For financial advisers only

Terms of business

These terms of business apply to financial advisers only and must not be distributed to, or relied upon by, retail customers.



These terms of business apply with effect from 24 October 2022. By submitting business to us on or after that date, you agree to these terms. If you submit business to us via the Aegon Retirement Choices Platform or the Aegon Platform, separate terms of business apply.

Definitions

- Act means the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended or re-enacted from time to time
- adviser/you/your refers to the authorised person to whom these terms of business apply. Where the adviser is a firm, partnership, limited liability partnership or limited company, 'you' includes principals, directors and partners, as appropriate
- adviser charge means the fee agreed between the adviser and the plan holder for the advice and/or services, payable by the plan holder and called initial adviser charge and/or ongoing adviser charge and/or ad hoc adviser charge
- adviser/consultancy charge terms and conditions means the document that sets out the terms and conditions governing how we facilitate the payment of adviser charge and consultancy charge
- Aegon Group means Aegon UK plc and/ or any of its subsidiary companies, holding companies, or any subsidiary of any such holding company
- appointed representative has the meaning given to it in section 39(2) of the Act
- authorised person has the meaning set out in section 31 of the Act
- business means business that is, or relates to, all long-term insurance business (as defined in Schedule 1 Part II of The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Regulated Activities) Order 2001 SI 2001/544), collective investment scheme business (as defined in Section 235 of the Act), individual savings account business (as defined in the Individual Savings Account Regulations 1998 SI 1998/1870) and any other products and services offered by us at any time
- Capita means Capita Life & Pensions Regulated Services Limited, who act as our agent in the administration of the SIPP

- cash account means the account that is set up with Capita for the movement of money within a SIPP, payments out of the SIPP, and movement of sums between the insured funds within a product and the SIPP
- charge deduction instruction means the
 Aegon form signed by the client (where their
 product is a personal pension plan) or by
 you and the employer (where the product
 is a group pension scheme), telling us the
 amount of the adviser charge or consultancy
 charge, and authorising us to deduct the
 adviser charge or consultancy charge from
 the product
- client means the applicant for business (or any other person or persons to whom their product is transferred in accordance with these terms and conditions) and, where appropriate, will also mean the plan holder
- close family or associates means:

spouse;

children and step-children, parents and stepparents, brothers and sisters, step-brothers and step-sisters, and the spouse of any of these:

appointed representative; and
employees

- **COBS** means the **FCA**'s Conduct of Business Sourcebook
- company means Scottish Equitable plc.
- consultancy charge means the charge agreed between you and the employer and payable by the plan holder for advice given or services provided in relation to a group pension scheme with us, and called initial consultancy charge, ad-hoc consultancy charge and/or ongoing consultancy charge
- data controller has the same meaning as set out in Data Protection Legislation
- Data Protection Legislation means (a) any applicable law which relates to the protection of individuals with regards to

the processing of data (including Personal Data) and privacy to which a party (or a third party that it represents) is subject, including GDPR or, in the event that the UK leaves the European Union, all legislation enacted in the UK in respect of the protection of personal data; and (b) any code of practice or guidance published by the ICO from time to time;

- employer means the person (including a company or other legal entity) that employs the plan holder, and through whom the plan holder applies for a group pension scheme with us
- FCA means the Financial Conduct Authority and any regulator that replaces it
- GDPR means Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) OJ L 119/1, 4.5.2016
- **insured person** means the life or lives assured named in the application.
- Money laundering regulations means the Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Transfer of Funds (Information on the Payer) Regulations 2017, as amended or re-enacted from time to time.
- personal recommendation has the meaning given to it in the FCA rules
- plan holder means the owner of a product, and, where applicable, is the person who has an obligation to pay the adviser charge or consultancy charge
- platform means the Aegon Retirement Choices platform
- policy conditions means the terms and conditions for each of our products
- premium means any payment to any product, and includes movement of any amounts between the SIPP and the insured part of a product
- product means a product provided by us,

- excluding **products** which are available only via **our platform**
- property cash account means the account that is set up to settle all payments associated with the purchase and maintenance of a property within the SIPP, and from which loan repayments are deducted and rental income received
- SIPP means the self invested part of a product
- we, us, our refers to the company

- 1.1 We have inserted clause and paragraph headings and numbering for convenience only, and they will not affect the interpretation of these terms of business.
- 1.2 If there is any conflict or inconsistency between these terms of business and the terms set out in the adviser charges/ consultancy charges terms and conditions, these terms of business will prevail.
- 1.3 Words in the singular include the plural. The opposite also applies.
- **1.4** A reference to one gender includes a reference to the other genders.
- 1.5 A reference to any statute or statutory provision includes a reference to any amendment, extension or re-enactment of that statute or statutory provision, and to any regulations made under it or them, and to any Northern Ireland equivalent legislation.

2 Scope

- 2.1 These terms of business set out the conditions upon which we will normally accept business you place with us. They replace previous versions of our terms of business, but if you place business with us via our platform, that business will be covered by the platform's terms of business, and not by these terms of business.
 - 2.1.1 Some business that you place with us will be accepted under the conditions detailed in Appendix 1 to these terms of business. Where this is the case, we will tell you which products are covered by Appendix 1.
 - 2.1.2 Where Appendix 1 applies to business placed with us, the terms of Appendix 1 will take precedence where there is any conflict with the rest of the terms of business. For the avoidance of doubt, for any business placed with us that is covered by Appendix 1, no commission is payable and adviser charge will be payable in accordance with the terms of Appendix 1.
- 2.2 You are the agent of the client and not of us in relation to all aspects of any business placed or serviced by you. This does not detract from the obligations of you and us to each other assumed in these terms of business. Nothing in these terms of business should be construed as indicating or giving rise to a joint venture,

- agency or partnership.
- **2.3** We reserve the right, at our discretion, not to accept any item of business from you.
- 2.4 Every time you submit business to us, you are confirming that you are authorised in that jurisdiction to provide advice to the client relating to that business.
- 2.5 In the event of a **client** becoming habitually resident outside of the United Kingdom **you** must advise **us** of this as soon as becoming aware of it, and no new investments must be acquired for the **product** without **our** prior written approval.
- 2.6 We reserve the right to make direct contact with your client where considered appropriate. This could be because we have to, in order to comply with legislation or FCA rules, or for some other reason. We also reserve the right to send, direct to the plan holder, information regarding their product. If we do this, we will send, where appropriate, a copy of the information to you.
- 2.7 We will not accept liability for any monies paid to us until we have received them.
- 2.8 For group personal pension (including group self invested personal pension), and group stakeholder policies:
 - 2.8.1 We will accept the employer's instruction to appoint an adviser in respect of all the plan holders and to give and receive information in relation to the products that form part of the group arrangement, as if they were the plan holder.
 - 2.8.2 Where employer contributions are being paid into employees' products, or employer contributions have stopped being paid into an employee's product, but the employee is still employed by that employer, we will be entitled to accept a letter of authority from the **employer** to change the scheme adviser acting under all such employees' products. This letter of authority should be on company headed paper and signed for and on behalf of the employer. We will not be required to seek any further authority from the individual employee. We will assume that the employer has obtained the consent of all relevant employees to

- the change of scheme adviser.
- 2.8.3 In addition to having the scheme adviser, an individual employee may give **us** an instruction to appoint his own adviser for his or her own **product**.
- **2.8.4** An **employer** may give **us** a letter of authority to release information to another adviser for employees where:
 - a. employer contributions are being paid into an employee's product; or
 - **b.** contributions have stopped being paid into an employee's **product** but the employee is still employed by that **employer**.
- **2.9** You are not authorised to:
 - 2.9.1 incur any expenditure or liability on **our** behalf:
 - 2.9.2 give cover on **our** behalf for any **product**;
 - **2.9.3** collect **premiums** for a **product**, or issue receipts on **our** behalf;
 - 2.9.4 sign or amend any documents or policies on **our** behalf; or
 - 2.9.5 make any statements, promises or representations which bind or purport to bind **us**, and **you** will not hold yourself out as having authority to make any such representation.
- 3 Your obligations
- 3.1 You warrant that you will:
 - **3.1.1** ensure that all **your** employees, agents and subcontractors are aware of and comply with these terms of business;
 - **3.1.2** perform **your** obligations under these terms of business in line with industry standards of best practice;
 - 3.1.3 ensure all actions taken on behalf of the client are taken, where acting on an advisory basis, in accordance with the client's instructions, and all information you submit to us is true, accurate and complete;
 - 3.1.4 ensure that the client has read the policy conditions for the relevant product before they apply for the product;

3.1.5 ensure that:

- a. the information supplied in any application for a product has been supplied by the client;
- b. where this is passed to us electronically, the client's authority to send it electronically has been obtained; and
- c. you and any of your employees, agents and subcontractors are appropriately authorised to submit any application to us, including but not limited to the electronic submission of details relating to a signature-free trust;
- 3.1.6 comply with all legal and regulatory requirements that apply to you in the performance of your obligations under or in connection with these terms of business, and, in particular, with all FCA rules regarding commission and adviser charge/consultancy charge disclosure;
- **3.1.7** comply with all reasonable directions, instructions and requests from **us**;
- 3.1.8 provide us with all relevant FCA authorisation numbers, agency codes or other identification as we reasonably request, when submitting each application for business, including additional premiums, so we can promptly process the client's application, and accurately pay commission or pass across adviser charge and/or consultancy charge to you in accordance with FCA rules;
- 3.1.9 tell **us** immediately of any changes to **your** business details, including email addresses for each agent;
- **3.1.10** tell **us** immediately of any material change to **your** legal constitution;
- 3.1.11 pass on any documentation immediately, without amendment: (a) that we supply to you for the benefit of, or completion by, the client, or (b) that the client provides to you in relation to the product;
- 3.1.12 only issue our current product documentation and destroy all out-of-date product documentation;

- 3.1.13 provide **us** with all necessary information available to **you** regarding the **client** as **we** may reasonably require for the prompt, accurate and equitable handling of transactions relating to the **products**;
- 3.1.14 provide **us** with all necessary information available to **you** regarding the **client** as **we** may reasonably require to enable **us** to fulfil **our** obligations under **FCA** rules, including the **FCA's** 'Treating Customers Fairly' principles, **Data Protection Legislation** and the Bribery Act 2010;
- 3.1.15 comply with all relevant regulatory and legislative requirements relating to bribery, corruption and fraud, including those covered by the Bribery Act 2010;
- 3.1.16 comply with all relevant regulatory and legislative requirements relating to business submitted to us, including compliance with your obligations under Data Protection Legislation; and
- 3.1.17 where you have undertaken to the client to send monies to us on their behalf, comply with the FCA's rules on client money and remit such monies promptly to us without deduction of commission, adviser charge or consultancy charge;
- **3.1.18** treat all confidential information received from **us** as confidential;
- **3.1.19** keep **us** promptly informed in writing of any of the circumstances known to **you** within the scope of sub clause 4.10;
- 3.1.20 tell **us** immediately if an **authorised person** ceases to be entitled to access any of **our**, or a third party's, systems, for example, due to termination of employment or contract; and
- 3.1.21 provide a copy of our adviser charge/consultancy charge terms and conditions to the client, and ensure that they understand them before they agree to the facilitation of adviser charge and/or consultancy charge through a product.
- 3.2 Access to Medical Reports Act 1988
 - 3.2.1 Where we require an **insured person's** consent for the purposes of complying

- with our obligations under the Access to Medical Reports Act 1988 or the Access to Personal Files and Medical Reports (Northern Ireland) Order 1991 and you provide consent on behalf of the insured person as part of an online application for protection cover, the following clauses will apply.
- 3.2.2 When you provide the insured person's consent under clause 3.2.1, you warrant that you will:
 - a. comply with all instructions (written, including as part of an online journey, or oral) received from us regarding the process for obtaining and providing the insured person's consent:
 - b. without prejudice to the generality of clause 5, pass on all information that we require you to make available to the insured person before you ask the insured person to provide their consent;
 - c. only provide consent on behalf of the insured person where not more than 3 months have passed since the insured person authorised you to provide their consent; and
 - d. inform us immediately if the insured person withdraws their consent, you receive information suggesting that the insured person may wish to withdraw their consent or if you receive a complaint or become aware of any issue in relation the consent.
 - 3.2.3 Where you provide consent under clause 3.2.1, you warrant that you will retain evidence of the insured person's consent and how it was obtained and that you will provide such evidence to us, the doctor who has been asked to complete the medical report or the insured person within 5 business days of request for any reason, including to allow us to respond to complaints that we receive or to satisfy ourselves that your procedures are sufficiently robust.
 - **3.2.4** In the event that **you** receive a complaint or claim relating to consent provided under clause 3.2.1, **you** will:

- a. as soon as reasonably practicable give written notice to us, specifying in reasonable detail the nature of the claim or the complaint;
- keep us informed of the progress of the claim or complaint and of any material developments; and
- c. if requested by us, provide to us copies of any material correspondence or other documents relating to the claim or complaint.
- 3.2.5 We retain the right at our sole discretion to withdraw your authority to use the process described in clause 3.2.1 at any time.
- 3.2.6 In addition to any other obligations in these terms of business, in respect of any consent submitted via the process described in clause 3.2.1, you will indemnify us against any loss suffered or incurred, directly or indirectly, as a result of the consent of the insured person not being properly obtained or provided or evidence not being properly retained, along with any reasonable costs or expenses which we may incur in relation thereto. The provisions of clause 4.17 will also apply.

4 Remuneration

4.1 Commission payment

- 4.1.1 Subject always to these terms of business, applicable FCA disclosure requirements and to the extent permitted by FCA rules (particularly regarding adviser charge/consultancy charge and remuneration in COBS Chapter 6), we will credit or pay commission on business you submit to us, and which we accept, except where you have told us that you do not require commission to be paid.
- 4.1.2 We may publish detailed commission terms at any time, which will apply to all business placed after publication, and which are available on request. This will not prevent us from providing bespoke commission terms in any circumstances that we deem appropriate.
- **4.1.3** We may vary such commission terms and any discount rate applicable to commission payable on indemnity terms

- as **we** see fit without notice of any such variation to **you**.
- 4.1.4 Where our commission terms provide for a choice of different commission options, when you submit an item of business, you must tell us the basis on which you require commission to be paid for that item of business. If you don't, we will pay commission on such basis as we consider appropriate in the circumstances.
- 4.1.5 We will only pay initial commission once in respect of any business submitted and accepted. If two or more advisers claim commission in respect of the same piece of business, the commission will normally be paid to the adviser recognised by the client as their agent at the time when the application for business is completed or the increment to the product is submitted to us.
- 4.1.6 Where we consider that it is appropriate to pay commission to an adviser who we believe is providing advice or services to the client, we may do so, at our sole discretion, based on such terms and conditions as we will deem appropriate at the time

4.2 Own life business

- **4.2.1 We** reserve the right not to pay commission, or to restrict the amount of commission **we** pay to **you** in the following circumstances:
 - a. where you or any of your close family or associates are the applicant for business or the plan holder; or
 - b. where the applicant for business or the plan holder is close family or associate of an employee of your firm, or where such similar relationship as we may determine, falls within this category from time to time
- 4.2.2 If you are a firm, we reserve the right not to pay you indemnity commission on the lives of any of the principals of the firm or on the lives of close family or associates of the principals of the firm.
- **4.2.3** We will not pay commission for any other business where we reasonably believe that the primary purpose for

- it is to generate commission and is not a genuine long-term investment. If **we** reasonably believe that commission has been paid or credited to **you** on any such **business** it will be immediately repayable.
- **4.2.4** We will pay only non-indemnity or level commission on protection business on your life.
- **4.2.5** You must tell us at the time of applying for business whether you or any of the people mentioned at sub clause 4.2.1 are the applicant or plan holder in respect of the business.
- 4.2.6 Where you are the applicant for business or plan holder under sub clause 4.2.1a, we will not facilitate the payment of adviser charge or consultancy charge to you through the product.

4.3 Indemnity commission terms

- 4.3.1 When you and we agree in writing, we will pay initial commission on indemnity terms for each piece of business you submit, in accordance with our indemnity terms applicable from time to time, details of which are available on request.
- 4.3.2 Our practice as to whether to pay indemnity commission for business will depend on the product. Please contact your usual Aegon representative if you want to know what our normal practice is for any particular product. Where we have granted indemnity terms to you, if you ask for it, we will pay the total amount of initial commission, discounted in accordance with our indemnity terms applicable from time to time, on acceptance of the business and on receipt of the first premium and when premiums are increased to a level higher than ever previously paid.
- 4.3.3 Where we pay commission on indemnity terms, it is conditional upon it being earned. If premiums stop (other than on death) or the premium reduces during an initial period relating to the whole or part of the premium then that commission will, in whole or in part, be deemed not to have been

- earned. In such circumstances **you** will repay, or **we** will otherwise recover from **you**, the unearned commission calculated in accordance with **our** indemnity terms from time to time.
- 4.3.4 We will tell you of a non-payment of premium as soon as it is practicable to do so. If you do not repay the unearned commission within three months of us telling you, you will have to pay interest on the debt at the rate of at least 0.67% a month compound, or at such other rate which we deem appropriate from time to time, from the date on which premiums stopped being paid.
- 4.3.5 Where business is reinstated, and where it is our practice to pay commission to an adviser resulting from the reinstatement, we will pay the commission to the adviser whose advice or actions, in our sole discretion, were instrumental in leading to the reinstatement. Our practice as to whether to pay commission for reinstated business will depend on the product. Please contact your usual Aegon representative if you want to know what our normal practice is for particular products.
- 4.3.6 We reserve the right to withdraw indemnity commission terms and pay non-indemnity commission whenever the amount of your unearned indemnity commission liability exceeds such sum as we may deem appropriate, or otherwise as we may determine from time to time.

4.4 Establishment commission terms

- 4.4.1 When you and we agree in writing, we will pay establishment commission in accordance with our establishment commission terms applicable from time to time, details of which are available on request.
- 4.4.2 Our practice as to whether to pay establishment commission for business will depend on the product. Please contact your usual Aegon representative if you want to know what our normal practice is for any particular product. Where we pay commission on establishment commission terms, it

is conditional upon it being earned. If premiums stop (other than on death) or the premium reduces during an initial period relating to the whole or part of the premium then that commission will, in whole or in part, be deemed not to have been earned. In such circumstances you will repay, or we will otherwise recover from you, the unearned commission calculated in accordance with our establishment commission terms from time to time.

- 4.4.3 We will tell you of a non-payment of premium as soon as it is practicable to do so. If you do not repay the unearned commission within three months of us telling you, you will have to pay interest on the debt at the rate of at least 0.67% a month compound, or at such other rate which we deem appropriate from time to time, from the date on which premiums stopped being paid.
- 4.4.4 Where business is reinstated, and where it is our practice to pay commission to an adviser resulting from the reinstatement, we will pay any commission resulting from the reinstatement to the adviser whose advice or actions, in our sole discretion, were instrumental in leading to the reinstatement. Our practice as to whether to pay commission for reinstated business will depend on the product. Please contact your usual Aegon representative if you want to know what our normal practice is for particular products.
- 4.4.5 We reserve the right to withdraw establishment commission terms whenever the amount of your unearned commission liability exceeds such sum as we may deem appropriate, or otherwise as we may determine from time to time.

4.5 Single premium commission

4.5.1 We will pay commission to you in respect of certain single premium business placed by you, on the condition that the single premium business remains in force for a specified period of time. Our practice as to whether to pay commission for single premium business will depend

- on the **product**. Please contact **your** usual Aegon representative if **you** want to know what **our** normal practice is for any particular **product**. If the **business** for which **we** do pay commission does not remain in force for the specified period of time then that commission will, in whole or in part, be deemed not to have been earned. In such circumstances **you** will repay, or **we** will otherwise recover from **you**, the unearned commission calculated in accordance with **our** single premium terms from time to time.
- 4.5.2 If you do not repay the unearned commission within three months of us telling you, you will have to pay interest on the debt at the rate of at least 0.67% a month compound, or at such other rate which we deem appropriate from time to time, from the date on which the single premium business ceased to remain in force.
- 4.5.3 We will only pay you commission for group pension business from 31 December 2012 if you confirm that for single premiums and transfers from other pension schemes prior to that date, an agreement was in place with the employer to cover future advice given to its employees, and that agreement is to continue without change.

4.6 Trail commission

- 4.6.1 Subject to FCA rules, sub clauses 4.6.2 and 4.12, we will pay trail commission to you in relation to certain business.

 Our practice as to whether to pay trail commission will depend on the product. Please contact your usual Aegon representative if you want to know what our normal practice is for any particular product.
- 4.6.2 Where it is **our** practice to pay trail commission, **we** will continue to pay it from 31 December 2012 where:
 - a. you have given the client a personal recommendation before 31

 December 2012, and there is a clear link between the trail commission and the personal recommendation; or

b. we accepted non-advised business before 31 December 2012.

4.7 Adviser charge and consultancy charge

- **4.7.1 We** have agreed to facilitate the payment of adviser charge or consultancy charge from a product, or to require **Capita** to facilitate the payment of adviser charge from a SIPP. Where we do this, we (or Capita, as appropriate) will make the deductions in line with the adviser charge/consultancy charge terms and conditions, and our charge deduction instruction, and then facilitate the onward payment to you of the amount deducted. Where you want us to facilitate the payment of adviser charge or consultancy charge from the insured funds within one of our products, you must use our 'insured' charge deduction instruction. Where you want us to facilitate the payment of adviser charge from the SIPP, you must use the 'SIPP' charge deduction instruction.
- 4.7.2 In performing this role, we, or Capita (as appropriate), will be acting as your agent for the sole purpose of transferring to **you** the amount, equal to the adviser charge or consultancy charge that we have deducted. This means that the client's liability to you, in respect of the **adviser charge** or **consultancy charge** they have entered in the charge deduction instruction, will be discharged as soon as we have deducted the **adviser charge** or consultancy charge from the product, and the adviser charge or consultancy **charge** becomes a debt that **we** owe to you. This is subject to sub clauses 4.11.1, 4.13 and 4.17.
- 4.7.3 If you are no longer authorised under the Act, we will continue to facilitate the payment of initial adviser charge or initial consultancy charge, where we have received a charge deduction instruction that has not been revoked. We will stop paying

ongoing adviser charge and ongoing consultancy charge from the date of de-authorisation.

4.8 Appointed representatives

If you appoint an agent or appointed representative, commission, adviser charge and consultancy charge will be paid to you, and you will be liable to repay any commission, adviser charge and consultancy charge owed to us under sub clause 4.13. This also applies where we pay monies to your order. It is agreed that we will have no direct contractual relationship with such agent or appointed representative.

4.9 Premium payment

All **premiums** must be remitted to **us** without deduction of commission, **adviser charge** or **consultancy charge**.

4.10 Termination of commission payment

- 4.10.1 Subject to sub clauses 4.3, 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6, we will stop paying you trail commission and any type of phased commission including level commission, fixed percentage of premium and fund/surrender value related commission in the following circumstances:
 - **a.** when **you** die (if a sole trader);
 - b. if you or we terminate this agreement;
 - c. if you enter into a voluntary arrangement with your creditors, any steps are taken in relation to bankruptcy or winding-up proceedings against you, the appointment of a receiver or an administrative receiver over your assets, or you enter into liquidation (whether voluntary or compulsory);
 - d. if you are no longer authorised under the Act or steps are being taken to de-authorise you, or you otherwise become, in our opinion, unable to provide ongoing advice in connection with the product to which the commission payment relates;

- e. where, in our opinion, you are no longer the client's agent even though you may still be authorised;
- f. where, in our opinion, you are no longer providing ongoing advice or services to the client in connection with the product to which the commission payment relates;
- g. where, in our reasonable opinion, another adviser is entitled to the remuneration for the product;
- h. where the adviser or its book of business, is sold to another adviser;
- i. where in our reasonable opinion, we suspect the adviser of fraud;
- j. where the client terminates the product to which the remuneration relates; or
- **k.** where **we** are notified by a **client** that a **product** is to be removed from **your** agency account.
- **4.10.2 We** will only accept written notification of a change of adviser.
- 4.10.3 Where we, having regard to the particular circumstances relating to any case or cases, consider that it is appropriate to continue paying commission to an adviser who has ceased to be the client's agent in terms of the above paragraphs then, at our sole discretion, we may do so based on such terms and conditions as we will deem appropriate at the time.
- 4.10.4 If individual products are transferred from your agency account at the client's request, you will remain liable for any commission clawback on those products in relation to business submitted by you.

4.11 Cancellation rights

4.11.1 If a client exercises the right to cancel any product in terms of COBS Chapter 15 or any other statutory, regulatory or contractual right, no commission will be payable to you in respect of such business. Additionally, we, or Capita, as appropriate, will not facilitate the payment of future adviser charge or consultancy charge to you for that product.

- **4.11.2** In such circumstances, if the **client's product** is invested in insured funds, **we** will refund to the **client**:
 - **a.** For regular **premiums**: the value, on the date of investment, of the units purchased with the **premium**.
 - b. For single premiums and transfer payments: the value, on the date of cancellation, of the units purchased with the premium, taking into account any movement resulting from investment loss since the date of investment.

For the avoidance of doubt, we will never repay more than the original value of the premium. Any commission, adviser charge and/or consultancy charge already paid will be repaid by you immediately to us.

- 4.11.3 In relation to any product, where a **client** has a right to cancel as described in sub clause 4.11.1 then, in addition to those statutory, regulatory or contractual rights to cancel, we may allow your clients an extended right to cancel within a period of up to 30 days from the date of receipt by the **client** of a notice of cancellation specifying such a right to cancel. In the event that a client exercises an extended right of cancellation, no commission will be payable to **you** for such **business**. Additionally, we will not facilitate the future payment of adviser charge or consultancy charge to you for that **product**. Subject to sub clause 4.11.4, any commission, adviser charge and/ or **consultancy charge** already paid will be immediately repayable to us.
- **4.11.4** If the **client** has a **SIPP**, the amount **we** will refund to the **client** depends on a number of factors:
 - a. If the investments are held only within the cash account during the cancellation period and no trading has occurred, we will return any premium or transfer, less adviser charge, product and investment charges, to the person who paid it (for example to the client, their employer, a third party or another product provider for a transfer).

b. If the client started trading within the cancellation period, they will be liable for transactional, product and investment charges, and any charges imposed by third parties such as investment managers or stockbrokers. In addition, if their investment has fallen in value before we received the cancellation request, they may get back less than they invested.

For the avoidance of doubt, **we** will never repay more than the original value of the **premium**, and all refunds will be net of **adviser charge** paid to **you**.

4.12 Change of adviser 4.12.1 Bulk transfers

- a. Where you:
 - i. are no longer authorised under the Act and have arranged for another adviser to provide the same (or a better) level of advice or service to your existing clients; or
 - **ii. your** book of **business** is sold to another adviser:

we will stop paying you any trail commission, ongoing adviser charge and/or ongoing consultancy charge from the date of transfer. We will pay to you any trail commission, ongoing adviser charge and/or consultancy **charge** due up to the date of transfer. We will pay the new adviser the trail commission you would have got if you had continued to be the adviser. Where the book of business is sold, we will pay the new adviser the adviser charge and/or consultancy charge agreed by the client to be paid to you, and from the date of sale these terms of business will apply to the new adviser.

- **b.** Sub clause a above is subject to the following conditions being met:
 - i. in relation to trail commission, adviser charge and consultancy charge, that the new adviser:
 - confirms in writing that it accepts all terms and conditions agreed between you and us

- in relation to payment of remuneration and all your liabilities in relation to business you submitted, including the contingent liability to repay to us any unearned commission paid on indemnity terms to you;
- has an active agency account with us: and
- ii. we have agreed in writing to the transfer taking place

iii. in relation to adviser charge and

- consultancy charge only, that:
 you confirm in writing to us
 that you and the new adviser
 have agreed that the same (or a
 better) level of ongoing service
 is being provided to the clients
 being transferred in return for the
 adviser charge and/or consultancy
 charge being transferred and that
 you have notified all of the clients
 in writing of the change to their
 adviser.
- c. Subject to sub clauses 4.3 to 4.6, if you have had another adviser's group pensions business transferred to you, we will only pay you commission for that business from 31 December 2012 if you confirm that for single premiums and transfers from other pension schemes prior to that date, an agreement was in place with the employer to cover future advice given to its employees, and that agreement is to continue without change.
- d. Before we pay any commission to the new adviser after the date of transfer, we will deduct any sums you owe us in respect of business you submitted up to the date of transfer.

4.12.2 Appointment of a new adviser

- **a.** Where the **client** terminates his relationship with **you** and appoints a new adviser, from the date of the change:
 - i. we will pay the new adviser the trail commission you would have got if you had continued to be the

adviser: and

ii. we will continue paying you adviser charge and/or consultancy charge due to you, unless the client asks us not to.
 We will start facilitating the payment of adviser charge and/or consultancy charge to the new adviser when we receive a new charge deduction instruction.

4.13 Repayment of commission, adviser charge or consultancy charge

4.13.1 In addition to, and without prejudice to any other terms in these terms of business, no commission will be payable to you and you will repay to us any commission, adviser charge, and/or consultancy charge already paid to you, together with interest at the rate specified in sub clauses 4.3.4 and 4.4.3, above accruing from the date of payment of the commission, adviser charge or consultancy charge until the date of repayment, in the following circumstances:

If, as result of either a complaint by the **client** against **you**, or an order by a court, ombudsman, and/or any regulatory body, **we** have to either refund **premiums**, or to pay out the current fund value of the investment either directly to the **client** or to a third party on behalf of the **client**.

- **4.13.2** Any commission, **adviser charge** or **consultancy charge** already paid will, be immediately payable to **us** by **you**:
 - a. Where we don't receive cleared funds in relation to the client's premium and we have to cancel the client's product.
 - b. Where we make a payment to you for an amount that you are not entitled to, for example, due to an error, overpayment, cancellation or early termination of the product.
- 4.14 Frequency of payments of commission, adviser charge and consultancy charge
 4.14.1 Subject to sub clauses 4.10.4, 4.17 and clause 16 we will pay you

commission or facilitate the payment of adviser charge or consultancy charge at such intervals as we may agree, and normally not less frequently than twice monthly. If the amount of commission, adviser charge and consultancy charge payable at any time is less than £100 sterling, we may retain the sum until the total amount payable exceeds that figure.

4.14.2 We will not pay interest on any remuneration that we hold pending payment of it to you.

4.15 Value Added Tax

- **4.15.1 We** will make all commission payments to **you** inclusive of Value Added Tax ('VAT') (if applicable).
- 4.15.2 We will treat all adviser charge and consultancy charge instructions we receive as being inclusive of any applicable VAT. It is your responsibility to determine the VAT treatment of charges made and we will not be responsible for any error made in relation to this. If the prevailing rate of VAT changes, it is your responsibility, and not ours, to assess whether the amount of adviser charge or consultancy charge also needs to change.

4.16 Statements

We will issue you with regular statements of account. These may be contained in writing, on disk, on tape, in direct online communication to a computer terminal, or any other method of communication agreed between us and you. These statements will be the conclusive record of commission, adviser charge and consultancy charge payable to you, except in the case of manifest error or omission.

4.17 Set off

We reserve the right to set off the payment of commission, adviser charge or consultancy charge we owe to you against any debt owed by you to us or another company in the Aegon Group. If you hold more than one agency account with us, we reserve the right to set off one agency account against another

for monies owed to **us** or another company in the **Aeqon Group**.

4.18 Debt reporting

If, at any time, you owe us a debt incurred as a result of the claw-back of indemnity commission, adviser charge or consultancy charge, or any other debt, including any which we have to report to the FCA under the FCA's rules, then we reserve the right to pass this information to other financial institutions and to third parties providing data gathering information services on their behalf. For example, we will supply information about the existence of the debt and the amount of the debt to the Elixir 2000 database maintained by Crif Decision Solutions Limited.

4.19 General

- 4.19.1 You acknowledge when you are applying for an agency account with us, that we will conduct due diligence on you from time to time. We may require financial guarantees from principals, directors or other suitable guarantors when setting up an agency with you or when your agency is in force.
- 4.19.2 You must comply with all relevant regulatory and legislative requirements relating to business submitted to us and, in particular, with those rules regarding disclosure in respect of commission, adviser charge and consultancy charge.
- 4.19.3 Without prejudice to sub clauses
 4.1 to 4.18 above, matters relating
 to commission, adviser charge and
 consultancy charge payable or
 provided by us to you will be subject to
 the rules of the FCA.

5 Documentation

You must pass on immediately, without amendment, any documentation or communication which we supply for the benefit of, or completion by, the client or which the client provides in relation to the business.

6 Changing these terms of business

6.1 We reserve the right to change the terms contained in these terms of business. **We** do not have to send **you** a formal written notification

- of any changes. The changes will be posted on **our** appropriate websites and will take effect, subject to sub clause 6.2, no earlier than one month after posting on the website.
- 6.2 If the changes have to take effect earlier than the date in sub clause 6.1, in order to comply with any legislation (including delegated legislation and statutory instruments) or with the FCA rules, then they will take effect immediately. Such changes may affect business you place with us before the change to these terms of business is to take effect, but only to the extent required by FCA rules and legislation. If you do not accept any changes to our terms of business, you must contact our Commission Department to let us know that you want to terminate this agreement.

7 Anti-money laundering and financial crime prevention

- 7.1 The firm shall comply with all statutory and Aegon Group imposed requirements relating to anti-money laundering, tax evasion and financial crime prevention.
- 7.2 The firm shall be responsible for effecting and maintaining such client due diligence and record keeping procedures as are required by the Money Laundering Regulations including such requirements as shall be notified in writing to the firm by Aegon Group from time to time.
- 7.3 The firm consents to being relied on by Aegon Group within the meaning given in the Money Laundering Regulations for the purposes of applying client due diligence measures.
- 7.4 If requested, the firm must immediately provide to Aegon Group all information or evidence of identity data it has gathered about the clients and/or any beneficial owners and any other relevant information collected in applying client due diligence measures.
- 7.5 The firm undertakes to Aegon Group that it shall comply with all applicable laws relating to the prevention of financial crime, including without limitation, the Terrorism Act 2000, the Criminal Justice Act 1993, the Money Laundering Regulations, the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, the Fraud Act 2006, the Bribery Act 2010, the Criminal Finance Act 2017, and all applicable requirements of the FCA.

7.6 The firm undertakes to immediately inform the **Company** if any criminal proceedings are brought against the firm or any individual of the firm.

8 Data protection/Use of information/data

- **8.1** You warrant that:
 - 8.1.1 you have in place all necessary notifications in respect of your processing of personal data as required by Data Protection Legislation, as amended from time to time:
 - **8.1.2** under relevant data protection legislation **you** have a suitable lawful basis for sharing the client's personal data with us
 - 8.1.3 you will maintain adequate security measures to prevent any unauthorised access or disclosure of identifiers/ certificates and associated passwords issued by us for access to our systems or those of a third party, such as portal service providers and back office software providers.
- 8.2 You acknowledge that we will be a data **controller** in respect of the information or data provided to **us** and will be entitled (either alone or in conjunction with any other party) to use and disclose such information or data in accordance with **our** business requirements from time to time and to carry out **our** obligations under any contract entered into either by or on behalf of the client. The purposes for which we may use and disclose such information or data will include, without limitation, conducting market research, preparing strategic or other marketing plans and exchanging information with another contracting party (for any such party's legitimate purposes or use).
- 8.3 Information about you, the conduct of you and your agency account with us will be processed and disclosed by us, and you consent to such processing and disclosure, in accordance with the purposes described in sub clause 8.2. You acknowledge that such information may be held on computer or in such other medium as we may use. We also reserve the right to provide such information to a credit reference agency, closed user group or computer bureau.

8.4 Should it become necessary for client data to be transferred outside of the European Economic Area (EEA), the transferring party shall be responsible for ensuring that its data protection registration allows it to do so, it has client consent to do so, and the data is protected to the same degree as if it was covered by Data Protection Legislation when it is outside of the EEA.

9 Service of documents

- 9.1 Any letter or other document will be deemed to have been served on **you** if it is sent by post or left at any address of **your** firm from which **you** have informed **us**, in writing, that **you** were last trading, or at **your** registered office (if appropriate).
- 9.2 Any letter or other document will be deemed to have been served on **us** if it is sent by post or left at **our** head office at Lochside Crescent, Edinburgh Park, Edinburgh, EH12 9SE.
- 9.3 Any letter or document sent by post will be deemed to have been served on the second business day following that on which it was posted and service will be sufficiently proved if there is evidence that the envelope containing the letter or document was properly addressed, stamped and posted.

10 Communication and electronic mail

- 10.1 You and we accept the integrity of all email messages and agree to accord these the same status as would be applicable to a document or to information sent other than by electronic means. You accept responsibility and liability for the completeness and accuracy of any email message you send us, and we will not be liable for any consequence of any inaccurate or incomplete communication from you.
- 10.2 You and we agree not to contest the validity or enforceability of email messages in any legal proceedings between us respecting or related to a transaction.
- 10.3 We may accept email or other electronic communications from or with you upon such terms and subject to such additional or separate conditions as we may consider appropriate or desirable from time to time. This is subject to the strict understanding on your part that we will not be held responsible if you do not receive such communications,

- or part of them, or if they are delayed for any reason. Communications from **you** to **us** will be deemed to have been received by **us** when the communication is accessible by **us**.
- 10.4 If an email or other electronic communication is corrupted, **you** will re-transmit that communication as soon as possible to **us**, and tell **us** that it is a corrected communication.
- 10.5 Each time you access any information or systems we make available to you, you undertake and warrant that:
 - a. you are authorised, registered and hold the necessary consents from clients to have such access and to process the information made available by us;
 - b. you have in place appropriate technical and organisational security measures to ensure that the information is stored securely and not accessible to any unauthorised person;
 - c. you have taken steps to ensure that the information will not be disclosed to anyone who is not authorised to receive the information; and
 - d. the information will be used only for your legitimate business purposes and in compliance with your data protection registrations.
- 10.6 We may rely and act upon any instructions given to us by you electronically in relation to the product which purport to have been given by you, and which are accepted in good faith and without negligence on our part.
- 10.7 It is a condition that any identifier and associated password issued for the purposes of gaining access to our systems or access to information about our products and services held on third party computers/systems will be used prudently and kept secure. In particular, an identifier and the associated password will only be made known to persons authorised by you to hold such identifier and associated password. You are liable for all actions taken or authorised under the access codes of each user, regardless of the fact than another individual has accessed the computer/information/services (as appropriate) and that access was unauthorised by the user.

- 10.8 As a consequence, you are responsible for the confidentiality of each user's usernames and passwords and must take all reasonable steps to ensure that:
 - a. they are kept secret from any individual other than the user:
 - **b.** they are not shared with any other person or anyone else is allowed to use or see them:
 - c. they are not written down or included in any electronic file available on the same computer from which access to our systems/services is gained;
 - **d.** computer terminals are not left unattended whilst logged on to **our** systems/services;
 - **e.** any information printed off from **our** systems/services is destroyed or securely stored; and
 - **f.** access details are changed immediately if the user believes they have become known to another person.
- 10.9 We will not be liable for any claims or losses incurred as a result of carrying out transactions authorised by a user or by providing use of our systems/services/platform to users. We will not be held responsible for errors, failures, delays or transposition of information or instructions by the user.
- 10.10 You must tell us immediately if it is suspected that someone else has gained knowledge of the access details of a user or, if someone else has accessed our systems/services using the user's codes.
- 10.11 In consideration of receipt of any usernames and passwords from us, you indemnify us against all losses, claims, damages and expenses which may be suffered or incurred by us arising from or in connection with the failure by you or persons to whom usernames and passwords have been supplied by us, at your request, to keep confidential all usernames and passwords or for any breach of the terms of this section.
- 10.12 We provide any downloadable software at your and the user's own risk and will not be liable for any claims or losses whether directly or indirectly arising from use of our systems/services/platform that is not within our reasonable control.

- 10.13 Any investment tools software made available to you through the platform is to be used at your own risk. While reasonable care has been taken in the compilation of the data contained in the investment tools software it is not warranted to be accurate or complete.
- **10.14 We** may record or monitor telephone calls to or from **us**. **We** will do so for any of the following reasons:
 - **10.14.1**to provide evidence of a **business** transaction:
 - **10.14.2**to ensure **we** comply with regulatory procedures;
 - 10.14.3 to improve services; or
 - **10.14.4** for **your** protection.

11 Applicable law

These terms of business will be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the part of the United Kingdom in which you have your principal place of business.

12 Intellectual property/links to websites

- **12.1 You** may not use any intellectual property owned by **us** without **our** prior written consent. In particular, **you** must not:
 - 12.1.1 alter, deface or remove any reference to **our** trade marks, or any reference to **us** on any **product** documentation;
 - 12.1.2 produce or distribute any documentation using **our** name, logos or other trade marks, unless supplied by **us**;
 - 12.1.3 do, or authorise any third party to do, any act that would, or might invalidate or be inconsistent with any intellectual property right owned by us, or that would damage or adversely impact the value or reputation of any company within the Aegon Group; or
 - **12.1.4** register or seek to register any intellectual property rights of **our**s in **your** name.
- 12.2 Nothing in these terms of business will operate to transfer the ownership of any intellectual property rights from **us** to **you**.
- **12.3 You** warrant that:
 - **12.3.1** all intellectual property rights in anything provided by **you** to **us** in

- connection with our relationship belong to **you** and will continue to do so, or are validly licensed by **you**; and
- 12.3.2 you have the necessary consents to validly sub-licence to us our use of any intellectual property rights provided to us by you, in connection with our relationship, that do not belong to you.
- 12.4 We may permit you to link from your website(s) to websites owned or maintained by us, subject to our prior approval on the following basis:
 - 12.4.1 we may withdraw or amend the permission at any time, in which case you must remove or suitably amend all links to our website(s);
 - **12.4.2 you** must link only to pages that **we** may permit from time to time;
 - **12.4.3 you** must not frame, post, modify or alter the appearance of **our** websites without **our** permission;
 - 12.4.4 you must not state or imply that we endorse, sponsor or otherwise approve of you, your services or your website; and
 - 12.4.5 you undertake to keep your website up to date and accurate in all material respects and must not include any material on your website that is illegal, obscene, defamatory or otherwise inappropriate.

13 Waiver and remedies

- 13.1 If either you or we fail to exercise, or delay exercising any right or remedy under these terms of business, that will not be held to be a waiver of that right or remedy. It will not prevent either of us exercising that, or any other right or remedy on another occasion.
- 13.2 The rights and remedies contained within these terms of business are cumulative, and except where we say otherwise, they do not exclude either you or us from enforcing other rights or seeking other remedies available at law, in equity or delict.

14 Severance

If any provision within these terms of business is held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable by court, statute, FCA rule or otherwise, that will not affect the validity and enforceability of the other provisions of these terms of business.

15 Assignment and rights of third parties

- 15.1 These terms of business are personal to you and you cannot assign them. We may assign these terms of business to any member of the Aegon Group. Each member of the Aegon Group will be entitled to recover any loss suffered by it in connection with these terms of business and generally to enforce these terms of business in its own right under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.
- 15.2 Except as set out in sub clause 15.1, a person who is not a party to these terms of business has no rights to enforce any term of this agreement between **you** and **us** and the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 will not otherwise apply.

16 Obligations after termination

If you or we terminate the agreement between us, any obligation contained within these terms of business that we intend expressly, or by implication, to come into force, or continue in force, on or after the date of termination, will not be affected by the termination of the agreement. For the avoidance of doubt, you will remain liable to us for repayment of any debts arising under clause 4 before or after termination.

Appendix 1

Contents

- 1. Definitions and their interpretation
- 2. The relationship agreement
- 3. Undertakings and provisions
- 4. Adviser charges

1. Definitions and their interpretation

All definitions in the terms of business apply to this Appendix. In addition, the following expressions will have the following meanings and any reference to documentation and literature will include copies in paper and electronic formats.

cash account/facility means any cash account that is set up within a **product**.

charges guide means any guide issued by **us** from time to time that details the charges in connection with a particular **product**.

terms of use means terms that **we** apply to any discretionary fund manager.

user means any named employee or representative of **you** registered for access to any **products** provided under this Appendix 1.

2. The relationship agreement

Where **your client** authorises **you** to make transactions on their behalf, **you** must have the relevant regulatory authorisation and permissions to perform such transactions.

3. Undertakings and provisions

3.1 You warrant that you will, before submitting an application on behalf of your client for any product covered by this Appendix 1, ensure that your client has received the relevant Key Features Document, the terms and conditions, and any other documentation or disclosure required by FCA rules that relate to that product. You warrant that you will ensure that your clients have continuing access to any terms and conditions, any charges guide and other relevant documentation. It remains your responsibility to ensure that your clients

- are advised of any changes to the terms and conditions, the **charges guide**, and other relevant documentation that **you** are informed about.
- 3.2 Where your client nominates or appoints a discretionary fund manager (DFM) to manage or advise upon some or all of the underlying investments of their product, you undertake that prior to such nomination/appointment you will provide your client with advice as to the choice of such DFM if your client requires this, and ensure that a suitable written agreement is in place between your client and the DFM. You also agree that the monitoring of the performance of the DFM is not our responsibility. The actions and undertakings of the DFM remain your responsibility at all times.
- 3.3 Where your client appoints a DFM you undertake to provide us, on request, with a copy of the client agreement signed by all parties and detailing the name and FCA authorisation number of the DFM duly appointed and an instruction to deduct from your client's product, charges in respect of the DFM services.
- 3.4 Should the agreement between your client and DFM be terminated or the DFM no longer provides discretionary services to your client, it is your responsibility to inform us immediately of this.

4. Adviser charge

- 4.1 We will deduct from your client's product, and pay to you, adviser charges agreed between your client and you for your services that your client instructs us to deduct. Any restrictions on adviser charge imposed by us and as specified on any relevant product application form or otherwise will also apply.
- 4.2 When the adviser charge has been deducted by us from your client's product, the adviser charges become payable to you at that time. You hereby appoint Aegon Investment Solutions Ltd (the company within the Aegon Group that holds the bank account which holds and pays the adviser charge due under this Appendix 1) to act as your agent for the purposes of holding and onward transmission of the adviser charges that have been deducted.

- **4.3 We** will pay to **you** the **adviser charge** that has been deducted on the following basis.
 - 4.3.1 Initial adviser charge and ad hoc adviser charge will be paid on a weekly basis.
 Ongoing adviser charge will be paid monthly by Aegon Investment Solutions Ltd and will be deducted from the product on or around the 15th of the month. It is paid at the same time as the next initial or ad hoc adviser charge payment. Your statement of account will be communicated by us to you by such means of communication as we deem appropriate.
 - 4.3.2 Subject to the following conditions, we will facilitate the payment of ongoing adviser charge to you until either you or your client has advised us that it should stop being paid.
 - **4.3.3** Where any law or regulation prevents **us** paying the **adviser charge** to **you**, **we** shall cease paying the **adviser charge** to you.
 - 4.3.4 We will not be able to deduct from the product an amount to pay the adviser charge if there are insufficient funds available in the product or, if the product has a cash account/facility, insufficient funds in that cash account/facility to pay for the whole amount of the adviser charge to be deducted.
 - 4.3.5 In the event that your client exercises a right to cancel after we have deducted an amount of adviser charge from their product, we will continue to pass that adviser charge to you.

- 4.3.6 Any adviser charge restrictions imposed by us may be applied in respect of future new business (new clients and new products or underlying investments) without prior notice to you.
- 4.4 We reserve the right to cease facilitating the payment of adviser charges to you in the event that any of the directors, partners or the principal of you enter into any voluntary agreement, have bankruptcy or liquidation proceedings instituted against them, have a receiver appointed over their assets or have been charged with, or convicted of, an offence involving fraud or dishonesty.
- **4.5 We** will cease paying all **adviser charges** if **you** cease to be authorised by the **FCA** to act as an **adviser** to the **client**.
- 4.6 In the event that we overpay adviser charges to you, we reserve the right to offset future payments of commission, adviser and/or consultancy charge against any overpaid amounts.

