

Insurance Renewal 2025 Towergate Statement



**Ross +
Liddell**
Since 1854

As a Property Management Company, we have a large property portfolio and whilst we are fully authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority, we do not act as an intermediary. We arrange insurance on your behalf as your Property Manager, but we do not offer advice, make any recommendation or act as an insurance intermediary when arranging your insurance. We prefer to focus on our specific area of expertise which is acting as the property manager on behalf of our clients. As a result, we choose to use the services of an independent insurance intermediary with experience and knowledge of the insurance market in the arrangement and placement of cover.

We are therefore happy to provide the following message from Towergate (FCA Registration 313250) who are our appointed Insurance Broker.

The challenging UK and global insurance market conditions of recent years eased in 2024, giving way to a more favourable marketplace in 2025, across both the Property and Casualty sectors. After a prolonged period of rate increases across the UK's commercial insurance sector, the return of capacity and competition signals a new phase in the cycle. For the first time this decade, the global commercial insurance composite rate indices declined for consecutive quarters, and this softening of pricing is expected to continue throughout 2025. After a sustained period of widespread price increases and underwriting discipline that began in 2019, insurers have successfully remediated most of their portfolios, resulting in a return to a position close to profitability.

Naturally there is still an element of prudence being applied to their underwriting criteria and as always it is those risks that can evidence good levels of risk management that benefit most as positive risk differentiation is being rewarded and high-quality, detailed information remains key to achieving the most competitive terms in this marketplace. Insurers are taking a holistic view in their fight to protect premium revenue as rate increases reduce, innovatively looking to enhance their offering beyond price, with broader coverage, risk management bursaries, adjustment waivers, low claims rebates and long-term agreements.

Whilst there is a lot of positivity within the wider UK insurance market as outlined above, the weather patterns that we saw across the UK in Winter 24/25 has required Insurers to consider their exposure in respect of some specific Property risks.

Storm Eowyn was the 5th Winter Storm to hit the UK and certainly the most destructive with ROI, NI and Scotland being the worst affected areas. In Scotland alone the insurance claims bill is estimated to be in excess of £100M and as you would expect the R+L portfolio, given its size, has had to endure a significant number of claims. At time of writing there is approximately 190 Storm claims being handled with significant payments expected to be made.

As a consequence of the recent weather claims, the perennial Escape of Water claims issue that affects all Residential property portfolios and the legacy issue of a portfolio that contains buildings with polystyrene composite panels or ACM cladding the 2025 renewal negotiations have continued to be difficult.

There was little interest in the market from alternative Insurers this year as just at the time we were approaching them the claims resulting from Storm Eowyn were coming in thick and fast which was a significant discouragement as most insurers had little appetite to increase their Residential property exposure at that time.

It quickly became clear to us that the existing insurer (Zurich) would be our preferred market and we entered into negotiation with them on the basis of minimising any rating actions at this renewal whilst seeking potential protections on the 2026 renewal as at that time we will be fully appraised of the finalised claims payments in respect of Storm Eowyn.

As expected, Zurich were looking to apply both an increase in rate and an increase in claim excess for this renewal and so we entered into a significant number of conversations with them where we were able to highlight a number of positive attributes that attach to the R+L portfolio which makes it stand out from not only its local competitors but from a wider UK standpoint especially given its consistency of profitable performance over the last 5yrs.

Zurich, to their credit, took our messaging on board and despite the difficult claims position being encountered at this time agreed to waive any rate and excess increase for this renewal and also provided a new Long Term Agreement (LTA). This agreement means that if the R+L portfolio can match or exceed various loss ratio triggers an agreed rating approach is automatically triggered for 2026. Naturally, we will need to see how the recent Storm claims finalise before knowing what value the LTA will bring but it should at least offer a degree of protection moving forwards.

As has been mentioned in previous years a pivotal part of the approach taken at renewal is the impact inflation will make.

For those of you who have been customers for the last few years you will have seen the considerable impact inflation makes when Insurers are calculating the Index Linking that will apply to Buildings and Contents values together with the effect it has on Business Interruption covers in terms of calculating accurate Indemnity Periods.

We saw a significant drop in the index linking figure last year and the good news is that despite the ongoing geopolitical uncertainty this figure has remained relatively low at 2.6%.

Home contents insurance Important change

Unfortunately Zurich took the decision in 2024 to exit the Retail insurance market due to profitability concerns and a lack of scale and this therefore means that they are no longer able to offer any cover for Home Contents from this renewal onwards for new or existing customers.

We have approached a number of markets in an attempt to find a solution and we can now advise as follows:

- Existing owners who have previously taken advantage of the Zurich contents insurance should now contact us (Towergate) on the following dedicated telephone number **01792 961105**. Our team will then need to ask you a series of questions whereupon they will approach an insurer to obtain a quotation for you.
- New owners wishing to purchase Home Contents cover should also use telephone number **01792 961105**, or email: **ross&liddell@towergate.co.uk**.
- Naturally, both existing and new owners are free to make their own arrangements as they see fit as there is no specific requirement to effect cover via ourselves.

The rating we have been able to secure from Zurich for the 2025 renewal is as follows:

Cover Type	Rate Change
Residential Properties	0% *
RL Extensions	0%
POL	0%
Home Contents	Cover is no longer available from Zurich – please see comments above
Terrorism	0%
Engineering Inspection & Insurance	6.5%

*denotes an average increase across the portfolio – some properties may require a larger increase as a consequence of claims experience, building construction concerns or where the property is in an area of increased flood risk and conversely some properties may benefit from a rating decrease. We also review pricing based on the Fair Value Assessment which aligns with the Consumer Duty rules of the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

The excess levels for Private and Common Claims remain as per last year other than there is an increase to the fly tipping excess from £500 to £1,000.

All other expenses remain at:

Subsidence, Landslip and Heave	£1000
Children's Play Areas/Equipment All Losses	£500
Liability for Third Party Property Damage	£250
Glass	£250
Terrorism	£100
All other claims	£500

Following a review of the various policies attaching under the portfolio there are some small amendments to the cover under the Residential Policy including:

- Trace and access cover has been increased to a limit of £25,000
- Energy performance cover limit increased to £100,000
- Cyber Public Liability Exclusion includes a widening of the cover to write back physical injury/illness/disability but excluding mental anguish etc.
- There is the addition of Silica exclusion
- There is also the implementing of a more 'plain English' wording in respect of the Pollution exclusion and the Nuclear and War Risks exclusion.

We do not feel any of the amendments constitutes a material change to the cover afforded. For those R+L customers who have their Property Owners Liability cover arranged by R+L they will see a revised certificate as an element of material damage cover has been introduced to provide cover for their boundary walls and fences.

Finally, we would again highlight the current focus on Sanction checking following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Sanction checking is a government level check on a group or an individual. Restrictions are placed upon sanctioned individuals and those conducting business with them are

heavily penalised. In the UK, His Majesty's Treasury (HMT) is the competent authority for sanctions and The Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation (OFSI) being the enforcer (since 2016). The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) is responsible for ensuring that firms have adequate systems and controls to comply with UK sanctions requirements.

To that end we would ask that you support R+L whenever they approach you for information as it is essential that they comply with sanction checking to show that they are not known to be or suspected to be involved with terrorism and/or terrorist financing, nuclear non-proliferation, human rights violations, and other serious international crimes.

Additional terms

As in previous years your Insurer may have amended the policy terms that apply to your cover. Details of these can be found on your Insurance Certificate.

These terms may be due to the number or nature of recent claims or because parts of the property are awaiting/undergoing repair.

Any material fact that increases the risk in an insurer's view may be subject to increased excesses, conditions or exclusions. This is to minimise the risk of future losses and to encourage owners to take steps to ensure that their properties are maintained in a good state of repair or to take simple risk management steps to improve the claims experience at their property.

All the additional terms that currently apply under the policy have been reviewed in full and where there has been an improvement in the overall claims payments or in the condition of the building Towergate have successfully negotiated with Insurers to either reduce or remove the additional excess/terms entirely.

Index linking

As mentioned earlier the index linking figure has been provided by Zurich who have advised that a rate of 2.6% will be required. This has been applied to your sum insured from renewal, however for developments that have had their building sum insured re-assessed after January 2025 index linking will not be applied with Insurers confirming their approval of this action.

Insurance Premium Tax

Insurance Premium Tax (IPT) remains unchanged at 12%.

Additional covers

R+L can confirm that they have maintained the agreement from Insurers to provide Material Damage (MD) and Property Owners Liability (POL) cover for boundary walls and fences. In addition, POL cover can also be provided for private roads. Please contact the R+L Insurance Department for a quotation.

Optional cover extensions

Towergate have again secured the optional cover extensions with no increase being applied. Owners should however be aware that the premiums quoted continue to be on a 'minimum and deposit' basis which means that they are non-refundable during the policy period. Full wordings relating to the optional extensions can be found within the policy wordings or upon request from our insurance department, a summary of each extension is as follows:

Residential/commercial property landlord

The wording has been amended to note that Tenancy Agreement shall mean an agreement for a tenant to occupy premises in return for the payment of rent under a lease agreement. This extension is not suitable for holiday lets, tenancy agreements of less than 6 months or properties rented under an HMO licence.

Property owners Liability £10million
Annual premium £71.43 + IPT

HMO residential property landlord

The wording has been amended to note that Tenancy Agreement shall mean an agreement for a tenant to occupy premises in return for the payment of rent under a lease agreement. This extension is not suitable for holiday lets, tenancy agreements of less than 6 months.

Property owners Liability £10million Annual premium £133.93 + IPT

Residential/HMO property landlord – flexible use

Offers all the benefits of the residential / HMO landlord optional extension, however cover is extended to include use for Holiday Lets during the Public/School Holidays within Scotland and described as School Summer Holiday, Easter, Christmas and New Year and the half term school breaks in February and October each year.

Annual premium £116.07 + IPT

Unoccupied properties

Properties unoccupied for a period in excess of 45 days are now covered for full perils however cover is subject to the following excesses:

- DAMAGE caused by Theft and Malicious Persons is £2,500
- DAMAGE caused by Storm & Flood, Water Damage and Sprinkler Leakage is £5,000.

Owners should however note that the Unoccupancy Condition, as detailed within this newsletter, must be complied with at all times.

The excesses above can be removed should this optional cover extension be taken.

Owners who currently have the existing unoccupied property optional extension in place will simply be transferred to the amended extension.

Annual premium £71.43 + IPT

Holiday / second home

This extension is only available for properties used exclusively by the property owners, their family and friends; as a result, the extension does not include any element of rental income cover.

If owners have a property that is not used as their main residence, there may be periods of extended unoccupancy. In addition, if the property is used by family and friends, as they are legally on the property but not the property owner, accidental damage cover would be excluded. The optional extension removes the cover exclusions however the unoccupancy condition continues to apply.

Annual premium £44.64 + IPT

Holiday lets

Offers all the benefits of the residential / HMO landlord optional extension with the revised Unoccupancy Condition to be complied with at all times. For Holiday Lets, however, the Inspections should commence within 24 hours of the tenant vacating the property and then every 7 days with a further inspection no more than 24 hours before a new tenant takes possession of the holiday let property.

Annual premium £89.29 + IPT

Matching parts

The policy wording does not allow for cost of replacement or modification of undamaged parts of the buildings that form part of a suite, common design or function where the damage is restricted to a clearly identifiable area. This exclusion would apply to the likes of kitchen units, bathroom suites and laminate flooring that has been installed throughout a property.

The optional extension provides cover for matching parts to be included within a valid claim under the policy at an annual premium of £44.64 + IPT.

Should all owners within a block of flats have the optional extension, then cover will be extended to include the common areas at no additional premium.

Optional covers

Engineering insurance & inspection

This cover relates to statutory inspection of lifts and items of plant such as water pumps, together with a small element of insurance cover for Sudden and Unforeseen Damage.

Please note that the premiums have increased this year by 6.5%.

Should you have any queries relating to the items of plant covered for your development, please contact the R+L Insurance Team in the first instance.

Management liability/directors & offices insurance

Committees make decisions on behalf of others which can include the placement of insurance or agreeing contract works for property maintenance which has a financial impact on all those involved. Individuals will perform this valuable and important role on behalf of others, many of whom are reluctant or don't have time to get involved in the day to day running of a development.

Therefore, those who have volunteered to make important choices for others need protection for any decision or action they have made in good faith, that may later prove to be ill-judged.

Property Managers / Owners etc are no longer within Zurich's appetite for D&O. However, if your committee still wishes to obtain a quotation for this cover, please contact R+L who will arrange for a representative from Towergate to contact you to discuss what options will be available.

Legal expenses

Zurich are no longer able to accept new committees. If you wish a legal expense quotation for your development, please contact the R+L insurance department and they will arrange for our insurance brokers to contact you to provide you with a bespoke quotation. For existing committees who have this cover presently only please note that there is no change to the premium due or the limits or covers (as set out below).

Cover	Zurich/DAS
Cover Limit	£250,000
Legal Helpline	Yes
Property Protection	Yes
Employment	Yes
Tax Protection	Yes
Inheritance Dispute	No
Motoring prosecution	No
Access to free Legal Document	Yes
Contract & Debt Recovery	Yes

Terrorism cover

(applicable to Sections A&B only)

Quotations can only be obtained on developments as a whole and provides cover for damage to the insured property following an act of Terrorism. Please refer to the policy wording for the definition of Terrorism.

Important notices

Non-renewal of building insurance

For owners whose title deeds allow for building insurance to be arranged out with the R+L policy, renewal at 15th May is optional. However, for the protection of owners within flatted properties, evidence of insurance will be required prior to the annual renewal date on 15th May. If the evidence is received after renewal date, the annual contract is in place and as such cannot be cancelled during the policy term. This means that a refund of premium is unlikely to be secured. If you are unsure as to your title deed requirements you should contact the R+L Client Support Team in the first instance.

Evidence of insurance

For owners who own properties where the title deeds do not stipulate that a common building insurance policy should be in place and / or arranged by R+L, there is an obligation to arrange building insurance cover for your individual property and your proportion of common areas.

This is extremely important for owners of flatted properties as, in addition to your own property being at risk, you are also jeopardising other owners within the development/ block of flats. If a block of flats is not insured in full, in the event of a claim there will not be sufficient funds to fully re-instate the property, leaving owners exposed to losing their homes.

We ask that owners who do arrange their own building insurance provide written and signed confirmation to us noting the Insurance Company Name and address, policy number and the renewal date of the policy together with your confirmation that the building sum insured represents the full re-build costs including your proportion of common areas. We require this information no later than 30th July each year.

Owners can contact R+L insurance department after this date to enquire as to whether we have received evidence that the development/ block of flats is insured in full.

Whilst we would be unable to provide details of the properties that have not provided evidence of insurance, due to Data Protection Legislation, we will let you know that we do have concerns which should be raised with your co-proprietors. Under such circumstances a meeting of all fellow owners may be required and can be arranged to address matters accordingly.

Private claim excess

Please note that, where no payment arrangement is in place, and full payment of the insurance premium has not been received, by 15th June 2025, then the Insurer may apply an increased excess of £2,500 to all valid private insurance claims, arising from your individual property, which will remain in force until the insurance premiums are paid in full. This excess will be applied in addition to any other policy excess due in respect to a valid claim under the policy.

Policy cancellation

It should be noted that Insurance is placed, at each renewal, for a period of 12 months, and, in the event of any mid-term cancellation, any return premium is only available at the discretion of the Insurer, Zurich plc, and entirely subject to no claims having been made. If authorised, any return premium will be provided on a 'pro rata' basis, after deduction of the full amount of Commission which would be received, had the policy not been cancelled, as the majority of work undertaken, and costs incurred, by Ross & Liddell and our Insurance Broker, relating to the Insurance policy, will have been completed, and incurred, prior to any mid-term cancellation.

Commission

Insurance is a regulated activity and as such, to comply with regulations and to ensure we are arranging cover on the correct basis, we employ the services of a broker (to whom we pay a fee). Our broker, in addition to having the knowledge and expertise to place our risk, also has access to all major Insurance companies. Most of the properties we manage are covered under one policy

of insurance. Arranging such a contract of insurance is not a straightforward exercise, as this type of policy cannot simply be applied for by completing an application or proposal form.

We can confirm that commission is declared on every certificate of insurance issued to all co-proprietors, and this is detailed on the reverse of the certificate and is noted as 22.5% for all classes of insurance other than terrorism which is 10% based on gross premiums nett of insurance premium tax.

Ross and Liddell Limited do not charge our clients a fee for the Insurance Services which we provide in respect of our managed properties. Instead, insurance commission is received in order that we can offset the costs incurred in administering our insurance arrangements, including the issue of Insurance Certificates and all the supporting documentation required to comply with all relevant FCA Regulations, dealing with the common claims and assisting clients with their private claims.

In addition, we are required to guarantee payment of premiums due under the insurance policy and to pay our brokers a fee to secure their market knowledge and experience (so we can ensure a competitive renewal for clients). In the current market we believe that acceptance of insurance commission represents the most cost-effective mechanism for provision of Insurance Services to clients. Townergate (our Insurance Broker) receive remuneration of 7.5% from the Insurer in respect of a work transfer amount for facilitating placement of the R+L insurance portfolio together with the professional advices provided to R+L.

We are here to help

Claims

Common area claims should be reported to our Repairs Team who will liaise with our Property Managers, in conjunction with QuestGates loss adjusters, monitor the handling of the claim to a conclusion.

Private property claims should be reported directly to QuestGates using the 24 hour claims line **0800 195 5684** or via an email on private@questgates.co.uk



Insurance Renewal 2025 Meeting Your Insurance Needs



**Ross +
Liddell**
Since 1854

The products listed below are designed to meet the various demands and needs of our property owner clients.

Note – not all the covers will be relevant to you

These products allow you to choose a level of insurance cover from a range of options.

With the exception of Lift/Engineering and Play Area equipment Insurance, your insurance certificate and statements show either:

1. The cover you have selected; or
2. the cover that is a requirement in connection with the management and maintenance of your property.

The options selected will depend upon your own requirements as set out in information that has been provided to us by you or by your Solicitor on your behalf, and on circumstances such as the Title Deed(s) of your property, any requirements you may need to adhere to in order to comply with the decisions of the co-proprietors of the property, and the risk associated with the insured property.

You should check your insurance documents carefully to ensure you have the required cover, but please see below the details of the differing types and sections of cover and how they will meet your varying demands and needs, based on information provided to us.

Full details of all covers can be found in the policy document, a copy of which is available on our website www.ross-liddell.com or upon request to our Insurance Department on 0141 221 9266 or email on insurance@ross-liddell.com.

Ross + Liddell has made no personal recommendations when arranging your insurance and as detailed in our terms of business, no advice has been given or offered.

**The core cover arranged by
Ross + Liddell**

Buildings cover

If you have told us that you need insurance to cover the costs of repairs to buildings, or if such cover is a requirement in connection with the management and maintenance of your property and you or your Solicitors have told us that you are now the owner of your property, this cover will provide protection in relation to the costs of building repairs in the event of an insured risk occurring. Cover does not include terrorism cover, but this is available upon request (see 'Optional Covers' below).

Note – Building sum insured

If you require guidance on the correct sum insured, we suggest that you arrange for a professional valuation to be carried out. The cost of this, however, would be incurred by you. The sum Insured should represent the full rebuilding cost of your property as new, including your proportion of common

areas and professional fees, demolition, VAT, removal of debris cost etc. Unless the title deeds say otherwise, it is (your) the insured's responsibility to ensure that the amount represents the rebuilding cost of the property, and we strongly recommend that you review your Sum Insured on a regular basis and make any necessary adjustments.

Note – Property Owners Liability Insurance

Property Owners Liability is in respect of legal liability for accidental injury (including death and disease) or accidental damage to material property. We will arrange this cover for all properties that we manage for the common areas only. For properties that have building insurance arranged by us (i.e., where the title deeds require that or where we are asked to arrange such insurances), cover will extend to include property owner's liability for the individual property insured.

**Optional cover extensions available
under our buildings insurance**

**Landlord extension
Residential property**

If you have told us that you are a Landlord of residential property (where a Private Rented Tenancy (PRT) agreement is in place containing a start date of the tenancy but no end date), and where the property is NOT a holiday let OR rented under a House of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) license and that you need optional additional covers such; as malicious and accidental damage to the building by tenants, Landlord's contents (automatically included under this extension up to a limit of £25,000 which should represent the replacement cost of the contents insured), residential loss of rent (as an alternative to the standard cover for alternative accommodation following a valid claim with the indemnity period increased from 24 months to 36 months), and adverse possession up to a limit of £50,000, Illegal cultivation of drugs up to a limit of £25,000 this extension will provide those additional covers and protections against those risks.

Please be aware should the property become unoccupied for a period exceeding 45 days due to a break in tenancy, increased excesses and the unoccupancy condition applies. In addition, the excess for contents cover is increased to £500.00 rather than the standard excess of £100.00 during periods of occupancy. Please refer to the Unoccupied Property Optional extension available under such circumstances.

**Landlord extension
Retail / commercial property**

If you have told us that you are a Landlord of retail or commercial property with a Lease Agreement in place and that you need optional additional covers such as malicious and accidental damage to the building by tenants,

Landlord Contents automatically included under this extension up to a limit of £25,000 (which should represent the replacement cost of the contents insured), adverse possession up to a limit of £50,000, Increased Indemnity period for Loss of Rent from 24 months to 36 months, Loss of Advance Rent following a valid claim with a maximum indemnity period of 3 months, Denial of Access, Failure of Utilities, Notifiable Disease, Vermin, Defective Sanitary Arrangements, Murder & Suicide, this extension will provide those additional covers and protections against those risks.

Please be aware the increased excesses following unoccupancy exceeding 45 days detailed under the Landlord Residential Property will apply.

**Landlord extension
HMO residential property**

If you have told us that you are a Landlord of a residential property that is rented as a House of Multiple Occupancy (where a Private Rented Tenancy (PRT) agreement is in place containing a start date of the tenancy but no end date) and that you need optional additional covers such as those listed above under the Landlord's Residential Property Extension, this extension will provide those additional covers and protections against those risks for an HMO property.

Please be aware the increased excesses following unoccupancy exceeding 45 days detailed under the Landlord Residential Property will apply.

**Holiday Let
Residential property**

If you have told us that you have a property used as a holiday let and you want to benefit from covers detailed under such as malicious and accidental damage to the building by tenants, Loss of rental income up to a limit of 25% of the building sum insured following a valid claim under the policy, subject to a maximum indemnity period of 12 months, this extension will provide those additional covers and protections against those risks.

However, when properties are unoccupied, the inspections referred to in the Unoccupancy Condition should commence within 24 hours of the tenant vacating the property and then every 7 days with a further inspection no more than 24 hours before a new tenant takes possession of the holiday let property.

Holiday / second home extension

If owners have a property that is not used as their main residence, there may be periods of extended unoccupancy. If you have told us that you would prefer your holiday home / second home to benefit from full covers without increased excesses whilst unoccupied (subject to compliance with the Unoccupancy Condition), this extension is available for properties used exclusively by the property owners, their family and friends; there is no element of rental income cover.

You should be aware as the property is used solely by family and friends, who are legally on the property but not the property owner, accidental damage cover would be included if this extension is operative.

Unoccupied property extension

Usually, covers provided under the core buildings insurance will be subject to increased excesses if a property is unoccupied for more than 45 days. If you have told us that you need full covers to be in place for a property that will be unoccupied for a period in excess of 45 days, and that you want the additional excesses removed, this extension will provide those full covers subject to normal excesses. Owners should note that the Unoccupancy Condition must be complied with at all times.

Note – Unoccupancy Condition

In respect of any Building that is wholly or partly unoccupied, the following conditions must be met for insurers to be liable to meet any claims:

- All gas and electrical services within the unoccupied property are switched off at the mains except for any electrical circuits required to maintain any fire and intruder alarms, security protections, timed lights, heating systems, fridges or freezers
- The water system to the unoccupied portion of the building must be isolated at the mains and completely drained or the heating systems has been set at a minimum temperature of 5 degrees Celsius during the period 1st October to 1st April each year
- All accumulations of mail or other combustible waste materials that form ready fuel for a fire should be removed from within the unoccupied portion of the building
- The unoccupied portion of the building must be secured against unlawful entry by closing and locking its doors and windows and setting all its security and alarm systems
- The unoccupied portion of the building is subject to a programme of comprehensive internal and external inspections undertaken by an authorised representative of the insured to ensure continued compliance with the other terms of this condition. Inspections should commence within the initial 14 days following the property becoming Unoccupied and continue at intervals not exceeding 14 days thereafter
- Inspection results are to be recorded and retained at a separate location during the period of unoccupancy; and any new accumulations of junk mail found during such inspection should be removed
- The insurers are notified within 7 days in the event of damage or unauthorised entry to the unoccupied area becoming evident or known to the Insured or their representative

- The Excess applicable in respect of DAMAGE caused by Theft and Malicious Persons is £2,500
- The Excess applicable in respect of DAMAGE caused by Storm & Flood, Escape of Water, Fuel or Oil and Sprinkler Leakage is £5,000

Flexible use for landlord extension – residential property including HMO

If you have told us that you are a Landlord of a residential property that is rented as either a Single tenancy or as a House of Multiple Occupancy (where a Private Rented Tenancy (PRT) agreement is in place containing a start date of the tenancy but no end date) you wish to rent the property as a Holiday Let; and wish to retain most of the benefits under the Residential / HMO landlord extension, the policy (subject to payment of an additional premium) will provide the additional covers and protections against those risks.

However, during the Holiday Let period, when properties are unoccupied, the inspections referred to in the Unoccupancy Condition above should commence within 24 hours of the tenant vacating the property and then every 7 days with a further inspection no more than 24 hours before a new tenant takes possession of the holiday let property. In addition, Contents cover is excluded with Loss of rental income being restricted to a limit of 25% of the building sum insured following a valid claim under the policy, and subject to a maximum indemnity period of 12 months.

Matching parts

The standard policy wording does not allow for the cost of replacement or modification of undamaged parts of the buildings that form part of a suite, common design or function where the damage is restricted to a clearly identifiable area. This exclusion would apply to the likes of kitchen units, bathroom suites and laminate flooring that has been installed throughout a property. If you have told us that you need additional cover for the cost of replacement or modification of such undamaged parts of buildings, this optional extension provides cover for matching parts to be included within a valid claim under the policy. Should all owners within a block of flats have the optional extension, then cover will be extended to include the common areas at no additional premium.

Optional covers

Contents insurance

Unfortunately Zurich took the decision in 2024 to exit the Retail insurance market due to profitability concerns and a lack of scale and this therefore means that they are no longer able to offer any cover for Home Contents from this renewal onwards for new or existing customers. We have approached a number of markets in an attempt to find a solution and we can now advise as follows:

Existing owners who have previously taken advantage of the Zurich contents insurance should now contact us (Towergate) on the following dedicated telephone number **01792 961105**. Our team will then need to ask you a series of questions whereupon they will approach an insurer to obtain a quotation for you.

New owners wishing to purchase Home Contents cover should also use telephone number **01792 961105**.

Naturally, both existing and new owners are free to make their own arrangements as they see fit as there is no specific requirement to effect cover via ourselves.

Management liability/directors & offices insurance

Residents' committees make decisions on behalf of others which can include the placement of insurance or agreeing contract works for property maintenance which has a financial impact on all those involved. Individuals will perform this valuable and important role on behalf of others, many of whom are reluctant or don't have time to get involved in the day to day running of a development. Therefore, those who have volunteered to make important choices for others need protection for any decision or action they have made in good faith - that may later prove to be ill-judged.

If you have told us that you need to arrange cover to protect against the risks involved in taking decisions or actions in good faith, this optional cover provides liability insurance protection.

Our Insurer, Zurich, have confirmed that they no longer have an appetite for provision of D&O Insurance, in respect to Owners' Associations and Property Managers / Owners etc and as a consequence they have taken the decision not to continue with this cover. However, if your Owners' Association Committee still wishes us to obtain a quotation for this cover, please contact our Insurance Team who will arrange for a representative from, our Broker, Towergate to contact you to discuss what options will be available.

Terrorism

Quotations can only be obtained on developments as a whole. If you have told us that your development needs to arrange cover for damage to the insured property following an act of terrorism, this optional cover provides protection.

Additional covers arranged by Ross + Liddell

Lift / engineering insurance

If your property is in a development where there are boilers, lifts and associated equipment, this cover provides for the Statutory inspection for those boilers, lifts and associated equipment for which you as owners are responsible. Cover extends to include sudden and unforeseen damage. If you have told us that you need these covers, this additional cover provides such protection.

Insurance Renewal 2025 Insurance Terms of Business



**Ross +
Liddell**
Since 1854

For your own benefit and protection, you should read these terms carefully.

If you are unsure about any aspect of our Terms of Business or have any questions regarding our relationship with you, please contact our Insurance Department located at the undernoted address:

**Ross + Liddell Ltd
60 St Enoch Square
Glasgow
G14 4AW**

Tel: **0141 221 9266**

E-Mail: insurance@ross-liddell.com

The Financial Conduct Authority

Ross + Liddell Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority for our insurance-related activities only. Our Financial Services Register number is **310429**.

You may check this on the Financial Services Register by visiting the FCA's website, www.fca.org.uk/register/ or by contacting the FCA on **0800 111 6768**.

Our service and the capacity in which we act

Where required either by request, Deed of Conditions or Title Deed, we will arrange, via our appointed brokers, a comprehensive common buildings policy on behalf of our proprietors.

With regards to claims, we will act as the Property Manager in providing guidance to you about how to report and progress claims. Please see the 'Claims handling arrangements' section below.

Scope of service including our product range and the range of insurers used

As your Property Manager we will arrange on your behalf insurance products recommended to us by our appointed independent brokers; we will only provide information to you in this regard, not advice. We only select home and property insurances, including a number of optional additional covers, from one insurer, Zurich Insurance PLC, with which Ross + Liddell has a contractual arrangement to act as the agent of the insurer. For Legal Expenses Insurance, this is arranged through Zurich but is underwritten by DAS Legal Expenses Insurance Company Limited.

Neither we nor our broker will, in any circumstances, guarantee the solvency of any insurer.

Claims

In the event of a claim occurring at your property, Insurers will have provided delegated authority to Loss Adjusters to deal with all material damage claims on their behalf.

Our Property Managers / Client Support Team will deal with claims relating to the common areas with proprietors having direct access to the Insurers appointed Loss Adjuster, QuestGates, to deal with claims relating to their individual properties.

QuestGates has a dedicated team dealing with Ross + Liddell. Contact details for QuestGates are detailed on your certificate of insurance.

Claims handling arrangements

You should take note of the required procedures in the event of a claim, which will be explained in the policy documentation and/or your certificate of insurance. Insurers require immediate notification of a claim or circumstances which might lead to a claim.

Common claims

With regards to claims relating to damage to the common areas within a property, these should be notified to our Repairs Team who will liaise with our Property Managers and the Insurer's appointed Loss Adjusters on behalf of the owners with a view to finalising the claim as quickly as possible, subject to the policy terms and conditions.

Private claims

For claims relating to your individual property, you should report directly to the Insurer's appointed Loss Adjusters, with the contact information detailed within your certificate of insurance or available from our Insurance Dept, who are based in Glasgow and who will provide guidance as and when required subject to the policy terms and conditions.

Complaints and compensation

We aim to provide you with a high level of customer service at all times but, if you are not satisfied with anything in relation to the property insurances we arrange, please contact us at the undernoted address:

**Insurance Department
Ross + Liddell Ltd, 60 St Enoch Square,
Glasgow G14 4AW**

Tel: **0141 221 9266**

E-Mail: insurance@ross-liddell.com

When dealing with your complaint, we will follow our complaint handling procedures; a summary of these procedures is available on request or by visiting our website at www.ross-liddell.com

If you are still not satisfied you may be entitled to refer the matter to the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) depending on the nature of your complaint. Please see www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk for details.

The Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS)

Access to FOS is available for complainants coming within one of the following categories at the time we receive their complaint:

- Consumers (private individuals acting for purposes which are wholly or mainly outside that individual's trade, business, craft, or profession)
- Micro-enterprises (businesses employing fewer than 10 persons and with a turnover or annual balance sheet total not exceeding 2 million)
- Other small businesses (with an annual turnover of below £6.5 million, and less than 50 employees or with an annual balance sheet total of below £5 million)
- Charities with an annual income of under £6.5 million
- Trustees of a trust with a net asset value of under £5 million
- Certain types of Guarantor

Allocation of payments

Please note that payments received from clients in respect of accounts due to Ross + Liddell, either now or in the future, will be allocated in the following order:

- Works and services already paid for by Ross + Liddell
- Works and services in progress and to be paid for after completion of such works, or the provision of such services
- Works and services instructed by Ross + Liddell at the date of payment by the client but not yet paid by Ross and Liddell
- Works and services paid for in advance
- Insurance

Please note that if a client has more than one outstanding account due to Ross + Liddell, any monies received will be applied in the order specified above, spread proportionately over these outstanding accounts, unless instructed otherwise by the client.

The provision of Ross + Liddell's services, or any contracts or covers effected by Ross + Liddell, will not be adversely affected if any outstanding sums due to Ross + Liddell are the subject of an agreed instalment arrangement between the client and Ross + Liddell. Interest will not be payable on any clients' common charge account credit balances that may arise.

Methods of payment

Payment can be made by Debit, or Credit Card, through our secure online web portal, via our website (www.ross-liddell.com), or by our automated, 24 hours, 7 days a week touchtone telephone menu driven payment system, or by telephone to any of our offices. Alternatively, we also accept payment by cheque or bank-giro credit.

Instalment arrangements are also available allowing you to spread the payment of common charges accounts by making monthly payments by Direct Debit, Standing Order, etc.

Cancellation of insurances

You should make any request for cancellation of cover or a policy in writing. It should be noted that where Ross + Liddell arrange the common insurance policy for the property, the insurance cover will end at the same time as our appointment as Property Manager. Owners, or the incoming Property Manager, will require to arrange alternative, and appropriate, Common Insurance Cover, in compliance with the Title Deed provisions, from the date of Termination.

Ross + Liddell's Common Insurance Policy is written specifically for properties factored by Ross + Liddell only, and is held in joint names, showing the policyholder as being the Co-proprietors and Ross + Liddell.

It should also be noted that the Insurance is placed, at each renewal, for a period of 12 months, and, in the event of any mid-term cancellation, any return premium is only available at the discretion of the Insurer, Zurich plc, and entirely subject to no claims having been made.

If authorised, any return premium will be provided on a "pro rata" basis less Commission.

Your responsibilities

If you are a consumer (i.e. insuring your own property for your own personal use), you are responsible for answering any questions in relation to any proposal for insurance cover honestly and to the best of your knowledge, providing complete and accurate information which insurers will require. This also applies to your responses in relation to any assumptions you may agree to in the process of applying for insurance cover.

This is particularly important before taking out a policy but also at renewal or if you make a mid-term amendment to your policy.

If you fail to disclose information or misrepresent any fact which may influence the insurer's decision to accept the risk or the terms offered, this could invalidate the policy and mean that claims may not be paid.

If you are a commercial customer you have a duty to give a fair presentation of risk to the insurer. This means that you should disclose every material circumstance relevant to the risk being insured following a reasonable search within your business to identify and verify such information. This should include information which you and where applicable your senior management, persons responsible for arranging your insurance or other relevant third parties know or ought to know and should include all information that

would influence the judgement of the insurer or that would put the insurer on notice that it needs to make further enquiries.

Failure to provide a 'fair representation' may result in a number of remedies by the insurer. If the breach was deliberate or reckless the insurer can void the contract and keep the premium. If the breach was not deliberate or reckless the insurer can void the contract, proportionately reduce a claim settlement or amend the insurance policy terms and conditions then review the merits of a claim on this basis. You should therefore always provide complete and accurate information to us when we ask you about the insurance risks your business faces before taking out a policy, at renewal and throughout the life of the policy. This also applies to your responses in relation to any assumptions you may agree to in the process of applying for insurance cover.

All customers: Please note that the terms of the Ross + Liddell policies that we have in place require all insured property owners to inform the insurer of any material circumstance, whenever it may arise.

You must check all details on any proposal form or Statement of Facts and pay particular attention to any declaration you may be asked to sign.

It is important that you read all insurance documents issued to you and ensure that you are aware of the cover, limits and other terms that apply. Particular attention must be paid to any warranties and conditions as failure to comply with them could invalidate your policy. You must inform us immediately of any changes in circumstances which may affect the services provided by us or the cover provided by your policy. If you are unsure about any matter, please contact us for guidance.

The processing of your personal data in your dealings with us you may provide us with information that may include data that is known as personal data. Where we process personal data, we comply with statutory data processing requirements as set out in the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018. The personal data we will collect will include information relating to your name, address, contact details, date of birth and, in certain circumstances, possibly health or criminal offences data.

We will process your personal data to allow us to provide you with our services as your property manager and in arranging and administering insurances. Your personal data will also be used to manage future communications between ourselves. In circumstances where to do so will be in our mutual interests, your personal data will be used to provide you with further information about our products and services. You can opt out from receiving such communications by contacting our Data Protection Representative as set out below.

In processing personal data for insurance purposes about health or criminal offences, we will only do so to enable us to provide our service to you and on the basis of it being in the public interest.

We will only use your data for the purpose for which it was collected. We will only grant access to or share your data within our firm, with other authorised third parties and product and service providers such as insurers where we are entitled to do so by law under lawful data processing.

The Data Protection Act 2018 provides you with Access Rights that allow you to gain an understanding of the data being processed, who we share it with, for what purpose, why we need to retain it and retention periods, to object to the processing and to place restrictions on the processing, to request copies of your data and to request the deletion of your data.

If you require further information on how we process your data or you wish to exercise your rights, please contact our Data Protection Representative, by e-mailing dataprotection@ross-liddell.com or by writing or telephoning using the details stated above. How we process your personal data is detailed further within our Privacy Notice at <https://ross-liddell.com/privacy-policy>.

Conflicts of interest

Occasions can arise where we, clients or product providers, may have a potential conflict of interest with business being transacted for you. If this happens, and we become aware that a potential conflict exists, we will write to you and obtain your consent before we carry out your instructions and we will detail the steps we will take to ensure fair treatment.

Register online

Register Online and download your Insurance Certificate from the Webportal:

<https://myaccount.ross-liddell.com/>

After completing the Webportal registration process you will be able to download:

- Your insurance certificate
- Update your main contact details like your telephone and emails defaults
- Make online payments which update your account immediately
- Download your invoices and that of any of the tradesman's invoice, and
- Change your electronic communication preferences so that in future you can get all your correspondence electronically

Claims

Common area claims should be reported to our Repairs Team who will liaise with our Property Managers, in conjunction with QuestGates loss adjusters, monitor the handling of the claim to a conclusion.

Private property claims should be reported directly to QuestGates using the 24 hour claims line **0800 195 5684** or via an email on private@questgates.co.uk