold of £5million.. *You* may contact the Financial Ombudsman Service at:

The Financial Ombudsman Service Exchange Tower London E14 9SR

Tel: 0300 123 9 123 or 0800 023 4 567

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

Website: www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk

The above complaints procedure is in addition to *Your* statutory rights as a consumer. For further information about *Your* statutory rights contact *Your* local authority Trading Standards Service or Citizens Advice Bureau.

If You have purchased the insurance policy online, You may also raise Your complaint via the EU Online Dispute Resolution Portal at http://ec.europa.eu/consumers/odr/. This will forward Your complaint to the correct Alternative Dispute Resolution scheme. For insurance complaints in the UK this is the Financial Ombudsman Service. However, this may be a slower route for handling Your complaint than if You contact the Financial Ombudsman Service directly.

Financial Services Compensation Scheme

The *insurer* ARAG Allgemeine Versicherungs-AG Branch UK is covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). *You* may be entitled to compensation from the scheme in the unlikely event that the *insurer* cannot meet its obligations. This depends on the type of business and the circumstances of the claim. Most insurance contracts are covered for 90% of the claim with no upper limit. *You* can get more information about compensation scheme arrangements from the FSCS by visiting www.fscs.org.uk or call *Us* on 0800 678 1100 or 020 7741 4100.

ARAG Privacy Statement

This is a summary of how *We* collect, use, share and store personal information. To view *Our* full privacy statement, please see *Our* website **www.arag.co.uk**

Collecting personal information

ARAG may be required to collect certain personal or sensitive information which may include name, address, date of birth and if appropriate medical information. We will hold and process this information in accordance with all relevant data protection regulations and legislation. Should We ask for personal or sensitive information, We undertake that it shall only be used in accordance with Our privacy statement. We may also collect information for other parties such as suppliers We appoint to process the handling of a claim.

Using personal or sensitive information

The reason We collect personal or sensitive information is to fulfil Our contractual and regulatory obligations in providing this insurance product, for example to process premium or handle a claim. To fulfil these obligations, We may need to share personal or sensitive information with other organisations.

We will not disclose personal or sensitive information for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was collected. Please refer to *Our* full privacy statement for full details.

Keeping personal information

We shall not keep personal information for any longer than necessary.

Your rights

Any person insured by this policy has a number of rights in relation to how We hold personal data including; the right to a copy of the personal data We hold; the right to object to the use of personal data or the withdrawal of previously given consent; the right to have personal data deleted.

For a full list of privacy rights and when We will not be able to delete personal data please refer to Our full privacy statement.