

# Consumer Information & Disclosure Guide

## Commercial Existing Owner Policy

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*Important Information About Your Policy*



## PURPOSE OF THIS CONSUMER INFORMATION & DISCLOSURE GUIDE

Before you decide to purchase a Commercial Existing Owner Policy (the Policy) from us, you should read the important information which is contained in this Consumer Information and Disclosure Guide (the Guide) to help you decide whether this Policy is right for you.

We have provided the following information in the Guide to help you make an informed decision:

- About Us
- Our regulatory status
- Key features of your Cover
- Our relationship with Conveyancing Practitioners
- Your Duty of Disclosure
- How we collect and use your Personal Information
- How to Make a Complaint

This Guide also includes references to the following documents which we recommend that you read:

- [Commercial Existing Owner Policy Key Facts Sheet](#)
- [Commercial Existing Owner Policy Consumer Guide on Covered Risks](#)
- [Commercial Existing Owner Policy Consumer Guide on Exclusions](#)
- [Commercial Existing Owner Policy Consumer Guide on Making a Claim](#)
- [StewartCONNECT Terms & Conditions](#)

These documents and additional information can be found on our website: [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com). We recommend you also refer to the Consumer Resources tab which includes a Consumer Library and Regulatory Information.

## CONTACT US

Contact us for more information about Stewart Title or this Guide:

**Phone:** 1800 300 440 (free call)  
**Email:** [enquiry.australia@stewart.com](mailto:enquiry.australia@stewart.com)  
**Post:** GPO Box 527 Sydney NSW 2001  
**Internet:** [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com)

## ABOUT US

We are a specialist international insurance company providing protection to property owners against certain risks (“title risks”) inherent in real estate transactions. We offer a full range of both residential and commercial title insurance products to purchasers, existing owners and mortgage lenders.

In Australia we are headquartered in Sydney and have offices from coast-to-coast. Our risks are reinsured with our parent company, Stewart Title Guaranty Company.

For more information about us and our international offices please visit our website: [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com)

## OUR REGULATORY STATUS

We are a regulated general insurance business. We are:

- authorised as a general insurer to conduct insurance business in Australia by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) under the *Insurance Act 1973* (Cth); and
- registered with the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) as a branch of Stewart Title Limited (UK) under Chapter 5B.2 of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth)

**Please note:** Our Policies are not 'retail' insurance products. Accordingly, we are exempt from the requirement to hold an Australian Financial Services License (AFSL) as we are an APRA regulated general insurance business and we do not provide retail services. This exemption is provided under s911A(2)(g) of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

## KEY FEATURES OF COVER

The Policy provides cover for specific risks relating to your ownership and use of your property up to the Policy Amount. With certain exceptions, these covered risks must exist as at the Policy Date but be unknown to you as at the Policy Date.

The Policy is NOT a home building insurance product, a home contents insurance product or a personal and domestic property insurance product and does not provide cover in respect of the destruction or dilapidation of or damage to a building on the land.

We recommend that you download and read the following documents, which can be found on our website: [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com) for full details on covered risks, exclusions and other conditions and limitations:

- [Commercial Existing Owner Policy Key Facts Sheet](#)
- [Commercial Existing Owner Policy Consumer Guide on Covered Risks](#)
- [Commercial Existing Owner Policy Consumer Guide on Exclusions](#)
- [Commercial Existing Owner Sample Policy](#)

We also recommend that you review the Policy wording prior to purchasing the Policy.

### *Important Key Information About Your Cover*

Section 1 of the Policy outlines the cover which is provided in relation to the covered risks. The Policy provides cover for "Actual Loss" (Section 1.1), "Authorised Expenses" (section 1.2) and "Defence of Title Costs" (section 1.3).

### *Actual Loss*

It is important for you to be aware of how we assess Actual Loss where applicable. Actual Loss is a defined term in the Policy and means:

*"the difference between the value of your Land unaffected by the Covered Risk that is the substance of a claim and the value of the Land affected by the Covered Risk that is the substance of a claim. Any determination of Actual Loss which is required under this Policy shall not take into account any real or perceived loss of opportunity or loss of expectation of future development of the Land"*

### *Timing of Actual Loss Assessment*

- Actual Loss (if relevant) will be assessed as at the **Policy Date**.

Your Policy Date is the date when the settlement of your purchase occurs, as outlined in Schedule A which will form part of your Policy.

### *Timing of Authorised Expenses and Defence of Title Costs*

- Unlike Actual Loss the relevant timing for assessment of Authorised Expenses and Defence of Title Costs is at the time the Authorised Expenses and Defence of Title Costs are actually incurred.

We recommend that you download and read the following document, which can be found on our website: [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com), which provides a more detailed explanation of Actual Loss, including examples and scenarios of how and as at what date Actual Loss is assessed and determined:

- [Commercial Existing Owner Policy Key Facts Sheet](#)

We also recommend that you review the Policy wording prior to purchasing the Policy. A sample Commercial Existing Owner Policy can be downloaded [HERE](#).

### *Important Limitations Relating to Covered Risk 2.1 (j) of the Policy*

It is important for you to be aware that there are a number of conditions in relation to the cover provided by Covered Risk 2.1 (j) of the Policy.

### *No cover for Workmanship, Building Defects, Infestation, Condition & Repair and Dilapidation*

The Policy does **not** provide cover in respect of:

- Property damage and destruction
- Mine subsidence
- Environmental protection or conservation
- Asbestos
- Chemical contamination or pollution
- Poor workmanship, infestation or dilapidation of structures
- Non-compliant cladding
- Risks disclosed in a building inspection report
- The condition and repair of any structures
- Plumbing and electrical defects
- Failure of hot water systems, air-conditioning systems
- Failure of internal plumbing and wiring
- Failure of electric doors
- Non-compliance with building codes\*

**\*Please Note:** the exclusion relating to non-compliance with building codes and standards does not apply if notice of the non-compliance appears in Public Records as at the Policy Date or if the existence of the non-compliance would have been disclosed by a Local Authority Search of your Land as at the Policy Date and the exclusion does not limit the Cover described in sub-clause 2.1 (j);

### *Caps on Coverage – Maximum Liability of \$160,000 for Covered Risk 2.1 (j)*

- For any and all claims under Covered Risk 2.1 (j) of the Policy the maximum amount of cover under the Policy for such claim or claims will be \$160,000.00 in total regardless of the Policy Amount.

### *Rural Zoned Land - Exclusion for secondary dwellings, storage barns, farm or machinery sheds, other structures used for agriculture or primary production*

- Clause 3.4 of the Policy provides that for land within a Rural Zone, cover under clause 2.1 (j) of the Policy only extends to the primary residence and any sheds, carports, garages and swimming pool used for residential purposes.

We recommend that you download and read the following documents , which can be found on our website: [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com), which outline key coverage provisions, conditions and limitations:

- [Commercial Existing Owner Policy Key Facts Sheet](#)
- [Commercial Existing Owner Policy Consumer Guide on Exclusions](#)

We also recommend that you review Section 3 of the Policy wording prior to purchasing the Policy. A sample Commercial Existing Owner Policy can be downloaded [HERE](#).

## **YOUR DUTY OF DISCLOSURE**

It is important for you to be aware of your obligations to disclose certain information to us before we issue you with a Policy. It is your responsibility, not your Conveyancing Practitioner's responsibility, to comply with your duty of disclosure. Just because a matter is known by your Conveyancing Practitioner does not mean that it is a matter known by Stewart Title or a matter which Stewart Title ought to know in the ordinary course of Stewart Title's business as an insurer.

Before you enter into a contract of general insurance with an insurer, you have a duty under the *Insurance Contracts Act 1984* to disclose to the insurer every matter that you know, or could reasonably be expected to know, which is relevant to the decision of the insurer whether to accept the risk of the insurance and, if so, on what terms.

Examples of title defects or adverse matters which should be disclosed to Stewart Title include (but are not limited to):

- unapproved structures,
- any enforcement action by a Local Authority,
- survey/ boundary defects such as boundary fence encroachments and boundary disputes,
- non-compliance with zoning & development laws,
- non-compliance with easements and covenants,
- lack of legal access,
- lack of a legal right of water supply or drainage, and outstanding rates, charges & taxes that will not be paid or reimbursed on settlement.

You have the same duty to disclose those matters to the insurer before you renew, extend, vary or reinstate a contract of general insurance.

Your duty, however, does not require the disclosure of a matter:

- that diminishes the risk to be undertaken by the insurer;
- that is of common knowledge;
- that your insurer knows or, in the ordinary course of their business as an insurer, ought to know; and
- as to which compliance with your duty is waived by the insurer

## EFFECT OF NON-DISCLOSURE

If you fail to comply with your duty of disclosure, we may be entitled to reduce our liability under the contract of insurance in respect of a claim or may cancel the contract.

If your non-disclosure is fraudulent, we may also have the option of voiding the contract from its beginning.

## NOT SURE WHETHER SOMETHING SHOULD BE DISCLOSED?

You should contact us directly if you have any questions about your disclosure obligations.

**Phone:** 1800 300 440 (free call)  
**Email:** [enquiry.australia@stewart.com](mailto:enquiry.australia@stewart.com)

## OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CONVEYANCING PRACTITIONERS

Unlike many retail insurance providers, such as providers of home and contents insurance, travel insurance, motor vehicle insurance, and sickness and accident insurance, we do not market our Policies directly to consumers or have relationships with insurance brokers or financial planners.

Our Policies are recommended or referred to consumers by:

- Australian Legal Practitioners; and
- Licensed Conveyancers (including Settlement Agents in Western Australia);

who represent the consumer in relation to their purchase or sale of real property (hereafter referred to as Conveyancing Practitioners).

We have developed a program called StewartCONNECT which:

- Appoints participating Conveyancing Practitioners as our '*representatives*' strictly for the purpose of authorising them to arrange Policies on behalf of the consumer without the requirement for the Conveyancing Practitioner to obtain their own Australian Financial Services License (AFSL).

**Important Note:** All Conveyancing Practitioners (regardless of whether they are members of StewartCONNECT) are retained and instructed by the consumers and owe professional and fiduciary duties to the consumer client of the Conveyancing Practitioner, including duties of confidentiality and to act in the best interests of the consumer client.

Conveyancing Practitioners do not act for Stewart Title and **are not agents of Stewart Title and therefore are under no obligation to disclose information they know or should have known to us.** It is your responsibility, not your Conveyancing Practitioner's responsibility, to comply with your duty of disclosure.

**Please Note: Your Conveyancing Practitioner**

- is **not authorised** to negotiate cover, negotiate premiums or otherwise bind Stewart Title in any way.
- **is not required** to disclose to Stewart Title any information which they know, or ought to know, may be relevant to Stewart Title's decision to provide insurance to a consumer and if so on what terms.
- **is not required** to disclose to Stewart Title any matters which you are required to disclose to Stewart Title in accordance with your obligations under the *Insurance Contracts Act 1984*. This is regardless of whether or not your Conveyancing Practitioner has any knowledge of any such matters. This is because the Conveyancing Practitioner is acting for you in the transaction and is not the agent of Stewart Title.
- may receive a processing fee and other benefits if they are a StewartCONNECT member.

Your Conveyancing Practitioner will disclose to you whether they are a StewartCONNECT member and whether they receive a processing fee from us.

If you are not sure whether your Conveyancing Practitioner is a StewartCONNECT member you should contact your Conveyancing Practitioner or you may contact us.

We recommend that you download and read the following document, which can be found on our website: [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com), which provides a more detailed explanation of the StewartCONNECT terms and conditions

- [StewartCONNECT Terms & Conditions](#)

## YOUR PRIVACY

We seek to provide the best possible service to our customers. We understand how important it is to protect your personal information and to give you confidence that any personal information that you provide to us or that we collect from you will be safeguarded.

We abide by the Australian Privacy Principles for the protection of personal information. These are set out in the Privacy Act 1998.

### *Our Privacy Policy*

We recommend that you review our Privacy Policy which is available on our website: <https://www.stewartau.com/privacy>.

### *Our Privacy Officer*

You may request access to your personal information or request that your personal information be updated or corrected at any time, provided any request for access, updating, or correction is made in writing, together with the appropriate proof of identification, such as a certified copy of your passport or drivers licence or similar identity card.

Stewart will provide you with access to your personal information upon request, subject to any exemptions provided under the Privacy Act.

If you have any question about our Privacy Policy or if you wish to be provided with access to your personal information, please contact:

**The Privacy Officer**

Stewart Title Limited  
GPO Box 527  
Sydney NSW 2001  
Phone: 02 9081 6200  
Fax: 02 9081 6299

Email: [PrivacyAU@stewart.com](mailto:PrivacyAU@stewart.com)

## HOW TO MAKE A COMPLAINT

We are committed to providing consumers with the utmost in customer service. However, should you ever have a concern about the service you receive, we encourage you to tell us about it.

### *Complaint Procedure*

It is important for you to be aware that we have a Complaint Procedure. The details of our Complaint Procedure are available on our website: <https://www.stewartau.com/feedback>

### *Our Complaints Officer*

If you have any question about our Complaint Procedure or if you wish to make a complaint, please contact:

**The Complaints Officer**

Stewart Title Limited  
GPO Box 527  
Sydney NSW 2001  
Phone: 02 9081 6200/ 1800 300 440 (free call)  
Fax: 1300 898 175 (free call)  
Email: [complaintsau@stewart.com](mailto:complaintsau@stewart.com)

### *Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA)*

We are a member of the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA), an independent organisation that provides dispute resolution between consumers and financial service providers.

**The services of AFCA are free to consumers.**

You may contact AFCA via:

**Australian Financial Complaints Authority**

Mail: GPO Box 3, Melbourne VIC 3001  
Phone: 1800 931 678  
Email: [info@afca.org.au](mailto:info@afca.org.au)  
Website: [www.afca.org.au](http://www.afca.org.au)





## RESOURCE | LINKS

*Website:* [stewartau.com](http://stewartau.com)

Consumer Library Page: [www.stewartau.com/consumerlibrary](http://www.stewartau.com/consumerlibrary)

Regulatory Information Page: [www.stewart.au.com/regulatoryinformation](http://www.stewart.au.com/regulatoryinformation)

Compliments / Complaints: [www.stewartau.com/feedback](http://www.stewartau.com/feedback)

StewartCONNECT: [www.stewartau.com/stewartconnect](http://www.stewartau.com/stewartconnect)

Sample Policies: [www.stewartau.com/sample-policies](http://www.stewartau.com/sample-policies)

*Email:*

General Enquiry: [enquiry.australia@stewart.com](mailto:enquiry.australia@stewart.com)

Claim Enquiry: [claims.australia@stewart.com](mailto:claims.australia@stewart.com)

Complaints: [complaintsau@stewart.com](mailto:complaintsau@stewart.com)

Privacy Officer: [PrivacyAU@stewart.com](mailto:PrivacyAU@stewart.com)

*AFCA:*

Website: [www.afca.org.au](http://www.afca.org.au)

Email: [info@afca.org.au](mailto:info@afca.org.au)

# Key Facts Sheet

## KEY FACTS SHEET –COMMERCIAL EXISTING OWNER POLICY

Thank you for your interest in obtaining a title insurance policy for your commercial property with Stewart Title Limited. This Key Facts Sheet provides you with some general information about the coverage available in our policy.

Title insurance is a unique form of insurance. It protects your ownership interest against losses incurred as a result of undetected or unknown defects that affect your registered interest in the title to your property. With certain exceptions, these covered title defects must exist as of the policy date, but be unknown to you. Title insurance continues to protect your ownership from the day of settlement to the day you sell your property. Should you purchase a policy it will be customised to reflect the details of your particular real estate transaction.

### Important features of Stewart Title’s commercial existing owner title insurance include:

- The policy covers title risk and is not, nor should it be used as a substitute for home buildings/contents insurance.
- The policy insures your ownership interest in your property for as long as you own your property for a one-time premium payable when the policy is ordered or after the Policy Order Confirmation has been issued..
- The coverage will also protect anyone who inherits your property or your spouse or child if you transfer your property to your spouse or child for nominal consideration.

### Your Cover

Subject to the payment of the Policy premium and abiding by the terms and conditions outlined in the Policy and relying upon the information disclosed to us, we will provide the following Cover in relation to the Covered Risks:

Actual Loss	Section 1.1 of the Policy
<p>Actual Loss is a defined term in the Policy and means “<i>the difference between the value of your Land unaffected by the Covered Risk that is the substance of a claim and the value of the Land affected by the Covered Risk that is the substance of a claim. Any determination of Actual Loss which is required under this Policy shall not take into account any real or perceived loss of opportunity or loss of expectation of future development of the Land</i>”.</p> <p>In practical terms this assessment of “Actual Loss” requires an appraisal of the difference between:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the value of your land <i>unaffected</i> by the Covered Risk - what you <i>actually paid</i> for the property not taking into account that the land was affected by a Covered Risk; and</li> <li>b. the value of the land <i>affected</i> by the Covered Risk - the market value of the land taking into account that the land was affected by the Covered Risk.</li> </ol> <p>The difference between a and b above will be your Actual Loss.</p> <p>The relevant timing of the assessment of Actual Loss will as at the Policy Date.</p> <p>As all Covered Risks under Section 2.1 of the Policy relate to risks which existed or occurred prior to or as at the Policy Date then any assessment of Actual Loss which is required under Section 2.1 of the Policy will be assessed as at the Policy Date.</p>	

### Example 1 – Actual Loss Calculation

You purchase a warehouse with an office extension for \$500,000 being the Policy Amount. At the time of settlement of purchase and entry into the title insurance policy (the Policy Date) you are not aware of any Covered Risks affecting the property. Six months after settlement, you receive an Enforcement Order from a Local Authority ordering you to demolish the office extension because it was built by a previous owner without approvals required by law. The unapproved office extension existed prior to the Policy Date.

You make a claim under section 2.1 (j) of your Policy. If Actual Loss is relevant, how will Stewart Title assess your “Actual Loss”? As the claim relates to a Covered Risk under Section 2.1 of the Policy your Actual Loss will be assessed as at the Policy Date. Stewart Title will engage a licensed valuer to ascertain the difference between the value of the land purchased as a warehouse with an office extension (\$500,000) and the value of the land as a warehouse without an office extension as at the Policy Date.

The valuer determines that the market value of the land as a warehouse without an office extension was \$450,000 as at the Policy Date. As you paid \$500,000 for a warehouse with an office extension, then your Actual Loss resulting from the order to demolish the office extension is \$50,000.

The sum of \$50,000 is the difference between:

- a. the value of your land *unaffected* by the Covered Risk as at the Policy Date - what you *actually paid* for the property not taking into account that the land was affected by a Covered Risk which was \$500,000; and
- b. the value of the land *affected* by the Covered Risk as at the Policy Date - the market value of the land taking into account that the land was affected by the Covered Risk which was \$450,000.

### Authorised Expense

### Section 1.2 of the Policy

Authorised Expenses is a defined term in the Policy and means “*any costs, expenses and Legal Fees incurred as a result of a claim payable under this Policy and pre-approved in writing by us and which are incurred prior to our payment or resolution of the claim reduced by any Input Tax Credit to which you are entitled in respect of such costs, expenses and Legal Fees*”.

Section 1.2 of the Policy provides that Stewart Title

*‘insures you in respect of Authorised Expenses which are incurred by you or which we agree to pay or are required to pay under the Policy as a result of a Covered Risk up to the Policy Amount’.*

Authorised Expenses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- expert reports such as:
  - identification survey reports;
  - structural engineer reports; and
  - building code compliance reports.
- rectification or rebuilding costs, including demolition costs;
- legal fees and other professional fees such as planning, architectural and designer fees;
- Council lodgment fees for plans, development applications and other permits.

Unlike Actual Loss under Section 2.1 of the Policy, which is assessed as at the Policy Date, the relevant timing for assessment of Authorised Expenses is at the time the Authorised Expenses are actually incurred or charged by the relevant provider/authority.

### Example 1 – Rectification Costs

You purchase a warehouse with office extension for \$500,000 being the Policy Amount. At the time of settlement of purchase (the Policy Date) you are not aware of any Covered Risks affecting the property. Six months after settlement, you receive an Enforcement Order from a Local Authority ordering you to rectify the office extension because it was built by a previous owner without approvals required by law and does not comply with Council’s requirements. The unapproved office extension existed prior to the Policy Date.

You make a claim under section 2.1 (j) of the Policy. Quotes are obtained which indicate the rectification costs are \$25,000. How will your claim in respect of the rectification costs be assessed? Stewart Title will pay or reimburse the necessary rectification costs (providing the costs have been pre-approved by Stewart Title in writing) as an Authorised Expense.

If plans or permits are required to be lodged, then the fees charged by the Council for lodging those plans or permits would also be covered as an Authorised Expense.

### **Example 2 – Compliance Reports**

In the example provided above, it may be appropriate to demonstrate to the Council that the unapproved office extension complies with all building codes and standards and is structurally sound. If Council is satisfied that the unapproved office extension satisfies its requirements, then no rectification costs would be required and there will be no Actual Loss.

In these circumstances, Stewart Title will pay or reimburse the costs of obtaining the reports (providing the costs have been pre-approved by Stewart Title in writing) as an Authorised Expense.

### **Example 3 – Demolition Costs**

In the example provided above, it may be a requirement of Council, after obtaining the necessary expert reports, that the unapproved office extension must be demolished completely if not rectified.

In these circumstances, Stewart Title will pay or reimburse the necessary demolition costs (providing the costs have been pre-approved by Stewart Title in writing) as an Authorised Expense. This would be in addition to the costs of the reports and would also be in addition to the payment of any Actual Loss which is required to be paid under section 1.1 of the Policy.

## **Our Duty to Defend Your Title – Defence of Title Costs**

## **Section 1.3 of the Policy**

Defence of title costs are covered under Section 1.3 of the Policy which provides:

*“We will defend any challenge to your Title, including that part of any proceedings or court case, which is based on a Covered Risk under this Policy. We will also pay necessary costs, legal fees and expenses incurred in that defence. You must contact us prior to incurring these costs, fees or expenses. We may decide not to defend your Title, but may alternatively exercise one or more of the options outlined in clause 6. We may also end our duty to defend your Title as insured by exercising any of the options outlined in clause 6.”*

One of the immediate consequences of a claim being brought under a Covered Risk is that you may be required to respond to a notice, compliance or building order or some other enforcement process initiated by a third party against you. One component of Cover under the Policy which is intended to address this situation is the “defence of title” Cover under section 1.3 of the Policy.

Section 1.3 relevantly provides that Stewart Title will “defend any challenge to your Title, including that part of any proceedings or court case, which is based on a Covered Risk under this Policy. We will also pay necessary costs, legal fees and expenses incurred in that defence.”

In some circumstances, the claim may be successfully resolved by the ‘defence of title’ Cover, particularly if the enforcement action has no legal basis or there are other legal issues which are identified which give rise to a withdrawal of the enforcement action by a third party.

Unlike Actual Loss under Section 2.1 of the Policy, which is assessed as at the Policy Date, the relevant timing for assessment of any “defence of title” costs which are incurred under section 1.3 is at the time the defence of title costs are incurred by you.

### **Example – Defence of Title Costs**

You purchase a property and settlement occurs without incident. At the time of settlement of purchase (the Policy Date) you are not aware of any Covered Risks affecting the property.

Immediately after moving in the council issues you with a notice because the present use of the Land contravenes existing zoning laws.

You make a claim under section 2.1 (i)(i) of your Policy (which provides cover in circumstances where you are prevented by a Local Authority from using the Land because “the present use contravenes existing planning or zoning laws”).

In these circumstances, Stewart Title would obtain independent legal advice in relation to the claims made by the council in relation to the alleged contravention of the zoning laws and would pay or reimburse these costs (providing the costs have been pre-approved by Stewart Title in writing) as a Defence of Title cost under section 1.3 of the Policy.

Should it become necessary to defend any proceedings or court case brought against you in relation to the Covered Risk(s), then Stewart Title would cover the costs of such a legal defence, such as legal fees and associated expenses, as a Defence of Title cost.

**Maximum Aggregate Amount of Cover**

**Section 1.3 of the Policy**

*For the avoidance of doubt, the maximum aggregate amount of Cover described in clauses 1.1 and 1.2 of this Policy shall not exceed the Policy Amount.*

This means that if your Policy Amount is \$500,000 and if we have to pay or reimburse you for Actual Loss or Authorised Expenses or any combination of them under the Policy, the maximum total amount for all of these categories of Cover combined is \$500,000. For example, if the Actual Loss is \$450,000 and the Authorised Expenses are \$200,000 you will not be entitled to more than \$500,000 in respect of these categories of Cover.

**Key covered risks (policy coverage provisions, conditions and limits) include\*:**

**\*You must review your actual policy for full coverage details as the information below is being provided in general terms only.** Your policy may include additional exceptions related to specific issues affecting your property. It may also include additional endorsements.

Event/Cover	Some examples of special conditions, exclusions or limits that apply to the events/covers (see other policy documentation for details)
<p><b>Enforcement Order issued by a Local Authority in relation to Unapproved Building Work</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cover is capped at \$160,000 per claim.</li> <li>▪ Not covered for unapproved boundary walls or boundary fences.</li> <li>▪ For rural properties, cover is limited to the main residence, including sheds, carports, garages used for residential purposes and any swimming pool.</li> <li>▪ For claims under \$25,000, we will pay the costs of removing, upgrading, rectifying or rebuilding the structure (or part of the structure) as an Authorised Expense.</li> <li>▪ For claims greater than \$25,000, we have the option of removing the structures and paying you your Actual Loss.</li> <li>▪ Not covered for structural condition, dilapidation or infestation of the property. The policy also does not cover any damage relating to non-compliance with laws, regulations and orders relating to fire safety.</li> <li>▪ Not covered for external cladding on strata buildings which does not comply with building or development approvals and/or applicable building codes or standards (if applicable).</li> <li>▪ This cover does not apply where you initiate, instigate or encourage enforcement action by the Local Authority – refer to Policy exclusions for full details</li> <li>▪ Enforcement Order is defined in the Policy – please refer to the Policy for more information.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Boundary &amp; Survey</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ This cover does not apply to land where the land area size exceeds 50 acres. Not covered for boundary walls or boundary fences.</li> <li>▪ This cover does not apply where you initiate, instigate or encourage enforcement action by an adjoining owner of your land – refer to Policy exclusions for full details</li> </ul>

<b>Planning &amp; Zoning Breach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Covered for loss due to non-compliance with existing planning and zoning laws, unregistered easements and covenants, access orders, access rights or a right of way.</li> </ul>
<b>Unmarketability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Only covered for loss on resale of the property arising from the existence of a covered title risk.</li> </ul>
<b>Fraud, Forgery &amp; Identity Theft</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Covered for loss due to fraud, forgery or identity theft which affects your ownership at the time of purchase.</li> </ul>

## **Other Matters to Consider**

### **Standard exclusions include:**

- Environmental matters, including but not limited to, mould, asbestos, termites, infestation, contamination, abandoned oil wells, water leakage, water quality or quantity.
- Native claims.
- Risks that you created, allowed or agreed to.
- Risks that are known to you, but not to Stewart Title, on the policy date.
- Matters that first occur after your policy date.
- Physical/structural conditions or defects related to the wear and tear or condition and repair of the property, including infestation and dilapidation.
- Non-compliance with applicable building codes or standards\*.
- Non-compliant external cladding on strata buildings (if applicable).
- Certain risks where you initiate, instigate or encourage enforcement action by the Local Authority and/or an adjoining property owner – refer to Policy exclusions for full details

### **Cancellation period:**

If, within 14 days of the Insurance Date or the date the Policy is received by you (whichever is the latter), you have not made a claim and you decide you no longer want your policy, you may request cancellation of your policy. We will refund the premium you paid subject to an administration charge of \$50.00. After this period, you cannot cancel your policy.

If you have obtained this policy by mistake, please let us know as soon as possible.

### **For more information:**

Should you have questions about your policy, its cover, and exclusions and exceptions, please contact us on **1800 300 440** or visit our website at [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com) so that we may assist you.

**Attention: This Key Facts Sheet highlights some of the conditions, exclusions and limits in respect of our standard Commercial Existing Owner Policy and is intended only to be a guide. The content in this document is furnished for informational use only and should not be construed as a commitment by Stewart Title. It does not form part of your Policy or insurance contract with us. Changes are periodically made to the information in this document; these changes will be incorporated in new editions of this publication and Stewart Title may make modifications to the content as described in this document at any time. Stewart Title assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or inaccuracies that may appear in the content of this document. You must carefully review your actual Policy and any Endorsements, Schedules and other policy documentation for all the conditions, exclusions and limitations that will specifically limit or exclude cover under your Policy.**

**Please Note:** the exclusion relating to non-compliance with building codes and standards does not apply if notice of the non-compliance appears in Public Records as at the Policy Date or if the existence of the non-compliance would have been disclosed by a Local Authority Search of your Land as at the Policy Date. Please refer to the Policy exclusions for more information.

# **Guide to Covered Risks**



Commercial Existing Owner Policy  
**Guide to Covered Risks**

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This Guide is designed to assist you with navigating and understanding the covered risks contained in Stewart Title Limited's Commercial Existing Owner Policy. This Guide is general in nature and is for information only. It should be read in conjunction with your Policy wording (including Schedule A, Schedule B and any applicable Endorsement(s)). Stewart Title has issued other guides relating to the Policy that you may find of assistance, these are listed at the end of this document.

Please refer to the definition section on page 1 of the Policy for the meaning of defined terms. Usually a defined term will be capitalised, such as, for example, the terms Cover, Title and Actual Loss to name a few.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR POLICY AND YOUR COVERAGE

The Policy provides cover for specific risks relating to your ownership and use of your property. The Policy will insure you against your Actual Loss and Authorised Expenses which result from:

- (a) the Covered Risks described in the Policy up to the Policy Amount; and
- (b) costs, legal fees and expenses that we have to pay in defending the Title to your Land under this Policy.

The Policy is not your "title" nor does it take the place of your certificate of title. Your title will be recorded on a certificate of title held at a land titles office. Your certificate of title gives you certain protection. This Policy is intended to provide you protection against many of the additional risks not otherwise covered under the title registration system which exists in the jurisdiction where your land is located.

**The Policy is NOT a home building insurance product, a home contents insurance product or a personal and domestic property insurance product.**

**The Policy does not provide cover in respect of the destruction of or damage to a building on the land.** The Policy therefore **does not provide** insurance for loss or damage as a result of the typical kinds of risks covered under such policies, including, but not limited to:

- (a) fire;
- (b) flood;
- (c) earthquakes;
- (d) storm;
- (e) land slip;
- (f) mine subsidence;
- (g) theft of possessions; or
- (h) mechanical breakdown

The Policy also does not provide insurance any loss of rental income or loss of business revenue. Except as provided in the Policy itself, you are insured in relation to risks which exist at the date that settlement of your purchase occurs and as such, you are not insured for any inability to use the land in the future for any particular desired use or purpose.

We recommend you consult a legal practitioner and consider other forms of insurance to offer protection against these kinds of issues.

**Attention: This document is intended only to be a guide and is furnished for informational use only. It should not be construed as a commitment by Stewart Title. It does not form part of your Policy or insurance contract with us. Changes are periodically made to the information in this document; these changes will be incorporated in new editions of this publication and Stewart Title may make modifications to the content as described in this document at any time. Stewart Title assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or inaccuracies that may appear in the content of this document. You must carefully review your actual Policy and any Endorsements, Schedules and other policy documentation for all the conditions, exclusions and limitations that will specifically limit or exclude cover under your Policy. Should you have any questions about the Policy, please visit our website at [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com) or contact us on 1 800 300 440.**

## PART 1. COVERED RISKS

This part of the Guide provides commentary on the sections of the Policy relating to covered risks.

### Section 2.1: Risks occurring before the Policy Date

*“We will provide you with Cover against all of the following Covered Risks if the circumstances creating or giving rise to these risks existed or occurred before the Policy Date. Any assessment of Actual Loss which is required under this Section 2 will be determined as at the Policy Date.*

The Policy only provides cover for the Covered Risks if the circumstances creating or giving rise to the risks existed or occurred **before** the Policy Date or during the Registration Period. You should check Schedule A of the Policy to verify the Policy Date is correct.

### Section 2.1(a) – (g): Risks affecting your ownership of the Land

(a) *you are not the owner of the estate or interest in the Land detailed in Schedule A;*

The Policy provides cover where you do not own the Land which is insured under the Policy as detailed in Schedule A.

**For example**, this situation may arise where a mistake is made as to the identity of the Land being sold or if there is a complete failure to obtain Title to the Land due to an error or flaw in the title registration process.

(b) *someone other than you owns an estate or interest in the Title to the Land;*

The Policy provides cover in circumstances where somebody else claims to own an interest or estate in the Title to the Land.

**For example**, the person who sold you the Land may have entered into agreements with other people in relation to the use or ownership of part or all of the Land and those people seek to enforce those agreements against you as the new owner of the Land. Please refer to section 1.3 of the Policy under the heading “Our duty to defend your Title”.

(c) *someone else claims to have rights affecting your Title because of forgery, fraud, impersonation, duress, mental incompetence or incapacity;*

The Policy provides cover in the event that your Title is challenged or somebody else claims to have rights over your Title because of forgery, impersonation, duress, mental incompetence or incapacity.

For example, if the person who sold you the Land turns out to be a fraudster, or lacks mental capacity, or sold the Land to you under the duress of a third party, then a challenge may be made to your Title. Please refer to section 1.3 of the Policy under the heading “Our duty to defend your Title”.

(d) *a document is not properly signed, sealed or delivered, or is not properly recorded or registered in the Public Records resulting in a defect in the Title to the Land;*

The Policy provides cover in the event that your Title is challenged or there is a defect in the Title to your Land because of errors in the documentation relating to the sale of the Land or because of an error by a land title registry.

(e) *Unmarketability of your Title;*

Unmarketability of Title means your legal title is affected by an alleged or apparent matter that would permit a prospective purchaser or lessee of the title or lender on the title to be released from the obligation to purchase, lease or lend if there is a contractual condition requiring the delivery of marketable title.

! Unmarketability of your Title is not created by matters relating only to physical/structural conditions and/or physical/structural defects of the Land, including the improvement(s) located thereon.

(f) *there is no legal right of Access to and from the Land;*

The Policy provides cover in circumstances where you are 'landlocked', which means you have no legal right of access to or from the Land insured under the Policy as detailed in Schedule A.

! This cover **does not** extend to any lack of a right to a secondary access point to the Land, or a preferred access route such as a rear entrance, where access to the Land is already legally obtained through another access point.

(g) *someone else claims to have an easement, an access order, an access right, or a right of way that affects the Title to the Land, other than those registered or otherwise recorded on Title on the Policy Date;*

The Policy provides cover in circumstances where somebody else claims to have specific rights over your Land even though those rights might not be recorded or registered on title.

**For example**, a neighbour may claim to enjoy a right to access your property, either by prior agreement with the person who sold you the land, or by an access order issued by a court. Please refer to section 1.3 of the Policy under the heading "Our duty to defend your Title".

## Section 2.1(h): Risks regarding boundaries and encroachments

(h) *any defect or adverse matter affecting the Title to your Land which a current survey report would have disclosed on the Policy Date, including but not limited to:*

- i. *non-compliance with an easement, restriction, right of way or covenant registered or otherwise recorded on the Title of the Land;*
- ii. *structures on the Land (other than boundary walls or boundary fences) which encroach onto your neighbour's land or vice versa or encroach onto an easement or right of way on your Land.*

The Policy provides cover in circumstances where you elect not to obtain a boundary survey of the land when you purchase the property and you discover after the Policy Date that there are adverse matters or defects affecting title which would have been disclosed by a survey report.

Such adverse matters or defects include (but are not limited to) non-compliance with an easement or covenant on title, such as a structure which has been built over an easement or a right of way, or structures on your land which encroach upon your neighbour's land or vice versa.

**!** This cover **does not apply** to boundary walls and boundary fences and **does not apply at all** to any properties where the area of the land exceeds 50 acres.

### Section 2.1(i): Risks affecting your use of the Land

(i) *your Land is Unmarketable, or you are prevented by a Local Authority from using the Land, or you are forced by a Local Authority to rectify or remove all or part of the existing structure(s) on the Land (other than boundary walls or boundary fences) because:*

i) *the present use contravenes existing planning or zoning Laws.*

The Policy provides cover in circumstances where your Land is “Unmarketable” or the Local Authority prevents you from using your property or forces you to remove or rectify structures on the land for the reasons described in sub-clause (i).

**For example**, you may be forced by a Local Authority (such as your local Council) to cease using your property as a residence because the present use contravenes existing planning or zoning laws.

**!** See the exclusion 3.3 under the heading “**Workmanship, Damage, Infestation and Dilapidation**” as this exclusion may limit the amount we are required to pay you in the event of a claim.

### Section 2.1(j): Risks of Enforcement Orders affecting structures on the Land

(j) *You are issued with an Enforcement Order by a Local Authority which states that a structure (or structures) on the Land, including any part thereof, does not comply with, or was built or modified without obtaining, building or development approvals which were required by the Local Authority at the time the relevant structure(s) were built and as a result of the Enforcement Order:*

- i. *you are required to rectify or remove all or part of the existing structure(s) on the Land (other than boundary walls or boundary fences); or*
- ii. *you are prevented by a Local Authority from using the Land; or*
- iii. *the Land is Unmarketable.*

*For the avoidance of doubt, the Cover under clauses 2.1 (i) and 2.1 (j) does not apply to boundary walls or boundary fences or to the cost of any rectification, removal or replacement relating to the condition and repair of any structure(s) on the Land, or the infestation or dilapidation of any structure(s) on the Land, including any failure of any electrical or plumbing fittings/items such as hot water systems, air conditioning systems, electric doors, internal plumbing and electrical wiring.*

The Policy provides cover in circumstances where you are issued with an Enforcement Order which states that a structure or structures were built without approval or the structure as built does not comply with an approval and as a result of the Enforcement Order your property is “Unmarketable” or the Local Authority prevents you from using your property as a residence or forces you to remove or rectify structures on the land for the reasons described in sub-clauses (i), (ii) and (iii).

**For example**, you are issued with an Enforcement Order which states that part of the structure (such as an extension) was built without Council approval. The Enforcement Order requires you to demolish or rectify the unapproved extension.

**!** This cover **does not apply** to boundary walls or boundary fences and cover **is capped at \$160,000** (see clause 7.1 under the heading “Our liability for claims”. See also the exclusion 3.3 under the heading “**Workmanship, Damage, Infestation and Dilapidation**” as this exclusion may limit the amount we are required to pay you in the event of a claim. Enforcement Notice is defined in the policy (see Defined Meanings for more information).

## **PART 2. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

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For further information about the Policy or about this Guide, please contact us on 1800 300 440 or visit our website [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com).

Stewart Title Limited is wholly owned by Stewart Title Guaranty Company, the primary underwriter for Stewart Information Services Corporation. Stewart Title Limited is authorised to operate in all Australian states and territories and is regulated by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA).

### **Other Guides:**

- The Guide to Exclusions under the Commercial Existing Owner Policy
- The Guide to Making a Claim under the Commercial Existing Owner Policy



# **Guide to Exclusions**

Commercial Existing Owner Policy  
**Guide to Exclusions**

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This Guide is designed to assist you with navigating and understanding the covered risks contained in Stewart Title Limited's Commercial Existing Owner Policy. This Guide is general in nature and is for information only. It should be read in conjunction with your Policy wording (including Schedule A, Schedule B and any applicable Endorsement(s)). Stewart Title has issued other guides relating to the Policy that you may find of assistance, these are listed at the end of this document.

Please refer to the definition section on page 1 of the Policy for the meaning of defined terms. Usually a defined term will be capitalised, such as, for example, the terms Cover, Title and Actual Loss to name a few.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR POLICY AND YOUR COVERAGE

The Policy provides cover for specific risks relating to your ownership and use of your property. The Policy will insure you against your Actual Loss and Authorised Expenses which result from:

- (a) the Covered Risks described in the Policy up to the Policy Amount; and
- (b) costs, legal fees and expenses that we have to pay in defending the Title to your Land under this Policy.

The Policy is not your "title" nor does it take the place of your certificate of title. Your title will be recorded on a certificate of title held at a land titles office. Your certificate of title gives you certain protection. This Policy is intended to provide you protection against many of the additional risks not otherwise covered under the title registration system which exists in the jurisdiction where your land is located.

**The Policy is NOT a home building insurance product, a home contents insurance product or a personal and domestic property insurance product.**

**The Policy does not provide cover in respect of the destruction of or damage to a building on the land.** The Policy therefore **does not provide** insurance for loss or damage as a result of the typical kinds of risks covered under such policies, including, but not limited to:

- a) fire;
- b) flood;
- c) earthquakes;
- d) storm;
- e) land slip;
- f) mine subsidence;
- g) theft of possessions; or
- h) mechanical breakdown

The Policy also does not provide insurance any loss of rental income or loss of business revenue. Except as provided in the Policy itself, you are insured in relation to risks which exist at the date that settlement of your purchase occurs and as such, you are not insured for any inability to use the land in the future for any particular desired use or purpose.

We recommend you consult a legal practitioner and consider other forms of insurance to offer protection against these kinds of issues.

**Attention: This document is intended only to be a guide and is furnished for informational use only. It should not be construed as a commitment by Stewart Title. It does not form part of your Policy or insurance contract with us. Changes are periodically made to the information in this document; these changes will be incorporated in new editions of this publication and Stewart Title may make modifications to the content as described in this document at any time. Stewart Title assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or inaccuracies that may appear in the content of this document. You must carefully review your actual Policy and any Endorsements, Schedules and other policy documentation for all the conditions, exclusions and limitations that will specifically limit or exclude cover under your Policy. Should you have any questions about the Policy, please visit our website at [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com) or contact us on 1 800 300 440.**

## PART 1. EXCLUSIONS

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This part of the Guide provides commentary on the sections of the Policy relating to risks we do not cover.

### Section 3: Exclusions – Risks we do not cover

*“The following risks or circumstances relating to the Land are specifically excluded from Cover. We do not provide any Cover for any loss or damage of the type(s) listed in clauses below or caused by any matter(s) listed in Schedule B, except to the extent that specific Affirmative Cover is given. We will not pay any loss for these matters. Also, we are not obliged to pay costs, legal fees or expenses for these matters.”*

The Policy does not provide cover for any loss or damage, costs or legal fees arising from a matter excluded under the Policy.

! The term “Exclusion” is defined in the Policy to mean *“the matters and circumstances which are expressly excluded from Cover under this Policy and for which there is no entitlement for you to make a claim”*. These excluded matters and circumstances are detailed in section 3 of this Policy.” You should read the Exclusions carefully.

#### Section 3.1: General risks

(a) *that you at any time create, allow assume or agree to at any time;*

Risks that are created by you will not be covered. Similarly, risks which you assume or agree to will also not be covered under the Policy, unless you have disclosed the existence of those risks to us and we have agreed to provide Affirmative Cover.

Any applicable Exceptions and Affirmative Cover will be detailed in Schedule B of the Policy.

(b) *that are known to you, but not to us;*

The Policy does not cover risks which you were aware of but which had not been disclosed to Stewart Title. If you are aware of risks prior to us issuing you with a Policy Date, you have an obligation to disclose those risks to us as they may affect Policy coverage.

! Please refer to the Notice under the *Insurance Contracts Act 1984* set out on page i of the Policy.

(c) *that are known to your predecessors in Title, but not to us, unless you acquired your interest in the Land for value without notice of the risk;*

The Policy does not cover risks which your predecessors in title were aware of but which had not been disclosed to Stewart Title, unless you acquired the property for value without notice of the risk. If you are aware of risks prior to us issuing you with a Policy Date, you have an obligation to disclose those risks to us as they may affect Policy coverage.

! Please refer to the Notice under the *Insurance Contracts Act 1984* set out on page i of the Policy.

(d) *that cause you no loss or damage;*

The Policy provides cover in relation to certain loss or damage arising from a Covered Risk. If there is no loss or damage, even if a Covered Risk presents itself, then you will not be entitled to make a claim. The obligation is on you to prove your loss – see section 5.3 of the Policy under the heading “Proving your loss”.

(e) *that occur, come into existence or appear in Public Records after the Policy Date, other than those risks insured under Clause 2.2;*

Risks that occur after the Policy Date are excluded from Policy cover unless they relate to a risk covered during the Registration Period as set out in Clause 2.2 of the Policy.

“Registration Period” is defined as the period beginning with the time of the Final Search and ending with the registration of your interest in the Land in the land title registry

(f) *that are disclosed in the agreement of purchase and sale/purchase contract and/or written report/documentation obtained by the Insured prior to the Policy Date relating to the physical condition of the improvements on the Land;*

The Policy will not cover any claims, loss or damage in relation to building defects or other matters which are disclosed in the contract for sale and associated documentation for the purchase of the Land, or a building inspection report or home inspection report that you obtain before the Policy Date.

Building inspection reports typically disclose issues related to the condition and repair of the structures on the Land, including wear and tear of the property, infestation and dilapidation issues which are also excluded under clause 3.3 (a) of the Policy.

(g) *that arise because you did not pay full value for the Land;*

If you did not pay the full value of the property, then any claims by third parties relating to outstanding amounts payable or any other loss arising from that situation will be excluded from cover, including, but not limited to, any caveats or writs recorded on Title

(h) *that are noted on the Title to the Land on the Policy Date, including: covenants, conditions, restrictions, rights, stipulations, mortgages, caveats, easements of other interest.*

Matters that are registered or recorded on your Title on the Policy Date (for instance, dealings, mortgages, caveats, easements etc) are excluded from cover. You are not entitled to make a claim in relation to the existence of those dealings on your Title.

## Section 3.2: Laws, contamination, claims and interests against the Land

*“(a) the existence of laws which restrict, regulate, prohibit or relate to use or ownership of the Land or the violation or breach of those Laws;*

The Policy does not cover any existing or future Laws that regulate the use or ownership of the Land or the breach of those laws.

- (b) *matters which are registered or otherwise recorded on Title on the Policy Date or the violation or breach of those laws.*

Matters that are registered or recorded on your Title on the Policy Date (for instance, dealings, mortgages, caveats, easements etc) are excluded from cover. You are not entitled to make a claim in relation to the existence of those dealings on your Title.

! However you may be entitled to claim should there be any non-compliance with the terms of the restriction, easement or covenant, and you were not aware of the non-compliance as at the Policy Date. You should check your Affirmative Coverage in your Schedule B for specific details.

- (c) *environmental contaminants or hazardous wastes on or under the Land or covenants, conditions and restrictions for environmental protection or the effect of any laws regulating those contaminants or wastes;*

The Policy does not cover environmental issues or contamination of any kind as these matters are not related to the Title of the Land. For example, any loss arising from structures on the property which contain asbestos are excluded from cover as asbestos is an environmental contaminant.

! You should conduct your own searches and enquiries or contact your Conveyancing Practitioner to verify whether the Land has environmental contamination or other environmental hazards.

- (d) *the exercise of any government power, including forfeiture of Title, except to the extent that any notice of the exercise of such power had been registered in the Public Records as of the Policy Date; but only to the extent of the enforcement referred to in that notice*

- (e) *the forfeiture of the Title as a result of any governmental action, or the resumption of the Land;;*

The Policy does not cover the situation where your Land is compulsorily acquired or resumed by the government or where the Title is forfeited as a result of government action.

! You should conduct your own searches and enquiries or contact your Conveyancing Practitioner to establish whether the Land is affected by any government resumptions, acquisitions or action relating to forfeiture of the Title.

- (f) *native title claims in relation to the Land;*

Any loss or damage, costs or legal expenses associated with any native title claims which may affect your Land are expressly excluded under the Policy. Any such loss, or damage, costs or legal expenses cannot form any part of a claim.

- (g) *rights and interests, including riparian rights, reserved under a crown grant or crown lease or the law authorizing the issue of the crown grant or crown lease;*

The Policy does not cover rights and interests in the Land which are reserved or created under a crown lease or a crown grant or which are created by laws which authorise the issue of the crown grant or crown lease which affects the Land.

! You should conduct your own searches and enquiries or contact your Conveyancing Practitioner to verify any rights and interests which affect the Land because of a crown grant or crown lease.

- (h) *matters which are not recorded on Title on the Policy Date, but would be discoverable by an inspection of the Land or by enquiries of persons in occupation of the Land;*

The Policy does not cover matters which are not recorded on Title on the Policy date, but would be discoverable by an inspection of the Land or by enquiries of persons in occupation of the Land.

! You should inspect the Land or make enquiries of persons in occupation of the Land to establish whether there are any such matters, such as public utilities, drainage or other infrastructure.

- (i) *rights and interests of any person in occupation of the Land;*

The Policy does not cover any claims, loss or damage relating to rights and interests of any persons in occupation of the Land.

! You should inspect the Land to ensure that the Land is not occupied if the Land is being purchased with vacant possession.

- (j) *public or private utility undertakers or a telecommunications utility company having a statutory right to carry out works affecting the Land;*

The Policy does not cover the situation where a public or private utility company or entity or a communications utility company or entity has the statutory right to enter upon and carry out works on the Land or the Land contains public or private infrastructure or has telecommunications infrastructure erected upon or below the ground and this gives the owner of the infrastructure the statutory right to carry out works affecting the Land

- (k) *any claim which arises out of the transaction vesting in the Insured the estate or interest insured by this policy by reason of the operation of bankruptcy, insolvency, or other creditor's rights laws that deem the transaction fraudulent or preferential, or subordinate to the interest of another person or entity;*

The Policy does not provide cover for the situation that the estate or interest in the Land which is insured by the Policy is deemed to be fraudulent or preferential, or is subordinated to the interest of another person or entity because of the operation of bankruptcy, insolvency or other creditor's rights laws.

- (l) *any loss or damage arising from non-compliance with laws, regulations or orders relating to fire safety.*

Any claims, loss or damage relating to non-compliance with laws, regulations or orders relating to fire safety. For example, a structure that is in need of repair, upgrading or removal, including, but not limited to, the installation of fire sprinklers and other fire safety equipment, or the construction fire rated walls and ceilings and other building works, because it breaches fire safety requirements or standards will not be covered under the policy.

### Section 3.3: Workmanship, damage, infestation and dilapidation

- (a) *any claims, loss or damage relating to the condition and repair of any structures erected on the Land, or the infestation or dilapidation of those structure(s);*



- (b) *any claims, loss or damage relating to the condition and repair (including any failure) of electrical or plumbing fittings/items such as hot water systems, air conditioning systems, electric doors, internal plumbing and electrical wiring.*

Any claims, loss or damage relating to the condition and repair, infestation or dilapidation of structures on the Land are not covered. For example, a structure that is infested with termites or other insects, or is dilapidated, or is in need of repair because it is in poor condition, including (but not limited to) cracked tiles, wood rot, loose roof tiles, rising damp, damaged pipes, wiring, plumbing fixtures will not be covered under the policy.

**!** You are **not covered** for claims, loss or damage relating to the wear and tear or functionality of items which service the structures erected on the Land, including (but not limited to): smoke alarms, residual current devices, septic systems, hot water systems, irrigation systems, solar panels, solar heating, air-conditioning systems, electrical and/or gas heaters, televisions aerials and internet/pay television/streaming services connections will not be covered under the Policy.

- (c) *any claims, loss or damage relating to the failure of any structure(s) on the Land, including the external and internal components thereof, to comply with applicable building codes and building standards, including any claims, loss or damage relating to any Enforcement Order issued by a Local Authority which states that a structure (or structures) on the Land, including the external and internal components thereof, fail to comply with applicable building codes and building standards, however this exclusion does not apply if:*

- i. notice of the non-compliance with applicable building codes and building standards appeared in Public Records as at the Policy Date or if the existence of the non-compliance with building codes and building standards would have been disclosed by a Local Authority Search of the Land as at the Policy Date provided that you were not aware of non-compliance as at the Policy Date; or.*
- ii. the Enforcement Order issued by the Local Authority in relation to the structure(s) also states that that the structure(s), including any part thereof, which are the subject of the Enforcement Order, does not comply with, or was built or modified without obtaining, the building or development approvals which were required by the relevant Local Authority at the time of construction of the relevant structure(s),*

*\*Note: Sub-clauses 3.3(c)(i) and 3.3(c)(ii) only affect the operation of sub-clause 3.3(c) and do not affect the operation of any other exclusion in this Policy.*

The Policy **will not cover** the costs of bringing structures into compliance with current building codes and standards unless the non-compliance with applicable building codes and standards is a breach of a building or development approval(s) or the structure has been built without obtaining building or development approval(s) and the conditions under clauses 2.1 (i) and 2.1(j) of the Policy are satisfied.

This means that if the structure on the Land has been built with building or development approval but has been built in such a way that it does not comply with applicable building codes or standards then you will not be covered for any costs associated with bringing the structure into compliance.

**!** However, this exclusion does not apply in circumstances where the non-compliance with building codes and standards would have been disclosed in a Local Authority Search or a Public Records Search on the Policy Date or where you are being forced by a Local Authority to rectify or remove structures on the Land because the non-compliance with building codes and standards is a breach of a building or development approval issued by a Local Authority at the time the structure the structure was built.

- (d) any claims, loss or damage arising from any non-compliant cladding of the building which forms part of your Land, including but not limited to:
- i. any liability arising from any periodic or special levies which are struck prior to or after the Policy Date that relate to non-compliant cladding of the building, and
  - ii. any enforcement action issued by a Local Authority requiring you to rectify, alter or replace the non-compliant cladding of the building, because the cladding does not comply with building or development approvals from the relevant Local Authority which were granted at the time the building was constructed.

The Policy will not cover any claims, loss or damage in relation to non-compliant cladding of the building which is built upon and forms part of your Land, including external and internal cladding and cladding which does not comply with building codes and standards and cladding that it is flammable and poses a danger to the occupants of the building

### Section 3.4: Farming/agricultural use of Land in rural zone

- (a) for land within a Rural Zone that is used for farming or agriculture, cover under Clauses 2.1 (i) and 2.1(j) extends only to the primary residence erected on the Land, including shed, carports and garages used for residential purposes, and any swimming pools erected on the Land and not to any other buildings or structures erected on the Land.

If your Land is located in a rural zone, then the cover under clauses 2.1(i) and 2.1(j) only extends to the primary residence (if any) and any sheds, carports, garages and swimming pool used for residential purposes (if any).

This means that any secondary cottages or dwellings, any storage barns, stables or farm sheds will not be covered under the Policy. You should check the zoning of the property before you order a Policy.

### Section 3.5: Land area over 50 acres

- (a) the Cover described in Clause 2.1(h) will not apply to Land where the land area exceeds 50 acres.

If your Land is over 50 acres then the cover provided under clause 2.1(h) of the Policy will not apply. This means any defect or adverse matter affecting Title to your Land, including (but not limited to) non-compliance with an easement, restriction, right of way or covenant registered or recorded on your Title, or any boundary discrepancies or any encroachments by structures (such as fences and walls) on your Land, that would have been disclosed in a survey report obtained as at the Policy Date will not be covered under the Policy.

### Section 3.6: Exception(s) specifically affecting the Land

- (a) exceptions listed in Schedule B of the Policy unless an Affirmative Cover applies;

Apart from the exclusions referenced in Section 3 of the Policy, further exceptions may apply to the Policy by way of underwriting in Schedule B of the Policy.

Schedule B provides exceptions from cover as well as any Affirmative Cover (if applicable) specific to your Land. You must review Schedule A and Schedule B carefully.

- (b) *lack of a right to any land outside the area specifically described and referred to in Schedule A, or in streets, lanes, or waterways that touch your Land – this does not however limit the Cover described in Clauses 2.1 (f) and 2.1 (h)(ii).*

The Policy does not cover the lack of any rights to any Land outside the property being insured under the Policy unless the situation falls under clauses 2.1(f) or 2.1(h) (ii) of the Policy.

Clause 2.1(f) covers the situation where you do not have any legal right of access to and from the Land in circumstances where you were not aware of an access issue as at the Policy Date.

Clause 2.1(h)(ii) covers the situation where there are structures on your Land (**other than boundary walls or boundary fences**) which encroaches onto the neighbour's Land or vice versa, or where there are structures on your Land (**other than boundary walls or boundary fences**) which onto an easement or right of way on your Land

### 3.7 Initiation of enforcement action

- a) *the Cover provided in Clauses 2.1 (h) (i) and (ii), 2.1 (i) and 2.1(j) will not apply in circumstances where the Insured, or a party acting on behalf of the Insured, by conduct or communication, including communication which is verbal or partly verbal or written or partly written, takes action which initiates, instigates and/or encourages any enforcement action by or on behalf of a Local Authority and/or by or on behalf of an adjoining property owner in relation to the Land, including, but not limited to, inviting a Local Authority and/or an adjoining property owner to inspect the Land (including by physical inspection and/or by inspection of plans and records) for the purposes of a Local Authority and/or an adjoining property owner:*
- i. assessing whether any structure on the Land does not comply with, or was built or modified without obtaining building and development approvals required by the relevant Local Authority; and/or*
  - ii. assessing whether any structure on the Land encroaches on any other land.; and/or*
  - iii. assessing whether in respect of the Land there is any non-compliance with any easement, restriction, right of way or covenant.*

The Policy **will not** cover any claims brought under Clause 2.1 (h) (i) and (ii), 2.1 (i) and 2.1(j) (refer to the Guide to Covered Risks for details) in circumstances where you, or somebody else acting on your behalf, have **taken action which has initiated, instigated and/or encouraged** any enforcement action by or on behalf of a Local Authority or by or on behalf of an adjoining property owner against your Land.

Such 'action' includes (but is not limited to) inviting the Local Authority to inspect your Land **for the purposes of** the Local Authority assessing whether any structure on the Land does not comply with or was built or modified without obtaining building and development approvals required by law. The same applies to taking 'action' by inviting an adjoining owner to inspect the Land **for the purposes of** assessing whether any structures on your Land encroach on any other land.

**!** However, this exclusion does not apply in circumstances where, after settlement of your purchase, you subsequently lodge a building permit application to carry out further development works on the Land and the Local Authority discovers an unapproved structure during the course of the building permit approval process or in circumstances you are required by law to verify that structures on your Land comply with or have been built with building and development approvals required by law.

### **PART 2. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

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For further information about the Policy or about this Guide, please contact us on 1800 300 440 or visit our website [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com).

Stewart Title Limited is wholly owned by Stewart Title Guaranty Company, the primary underwriter for Stewart Information Services Corporation. Stewart Title Limited is authorised to operate in all Australian states and territories and is regulated by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA).

#### **Other Guides:**

- The Guide to Covered Risks under the Commercial Existing Owner Policy
- The Guide to Making a Claim under the Commercial Existing Owner Policy

# Guide to Making a Claim

Commercial Existing Owner Policy  
**Guide to Making a Claim**

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This Guide is designed to assist you with making a claim under Stewart Title Limited's Commercial Existing Owner Policy (the Policy) as well as navigating and understanding the conditions in the Policy relating to making a claim. This Guide is general in nature and is for information only. It should be read in conjunction with your Policy wording (including Schedule A, Schedule B and any applicable Endorsement(s)). Stewart Title Limited has issued other Guides relating to the Policy that you may find of assistance, these are listed at the end of this document. Please refer to the definition section on page 1 of the Policy for meaning of defined terms. Usually a defined term will be capitalised; for example, the terms Cover, Title and Actual Loss to name a few.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR POLICY AND YOUR COVERAGE

The Policy provides cover for specific risks relating to your ownership and use of your property. The Policy will insure you against your Actual Loss and Authorised Expenses which result from:

- (a) the Covered Risks described in the Policy up to the Policy Amount; and
- (b) costs, legal fees and expenses that we have to pay in defending the Title to your Land under this Policy.

The Policy is not your "title" nor does it take the place of your certificate of title. Your title will be recorded on a certificate of title held at a land titles office. Your certificate of title gives you certain protection. This Policy is intended to provide you protection against losses arising from many of the additional risks not otherwise covered under the title registration system which exists in the jurisdiction where your land is located.

**The Policy is NOT a home building insurance product, a home contents insurance product or a personal and domestic property insurance product.**

**The Policy does not provide cover in respect of the destruction of or damage to a building on the land.**

The Policy therefore **does not provide** insurance for loss or damage as a result of the typical kinds of risks covered under such policies, including, but not limited to:

- (a) fire;
- (b) flood;
- (c) earthquakes;
- (d) storm;
- (e) land slip;
- (f) mine subsidence;
- (g) theft of possessions; or
- (h) mechanical breakdown

The Policy also does not provide insurance any loss of rental income or loss of business revenue. Except as provided in the Policy itself, you are insured in relation to risks which exist at the date that settlement of your purchase occurs and as such, you are not insured for any inability to use the land in the future for any particular desired use or purpose.

We recommend you consult a legal practitioner and consider other forms of insurance to offer protection against these kinds of issues. Except as provided in the Policy itself, you are insured in relation to risks which exist at the date that settlement of your purchase occurs and as such, you are not insured for any inability to use the land in the future for any particular desired use or purpose.

We recommend you consult a legal practitioner and consider other forms of insurance to offer protection against these kinds of issues.

**Attention: This document is intended only to be a guide and is furnished for informational use only. It should not be construed as a commitment by Stewart Title. It does not form part of your Policy or insurance contract with us. Changes are periodically made to the information in this document; these changes will be incorporated in new editions of this publication and Stewart Title may make modifications to the claims process as described in this document at any time. Stewart Title assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or inaccuracies that may appear in the content of this document. You must carefully review your actual Policy and any Endorsements, Schedules and other policy documentation for all the conditions, exclusions and limitations that will specifically limit or exclude cover under your Policy. Should you have any questions about the Policy, please visit our website at [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com) or contact us on 1 800 300 440.**



## PART 1. MAKING A CLAIM

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This part of the Guide provides commentary on the sections of the Policy relating to making a claim.

### Section 5.1: Claims are subject to this Policy

*You can make a claim in respect of a Covered Risk at any time after the Policy Date. Any claim you make against us must be made under this Policy and is subject to its terms.*

Please read your Policy carefully prior to making a claim as you are only entitled to make a claim in relation to a Covered Risk under the Policy and any claim you make will be subject to the terms set out in the Policy.

**!** If you are unsure about whether you may have a potential claim, please contact us on 1300 552 975 to speak to our Claims Department.

### Section 5.2: You must give us notice of your claim

*If you have a claim, you must give us notice in writing as soon as possible after you become aware of:*

- (a) legal proceedings, whether commenced or threatened, in relation to your Title to the Land or your use of the Land;*
- (b) any information or claim which is or may be adverse to the Title to your Land or the use of your Land;*
- (c) any information or circumstance that might entitle you to make a claim under this Policy.*

*All notices should be sent to:*

*Claims Department  
Stewart Title Limited  
GPO Box 527  
Sydney NSW 2001*

*Please provide the policy number and the full street address of the Land. We may require you to complete a claim form.*

*Our obligation to you under this Policy may be reduced in part or in whole if you fail to promptly notify us and that failure adversely affects our ability to dispute or defend any claim or to timely commence any claim against other persons.*

Claims must be notified in writing. You should notify us as soon as you become aware of information or circumstances that may lead to a claim under your Policy, or where legal proceedings have been commenced or threatened in relation to your Title to the Land or your use of the and.

**!** If you are unsure about whether you may have a potential claim please contact us on 1300 552 975 to speak to our Claims Department.

**! Important Note:** If you do not notify us as soon as you become aware of information or circumstances that may lead to a claim, then we may be able to reduce our obligation to you under the Policy, in whole or in part.

### Section 5.3: Proving your loss

*You must provide us with a written statement to prove your loss. This statement is to be given to us as soon as the circumstances permit, however, this must not be later than 90 days after you know the facts that will permit you to establish the amount of your loss. The following must be included in the statement:*

- (a) *the Covered Risk which constitutes the basis of your loss;*
- (b) *the amount of your loss;*
- (c) *the method you used to compute that amount, or an assessment prepared by an expert; and*
- (d) *whether you are entitled to an Input Tax Credit for the premium paid and the extent of Input Tax Credit in relation to the period during which the event giving rise to the claim happened.*

*If you are not in a position to calculate the amount of your loss when notifying us of your claim, you must inform us. Thereafter, you must notify us of the amount of your loss in a written statement promptly after your loss can be established. You must also explain how you calculated that amount or provide us with an assessment prepared by an expert.*

*We reserve the right to independently assess the amount of your loss, the method of calculation of your loss and any assessment prepared by an expert when you notify us of your claim.*

As soon as possible after submitting a claim you should:

- provide a written statement which sets out the Covered Risk which constitutes the basis of your loss,
- the amount of your loss,
- your method of loss calculation, and whether you are entitled to an Input Tax Credit for the premium paid and the extent of Input Tax Credit in relation to the period during which the event giving rise to the claim happened.

Please let us know if you are not in a position to calculate your loss. We have the right to independently assess your loss.

## Section 5.4: Your obligation to co-operate

*After we receive your claim notice, you must:*

- (a) *provide us with all records, in whatever medium maintained, including books, ledgers, cheques, memoranda, correspondence, reports, e-mails, disks, tapes, and videos whether bearing a date before or after the Policy Date which are in your possession or your Conveyancing Practitioner's possession which reasonably pertain to the loss or damage;*
- (b) *take all reasonable precautions to prevent any further damages or claims;*
- (c) *give us the opportunity to inspect your Land before any actions are taken to protect you from any covered risk;*
- (d) *assist us in all our endeavours to negotiate, defend or settle any claim under this Policy and to exercise for our benefit your legal right of recovery against any other party; and*
- (e) *answer questions relating to the claim under oath.*

After making a claim, you are obligated to co-operate with us and assist us in resolving your claim. We may require any records and information that you or your legal practitioner or conveyancer may have in relation to your claim, and we may further require your assistance in our endeavours of negotiating, defending or settling your claim.

At times, we may require you to provide a statutory declaration when answering questions under oath.

**! Important Note:** Failure to co-operate may have consequences in terms of our obligations to cover you in relation to your claim – you should read clause 5.5 of the Policy carefully.

## Section 5.5: Our obligation to you could be reduced or cancelled

*If you fail or refuse to meet the obligations described in Clause 5.4 (a) – (e) inclusive, and that failure affects our ability to assess and dispose of your claim, discharge our duty under the Policy or adversely affects our ability to dispute or defend any claim or to timely commence any claim against other persons, then our obligation to you could be reduced or cancelled.*

You must comply with the obligations set out in clauses 5.4 (a) – (e) of the Policy.

**! Important Note:** If you refuse to carry out the required obligations, then we may be able to cancel or reduce our obligation to you under the Policy.

## Section 5.6: Legal Action – your duty to co-operate

### 5.6.1: Defence of litigation

*If we elect to defend a court case related to a claim, we have the right to select the lawyer to handle such defence (subject to your right to object for reasonable cause) and we will not be responsible for or pay the fees of any other lawyer. We will not be liable for any fees, costs or expenses incurred by you in the defence of those stated claims which allege matters not covered under this Policy, or for any loss or damage for liability voluntarily assumed by you in settling any claim or proceeding without our prior written consent.*

If we deem legal proceedings to be appropriate in relation to your claim, then we will have the right to select the lawyer to handle the defence and we will not be responsible to pay the fees of any other lawyer (which we do not select). You have the right to object for reasonable cause.

**! Important Note:** You should contact us prior to incurring any legal fees as we are only liable for legal costs that we have agreed to pay under a valid claim. If you agree to make a payment in relation to your claim without our consent, then we are not responsible for paying that amount.

### 5.6.2: Right to prosecute any claim

*We have the right, at our sole cost, to commence and prosecute any action or proceeding or to do anything else which in our opinion may be necessary or desirable to establish the estate or interest in the Land as indemnified, or to prevent or reduce your loss or damage. We may take any appropriate action under the terms of this Policy, whether or not we are liable hereunder, and by doing so we shall not be taken to have conceded any liability or waived any provision of this Policy. If we exercise our rights under this paragraph, we will do so diligently.*

We have the right at our sole cost to commence legal proceedings or do anything else which we consider necessary to defend your title as insured under the Policy.

**! Important Note:** We may commence legal proceedings even where we have no obligation or liability under the Policy and any such action taken by us does not constitute any waiver or concession in relation to the terms of the Policy.

### 5.6.3: Final court determination

*Whenever we have brought an action or filed a defence as required or permitted by the provisions of this Policy, we may pursue any litigation to a final determination by a court of competent Jurisdiction and we expressly reserve the right, in our sole discretion, to appeal against any judgment or order.*

If we have pursued litigation in accordance with our rights under the Policy, we have the right to pursue that litigation to a final determination and we reserve the right, at our sole discretion, to appeal any judgment or order.

**! Important Note:** You are not entitled to require us to appeal any judgment or order. The decision to appeal any judgment or order is solely at our discretion.

#### 5.6.4: Your co-operation

*In all cases where this Policy permits or requires us to prosecute or meet the cost of any defence of any action or proceeding, you give us the right to participate in such action, proceeding or appeal and allow us, at our sole option, to use your name for this purpose. If we request, you must, at our expense, give us all reasonable assistance and help us in:*

- (a) securing evidence, obtaining witnesses, prosecuting or defending the action or proceeding or effecting a settlement; and*
- (b) any other lawful act which in our opinion may be necessary or desirable to establish Title to the estate or interest in the Land.*

After making a claim, you are obligated to co-operate with us and assist us in resolving your claim. We may require any records and information that you or your conveyancer may have in relation to your claim, and we may further require your assistance in our endeavours of negotiating, defending or settling your claim.

**! Important Note:** At times, we may require you to provide a statutory declaration when answering questions under oath.

Failure to co-operate may have consequences in terms of our obligations to cover you in relation to your claim – you should read clause 5.5 of the Policy carefully.

#### 5.6.5: Mitigation

*Following an event which may result in a claim, you must take all reasonable precautions to prevent further loss or damages or further claims.*

You have an obligation under the Policy to take all reasonable precautions to prevent further loss or damage or further claims following an event which may result in a claim, regardless of whether you have lodged a claim with us or not.

**! Important Note:** If you fail to take reasonable precautions and this failure leads to additional loss or damage or leads to further claims, then we may be entitled to exclude that additional loss or damage or those further claims from cover.

### Section 6: Our choices when you notify us of a claim

*If you make a claim under this Policy for which we are liable can do one or more of the following:*

- (a) pay the claim against the Title to your Land;*
- (b) negotiate a settlement;*
- (c) prosecute or defend a court case related to the claim;*
- (d) pay you the amount required by the Policy;*
- (e) take other action that will protect you;*
- (f) pay the Policy Amount and costs, legal fees and expenses incurred up to the time of payment which we are obligated to pay. Upon payment of the Policy Amount the Policy will be cancelled.*

The Policy allows us to pursue various options at our complete discretion, in respect of resolving a claim, depending on the circumstances of the claim and the nature of the loss or damage which you are claiming.

(g) for a claim under Clause 2.1(j), we have the following options:

- i. Subject to any applicable Exclusions or Exceptions from Cover, where the cost of removing, upgrading, rectifying or rebuilding the structure or part of the structure which does not comply with or was built or modified without obtaining building or development approvals from the relevant Local Authority is less than \$25,000, we will pay the costs of removing, upgrading, rectifying or rebuilding the structure or part of the structure as an Authorised Expense;

For claims made under clause 2.1 (j) of the Policy (See **Section 2.1(j) - Risks of Enforcement Orders affecting structures on the Land**) we will pay the costs of removing, upgrading, rectifying or rebuilding the structure (or part of the structure) as an Authorised Expense where those costs are **less than \$25,000**.

**! Important Note:** Please read the commentary on clause 6 (g) (ii) below for information on our rights where the costs of removing, upgrading, rectifying or rebuilding the structure (or part of the structure) are **greater than \$25,000**.

- ii. Subject to any applicable Exclusions or Exceptions from Cover and subject to Clause 7.1 of this Policy, where the cost of removing, upgrading, rectifying or rebuilding the structure or part of the structure which does not comply with or was built or modified without obtaining building or development approvals from the relevant Local Authority is greater than \$25,000, we may:
  1. pay the costs of upgrading, rectifying or rebuilding the structure or part of the structure as an Authorised Expense; or
  2. end the coverage for the claim by removing or paying the costs of removing the structure or part of the structure which does not comply with or was built or modified without obtaining building or development approvals from the relevant Local Authority as an Authorised Expense and paying you your Actual Loss as determined by an appraisal conducted by a member of the Australian Property Institute together with any Authorised Expenses incurred up to that time which we are obligated to pay.
  3. The appraiser will be selected and instructed by us. We will pay the appraiser's fees and expenses.
  4. In the event that a dispute arises between you and us regarding the value of the Actual Loss, the value of the Actual Loss will be finally determined by a further appraisal conducted by a member of the Australian Property Institute. You will select the further appraiser from a list of at least (2) two appraisers to be provided by us. The further appraiser will be instructed by us. The further appraisers will not have been previously instructed by us in relation to your claim. We will pay the further appraiser's fees and expenses. Upon payment to you of the finally determined Actual Loss and any applicable Authorised Expenses, our liability and obligations to you in relation to the claim, other than to make the payment required, shall terminate, including any liability or obligation to defend, prosecute, or continue any litigation.

For claims made under clause 2.1 (j) of the Policy (See **Section 2.1(j)- Risks of Enforcement Orders affecting structures on the Land**) we have two options where the costs of removing, upgrading, rectifying or rebuilding the structure (or part of the structure) **are greater than \$25,000**.

We may pay the costs of removing, upgrading, rectifying or rebuilding the structure (or part of the structure) as an Authorised Expense or we may end coverage for the claim by removing the structure as an Authorised Expense and then paying you your "Actual Loss" as defined in the Policy, together with any other Authorised Expenses for which we are liable to pay.

In summary, this means we can choose whether we pay for the offending structure to be fixed or removed, or whether we pay for its removal and then compensate you for the amount that your property has lost in value as a result.

## PART 2. COMPLAINTS AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURES

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Stewart Title is committed to providing you with the utmost in customer service. However, should you ever have a concern about the service you receive we encourage you to tell us about it. In most cases, your concern can be resolved simply by discussing it with one of our Representatives at the office where you conduct business with us.

In the event that our Representative is unable to resolve your concern to your satisfaction, follow the process below so that we can ensure your concern is attended to in a timely manner.

Please contact our Complaint Officer by:

<b>Telephone</b>	(02) 9081 6200 Toll Free : 1800 300 440
<b>Fax</b>	Toll Free : 1300 898 175
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:complaintsau@stewart.com">complaintsau@stewart.com</a>
<b>Mail</b>	Complaint Officer Stewart Title Limited GPO BOX 527 Sydney NSW 2001

**When you contact us, we will require:**

1. Your Name; Street Address; Email Address and Phone Number with area codes.
2. Where you prefer to be reached.
3. The name of the person with whom you spoke.
4. Particulars relating to the matter.

**The Complaint Officer will follow the process outlined below:**

- A) The Complaint Officer, will acknowledge your complaint by letter or telephone call within 5 business days of receiving the complaint and in some cases, may need to direct your concern to the appropriate Manager for investigation and response. The Complaint Officer's most important task is to review the details of any complaint objectively and impartially.
- B) Within 45 calendar days of receiving your enquiry, we will by letter or phone call, advise you on the resolution of your complaint and the action Stewart Title has taken, or in complex cases, the status of your complaint and an expected time of resolution. If we are unable to provide a final response within 45 calendar days, we will notify you about the reason for the delay as well as your right to refer the complaint to an external dispute resolution scheme.
- C) Stewart Title will send you a final notice on the resolution of your complaint or the plan implemented to resolve your complaint.

Stewart Title is committed to making the best efforts to resolve your complaint to your satisfaction. However, should you remain unsatisfied with the Company's final position, you may contact the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA).

### **Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA)**

If an issue has not been resolved to your satisfaction, you can lodge a complaint with AFCA. AFCA provides fair and independent financial services complaint resolution that is free to consumers.

Website: [www.afca.org.au](http://www.afca.org.au)

Email: [info@afca.org.au](mailto:info@afca.org.au)

Telephone: 1800 931 678 (free call)

In writing to: Australian Financial Complaints Authority, GPO Box 3, Melbourne VIC 3001

## PART 3. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about the Policy or about this Guide, please contact us on 1800 300 440 or visit our website [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com).

Stewart Title Limited is wholly owned by Stewart Title Guaranty Company, the primary underwriter for Stewart Information Services Corporation. Stewart Title Limited is authorised to operate in all Australian states and territories and is regulated by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA).

### Other Guides:

- The Guide to Covered Risks under the Commercial Existing Owner Policy
- The Guide to Exclusions under the Commercial Existing Owner Policy

# **StewartCONNECT Terms & Conditions**



These terms and conditions govern the relationship between you, a StewartCONNECT Member (Member), and Stewart Title Limited (Stewart Title).

## 1. Membership

- 1.1 Membership of StewartCONNECT is available to solicitors and conveyancers who practice in Australia.
- 1.2 Applications for membership of StewartCONNECT may be made by completing and signing the Application Form. Stewart Title is under no obligation to approve any application for membership.
- 1.3 Applicants warrant that they hold the relevant professional indemnity insurance required in the Applicant's State or Territory. Stewart Title reserves the right to refuse to approve any application or terminate membership for breach of this warranty.

## 2. Appointment

- 2.1 Successful applicants will be appointed Members of StewartCONNECT and will be notified of the appointment within (five) 5 business days of submitting the application. An appointment is not effective until notice is received from Stewart Title. An appointment is not effective until notice is received from Stewart Title.
- 2.2 All Members are appointed representatives of Stewart Title solely in relation to advising on, and arranging for the issue of, Stewart Title insurance cover for their clients for the purposes of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) and Corporations Regulations 2001.

## 3. Membership Benefits

- 3.1 Processing Fee
  - 3.1.1 A Member may elect to receive a processing fee for each title insurance policy issued by Stewart Title and ordered by the Member for a client of the Member. This fee is paid in recognition of time spent by the Member in ordering a policy. The amount of the processing fee to be paid will be determined by Stewart Title from time to time. The processing fee will only be payable if a policy is actually issued by Stewart Title and is not validly cancelled by the insured.
  - 3.1.2 Payment of fees will be made once per month and will be for the total number of policies issued in the preceding month. Payment will be made into the nominated bank account of the Member.
  - 3.1.3 In the event a policy is validly cancelled after it has been issued by Stewart Title, an adjustment will be made in the following month in respect of any processing fee paid to the Member in relation to that cancelled policy.
  - 3.1.4 Stewart Title will issue a Recipient Created Tax Invoice to the Member each month in respect of the monthly processing fees paid by Stewart Title to the Member including any adjustments.
  - 3.1.5 The Member must not issue its own Tax Invoice in respect of the monthly processing fees paid by Stewart Title to the Member.
  - 3.1.6 The Member acknowledges that it is registered for GST and agrees to notify Stewart Title if it ceases to be registered for GST.
  - 3.1.7 Stewart Title acknowledges that it is registered for GST and agrees to notify the Member if it ceases to be registered.
- 3.2 Waiver and Indemnity
  - 3.2.1 Stewart Title will waive any rights and remedies or relief to which it becomes entitled by way of subrogation against Members where a claim arises as a result of a Member's negligence while acting for the insured in relation to an insured transaction under the Stewart Title policy.
  - 3.2.2 Stewart Title also agrees to indemnify the Member where the Member's client brings a claim against the Member with respect to a matter which would be covered under a title insurance policy issued by Stewart Title if the claim were brought under that policy.
  - 3.2.3 This waiver and indemnity will not apply where the Member's conduct is fraudulent or criminal, or the Member conspires with others who are engaged in fraudulent or criminal conduct, or is otherwise conduct that would amount to professional misconduct as defined in the relevant professional conduct rules which are applicable in the Member's State or Territory.
  - 3.2.4 The indemnity shall be limited to reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred by the Member, such as payment of any excess or deductible payable under the Member's professional indemnity policy and associated file retrieval/copying costs and will not exceed the amount of cover provided by Stewart Title under the policy.
- 3.3 Excess Layer Professional Indemnity Insurance
  - 3.3.1 Subject to clauses 3.3.2 - 3.3.7, each Member will have the benefit of being covered on an excess layer basis by a professional indemnity policy issued to Stewart Title by an Australian authorised general insurer ("PI Insurer") selected by Stewart Title in relation to the Member's Activities (the StewartCONNECT Professional Indemnity Policy).
  - 3.3.2 The Member acknowledges and agrees that the Member remains obligated to maintain any other relevant professional indemnity insurance required in the Member's State or Territory in accordance with the warranty provided in clause 1.3.
  - 3.3.3 The Member acknowledges and agrees that the StewartCONNECT Professional Indemnity Policy only covers the Member for amounts in addition to those covered by any other insurance cover (including any excesses or deductibles) applicable to the Member's Activities (including but not limited to the insurance described in the warranty provided in clause 1.3) and that the StewartCONNECT Professional Indemnity Policy will only cover the Member on a primary layer basis where no such other cover is in place.
  - 3.3.4 Stewart Title will pay the premium for the StewartCONNECT Professional Indemnity Policy as it falls due and will also pay any excess payable under the StewartCONNECT Professional Indemnity Policy on behalf of the Member should a claim be made by the Member. Members may be provided with a certificate of currency of insurance issued by the PI Insurer or the broker (as the case may be) upon request to Stewart Title.
  - 3.3.5 Members must comply with all terms and conditions of the StewartCONNECT Professional Indemnity Policy and provide all reasonable co-operation, information and assistance requested by Stewart Title and/or the PI Insurer in relation to the policy.
  - 3.3.6 Members must notify Stewart Title of any claim or circumstances that may lead to a claim under the StewartCONNECT Professional Indemnity Policy in a form, which may be modified from time to time, as requested by Stewart Title. If at the time of such notification there is any other insurance in force applicable to the Member's Activities, the Member shall promptly give to Stewart Title full details of such other insurance, including the identity of the insurer and the policy number, and such further information as Stewart Title and/or the PI Insurer may reasonably require.

- 3.3.7 The liability of the PI Insurer under the StewartCONNECT Professional Indemnity Policy is limited to \$15 million in total each year for all claims by all Members in that year (Year Maximum), and \$5 million for any one claim each year. The Year Maximum limit is shared between all Members of StewartCONNECT which means that any Member's Activities will not be covered under the StewartCONNECT Professional Indemnity Policy once the Year Maximum is reached in a particular year of cover until the end of that year.

## 4. Member Authorisation

- 4.1 Members will be authorised on a non-exclusive and no obligation basis by Stewart Title to:
  - 4.1.1 recommend Stewart Title Insurance products to their client;
  - 4.1.2 give advice about Stewart Title insurance products to their clients;
  - 4.1.3 distribute marketing material issued by Stewart Title to their clients;
  - 4.1.4 arrange title insurance for their clients by completing and submitting a Policy Order Form to Stewart Title, (together, 'Member's Activities').

## 5. No Authority to Bind

- 5.1 Members acknowledge and agree that as a member of StewartCONNECT, the Member is a representative of Stewart Title for the sole purpose of providing advice in relation to, and arranging for the issue of, Stewart Title insurance policies, but are not agents of Stewart Title.
- 5.2 Members undertake that they will not, at any time, hold themselves out as having any authority to commit or bind Stewart Title in any way.
- 5.3 Members acknowledge and agree that they are not authorised to and will not negotiate or waive any cover or any other matter concerning an order for title insurance on behalf of Stewart Title.

## 6. Training

- 6.1 Members agree that they and staff in their practice who conduct conveyancing matters will complete compulsory training of one (1) hour per annum to be provided by Stewart Title.
- 6.2 Stewart Title reserves the right to terminate the Member's appointment if the Member and/or their staff fail to complete the training.

## 7. Conduct of Members

- 7.1 As representatives of Stewart Title in advising on, and arranging for the issue of, Stewart Title insurance policies, Members may be required by Stewart Title, to undertake certain conduct, including:
  - 7.1.1 advising clients of the Member that the Member is a representative of Stewart Title; and
  - 7.1.2 advising clients of any benefits that the Member will receive from Stewart Title.
- 7.2 Subject to clause 7.3, Members must:
  - 7.2.1 comply with any reasonable direction given by Stewart Title in relation to their conduct as representatives of Stewart Title.
  - 7.2.2 advise Stewart Title immediately upon becoming aware of a possible claim under the policy for which Stewart Title might be liable and must not attempt to settle the matter without first contacting Stewart Title.
  - 7.2.3 comply with Stewart Title's procedures in reviewing title and title related matters and advise Stewart Title of all risks which are disclosed in searches and enquiries that the Member is required to undertake by Stewart Title.
- 7.3 To the extent that any of the Member's obligations to Stewart Title as set out in clause 7.2 come into conflict with the professional and fiduciary duties that a Member owes to the Member's client, including, but not limited to, following lawful instructions issued by the client, then to the extent of any inconsistency, the Member's professional and fiduciary obligations to the Member's client shall prevail over any obligations the Member owes to Stewart Title.
- 7.4 In the event that the Member's obligations as a representative of Stewart Title conflict with the Member's professional and fiduciary obligations to the Member's client (s), Stewart Title acknowledges and accepts that the Members' professional and fiduciary obligations to the members' client(s) shall take priority.
- 7.5 Stewart Title reserves the right to terminate the Member's appointment if the Member fails to comply with the obligations set out in clause 7.2 of these terms and conditions.

## 8. Cancellation

- 8.1 Members may, at any time, cancel their membership by providing written notice to Stewart Title.

## 9. Termination

- 9.1 Stewart Title in its absolute discretion, and at any time without prior notice, can terminate a member from StewartCONNECT. Termination will not affect the rights, obligations, duties and liabilities of any party to these terms and conditions which have accrued at the date of termination.
  - 9.2 Upon termination or cancellation of membership:
    - 9.2.1 The authorisation granted to the Member under clause 4 is revoked;
    - 9.2.2 the Member must return to Stewart Title all documents and any materials prepared by Stewart Title which are in the possession or control of the Member (or, if agreed to by Stewart Title, destroy such documents and materials); and
    - 9.2.3 the Member ceases to be a member of StewartCONNECT and must no longer promote or carry on any of the activities in clause 4.1 or hold out that it represents Stewart Title for any purpose.
- This clause survives termination or cancellation of membership.

## 10. Variation

- 10.1 Stewart Title may, in its absolute discretion, vary these terms and conditions from time to time. Members will be notified of any such variations.

## 11. Collection of Premiums

- 11.1 If Members elect to collect premiums due in respect of title insurance policies arranged by the Member in accordance with the authorisation granted to Members under clause 4.1 for remittance to Stewart Title, then the Member must immediately remit all premiums received from clients to Stewart Title without deduction or set-off.
- 11.2 Stewart Title only accepts payment of premium by cheque payable to Stewart Title or by direct debit into Stewart Title's nominated bank account.

# Sample Policy

# COMMERCIAL EXISTING OWNER POLICY

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Sample

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR POLICY AND YOUR COVERAGE

Stewart Title Limited's Commercial Existing Owner Policy (the Policy) insures your Title to your Land against Covered Risks which may cause you loss or affect your ownership of your property.

Please read this Policy carefully to ensure that it meets your requirements. The Policy will insure you against your Actual Loss and Authorised Expenses which result from:

- the Covered Risks described in the Policy up to the Policy Amount; and
- costs, legal fees and expenses that we have to pay in defending the title to your Land under this Policy.

This Policy contains the following sections:

- Section 1 – Your Cover
- Section 2 – Covered Risks
- Section 3 – Exclusions
- Section 4 – Who is Covered and For How Long
- Section 5 – How to make a Claim
- Section 6 – Our Choices When You Notify Us of a Claim
- Section 7 – Extent of our Liability
- Section 8 – Transfer of your rights – Subrogation
- Section 9 – General Policy Provisions
- Section 10 - Cancellation

To be valid, this Policy must include both a Schedule A and a Schedule B. The Schedule A contains information about your policy, premiums payable and your Land. The Schedule B contains information about exceptions and affirmative cover which specifically apply to your Land.

The Policy may also contain an Endorsement or Endorsements that may change some of our standard Cover or provide additional Cover not provided in our standard Policy.

Please take the time to read the whole Policy and carefully review the Schedules and any Endorsement(s). As you read through the Policy please remember that any provisions in one section of the Policy may be affected by comments in another section, the Schedules or any Endorsement(s).

Your Cover under this Policy is subject to its provisions and is limited by the Exclusions and by any Exceptions detailed in Schedule B or any Endorsement. Your insurance, as described in the Covered Risks, is effective on the Policy Date shown in Schedule A.

**Please note that this Policy does not provide Cover in respect of the destruction of or damage to a building on the Land and is not a home building insurance product, a home contents insurance product or a personal and domestic property insurance product.**

## INFORMATION ABOUT STEWART TITLE LIMITED

Stewart Title Limited is wholly owned by Stewart Title Guaranty Company, the primary underwriter for Stewart Information Services Corporation (Stewart). Stewart Title Limited is authorised to operate in all Australian states and territories and is regulated by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA).

Please visit our website [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com) to find out more about Stewart Title Limited.

## NOTICE UNDER THE INSURANCE CONTRACTS ACT OF 1984

Before you enter into a contract of general insurance with an insurer, you have a duty under the Insurance Contracts Act 1984 to disclose to the insurer every matter that you know, or could reasonably be expected to know, which is relevant to the decision of the insurer whether to accept the risk of the insurance and, if so, on what terms.

You have the same duty to disclose those matters to the insurer before you renew, extend, vary or reinstate a contract of general insurance.

Your duty, however, does not require the disclosure of a matter:

- that diminishes the risk to be undertaken by the insurer;
- that is of common knowledge;
- that your insurer knows or, in the ordinary course of their business as an insurer, ought to know; and
- as to which compliance with your duty is waived by the insurer.

## EFFECT OF NON-DISCLOSURE

If you fail to comply with your duty of disclosure, the insurer may be entitled to reduce their liability under the contract of insurance in respect of a claim or may cancel the contract.

If your non-disclosure is fraudulent, the insurer may also have the option of voiding the contract from its beginning.

## DUTY OF DISCLOSURE AND YOUR CONVEYANCING PRACTITIONER

It is your responsibility, not your Conveyancing Practitioner's responsibility, to comply with your duty of disclosure. The fact that your Conveyancing Practitioner is aware of a matter does not, of itself, mean that Stewart Title is aware of that matter.

Please note that your Conveyancing Practitioner:

- is **not** the agent of Stewart Title.
- is **not responsible** for compliance with your duty of disclosure.
- **will not disclose** matters to Stewart Title without your specific instructions to do so.
- **is under no obligation to Stewart Title** to disclose to Stewart Title any information which may be relevant to Stewart Title's decision to provide insurance to you and if so on what terms.
- **is under no obligation to Stewart Title** to disclose to Stewart Title any matters which you are required to disclose to Stewart Title in accordance with your obligations under the *Insurance Contracts Act 1984*.

## PRIVACY STATEMENT

We are committed to handling your personal information in accordance with the Privacy Act. We recognise that any personal information we collect, use and disclose about you may only be collected, used and disclosed for the primary and related purposes for which it was collected and where you would reasonably expect us to.

We only collect information from you that is necessary for us to provide you with our services, including, but not limited to, assessing your request for title insurance, assessing any claim you may make under that policy and facilitating the payment or refund of premiums (if applicable).

Personal information is kept in a combination of paper and electronic format. Paper records, including general business records, are stored in our Australian head office. Access to personal information is restricted to Stewart employees and third party providers who require access for business purposes, such as:

- property valuers
- legal practitioners
- licensed conveyancers
- land surveyors
- building consultants
- other external and independent professional advisors who may be engaged by Stewart in the course of investigating, assessing and settling a claim

We transfer personal information (which may include electronic formats such as emails) for administrative, data back-up, processing (including claims administration) and reinsurance purposes to our head office, Stewart Title

Limited United Kingdom, our affiliate, Stewart Title Guaranty Company Canadian Division, and/or our international head office, Stewart Title Guaranty, USA (“Other Jurisdiction Offices”).

Personal information transferred outside of Australia may be accessible to regulatory authorities and enforcement agencies in accordance with the laws of the respective countries in the Other Jurisdiction Offices.

We take all reasonable steps to satisfy ourselves that our Other Jurisdiction Offices and our service providers are committed to complying with this Privacy Policy.

From time to time, certain information about your property, such as information about a known title defect or other adverse circumstances/issues affecting your property (“Known Risks”), may be disclosed to Stewart in the course of Stewart providing you with our services. Disclosure of Known Risks may result in Stewart issuing an exclusion, exception or condition on the cover it would normally provide to you. Such exclusions, exceptions and conditions are normally detailed in the Schedule B which forms part of your title insurance policy.

In the future, a prospective purchaser of your property may request similar services from Stewart. In those circumstances, Stewart may use the information relating to the Known Risks for the purposes of assessing any request for our services by a purchaser of your property. Stewart may for this purpose:

- disclose the existence of the Known Risks to the purchaser and/or their legal or conveyancing representatives
- apply the same exclusion, exception or condition on cover in respect of the Known Risks to any subsequent policy which is issued to a purchaser of your property by Stewart

By visiting our website, applying for any of our services, making a claim or providing us with your personal information, you consent to your personal information being collected, held, used and disclosed as set out in our Privacy Policy.

For a copy of our complete Privacy Policy (which may be amended from time to time), please visit our website at [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com) or contact our Privacy Officer at [PrivacyAU@stewart.com](mailto:PrivacyAU@stewart.com)

## CUSTOMER SERVICE – OUR PROMISE

If you should have any questions about our Policy and its Cover and Exclusions and Exceptions, let us know so we can help you. Please contact us on 1800 300 440. You will be referred to a manager in the appropriate department who will help you.

If the manager is unable to help you, the matter will be referred to the General Manager who will review your questions with you and the manager.

## COMPLAINTS & DISPUTE RESOLUTION

If you have any concerns or complaints about:

- our service or our staff;
- a claim (or the progress of a claim); or
- any other issues relating to your insurance cover;

Please contact us on 1800 300 440. You will be referred to a complaints officer who will assist you with your complaint. Your complaint will be handled promptly and fairly in accordance with our complaints handling & internal dispute procedures which are available on our website [www.stewartau.com](http://www.stewartau.com).

If an issue has not been resolved to your satisfaction, you can lodge a complaint with the Australian Financial Complaints Authority, or AFCA. AFCA provides fair and independent financial services complaint resolution that is free to consumers.

Website: [www.afca.org.au](http://www.afca.org.au)

Email: [info@afca.org.au](mailto:info@afca.org.au)

Telephone: 1800 931 678 (free call)

In writing to: Australian Financial Complaints Authority, GPO Box 3, Melbourne VIC 3001

## DEFINED MEANINGS – WHAT WE MEAN

In this Policy, the following words have the meaning described below, unless the context requires a different meaning.

**Access** means a legal right of both pedestrian and vehicular ingress and egress to the Land and not the physical condition of the access, or the adequacy or sufficiency of access.

**Actual Loss** means the difference between the value of your Land unaffected by the Covered Risk that is the substance of a claim and the value of the Land affected by the Covered Risk that is the substance of a claim. Any determination of Actual Loss which is required under this Policy shall not take into account any real or perceived loss of opportunity or loss of expectation of future development of the Land

**Affirmative Cover** means a statement outlined in Schedule B (where applicable) that modifies or extends the Cover provided by this Policy.

**Authorised Expense(s)** means any costs, expenses, and Legal Fees incurred as a result of a claim payable under this Policy and pre-approved in writing by us and which are incurred prior to our payment or resolution of the claim reduced by any Input Tax Credit to which you are entitled in respect of such costs, expenses and Legal Fees.

**Certificate of Title** means an instrument evidencing an interest in the Land, executed by the Registrar of Titles.

**Conveyancing Practitioner** means a person, usually a solicitor, legal practitioner or conveyancer, who acts for you in relation to your purchase of the Land.

**Cover** means the protection provided by this Policy.

**Covered Risks** mean the risks we protect you against as specified in clause 2 of this Policy.

**Endorsement** means a document attached to this Policy (where applicable) that defines the limits of Cover for specific types of risk identified in the Endorsement.

**Enforcement Order** means an order, notice or other form of enforceable directive issued in writing by a Local Authority under the provisions of Laws in the Jurisdiction with respect to building, planning, development or zoning compliance.

**Exception(s)** means the matters and circumstances which are expressly excluded from Cover under this Policy as detailed in Schedule B and for which there is no entitlement for you to make a claim, unless an Affirmative Cover applies.

**Exclusion(s)** means the matters and circumstances which are expressly excluded from Cover under this Policy and for which there is no entitlement for you to make a claim, unless an Affirmative Cover applies. These excluded matters and circumstances are detailed in Clause 3 of this Policy.

**Input tax credit** means an input tax credit available under A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999 or similar or successor legislation.

**Insurance Date** means the date this Policy was issue by Stewart Title to you.

**Insured** means the insured named in Schedule A and sometimes referred to as “you” in this Policy.

**Jurisdiction** means the state or territory in which the Land is located.

**Land** means the land or strata unit outlined in Schedule A, including improvements which, by law, are taken to be part of the land, and does not include any land beyond the land specified in Schedule A, nor any right or interest in abutting waterways.

**Laws** means all federal, state, territory or local codes, laws, ordinances, orders, proclamations and regulations which affect real property in the Jurisdiction.

**Legal Fees** means any legal fees and related expenses incurred in defense of any matter insured against by this Policy but only to the extent provided in this Policy.

**Local Authority** means any local government, city, municipal or shire council or consent authority or other statutory body which has jurisdiction where the Land is located with respect to matters of building, development and zoning compliance, or with respect to the collection of Council rates, levies and taxes.

**Local Authority Search** means any search of local government, city, municipal or shire council records or records from any other statutory body pertaining to your Land that a Conveyancing Practitioner would normally conduct in a conveyance transaction in the Jurisdiction.

**Policy** means this document, the Policy Schedules (Schedule A and Schedule B) and any written Endorsement(s) attached to this document.

**Policy Amount** means the policy amount specified in Schedule A, as may be increased or decreased by Endorsement to this Policy, or decreased by Section 7.3 of this Policy.

**Policy Date** means the date when the settlement of your purchase occurred, as outlined in Schedule A.

**Public Records** means records established and maintained by the land titles registry for the registration and/or recording of interests in Title in the Jurisdiction that give notice of matters affecting your Title.

**Registration** means making an entry in the land titles registry in the Jurisdiction for the ownership of Land.

**Rural Zone** means any Land that is classified as rural and/or agricultural by the Local Authority and any Land where the stated zoning objectives are to encourage and/or provide for the use of the Land as primary production or for agricultural activities or to maintain the rural landscape character of the Land.

**Stewart Title Limited, “we”, “us” or “our”** means Stewart Title Limited, ARBN 101 720 101 (United Kingdom).

**Title** means the registered estate or interest in the Land as detailed in Schedule A which is disclosed by the Public Records. Title is not affected by matters relating only to the physical/structural conditions and/or physical/structural defects of any improvement(s) on the Land, unless notice of those matters is registered in the Public Records as of the Policy Date.

**Unmarketable** means another person has the legal right and refuses to complete a contract for the purchase of your interest in the Land, has the legal right and does not comply with their obligations under a lease, or will not grant you a mortgage.

**Unmarketability of Title** means Title affected by an alleged or apparent matter that would permit a prospective purchaser or lessee of the Title or lender on the Title to be released from the obligation to purchase, lease or lend if there is a contractual condition requiring the delivery of marketable title. Unmarketability of your Title is not created by matters relating only to physical/structural conditions and/or physical/structural defects of the Land, including the improvement(s) located thereon.

**“You”, “you” or “Your”, “your”** means the person(s) insured under this Policy as named in Schedule A. It also refers to anyone identified in clause 4.1

## INTERPRETATION – WHAT WE MEAN

In this document unless the context otherwise requires:

- a) clause and sub clause headings are for reference purposes only and not intended to be used in interpreting the clause;
- b) all words take their common meaning. Those words are explained above, unless defined somewhere else in this Policy;
- c) the singular includes the plural and vice versa;
- d) words denoting any gender include all genders;
- e) reference to a person includes any other entity recognised by law and vice versa;
- f) an agreement, representation or warranty made by more than one person binds them jointly and severally;



- g) an agreement, representation or warranty made by more than one person is for the benefit of them jointly and severally; and
- h) reference to an item is a reference to an item in a Schedule to this Policy.

## 1. YOUR COVER

Subject to the payment of the Policy premium and abiding by the terms and conditions outlined below and relying upon the information disclosed to us, we will provide you with the following Cover in relation to the Covered Risks:

### 1.1 Actual Loss

We insure you against actual loss sustained or incurred in relation to the Covered Risks up to the Policy Amount. Any assessment of Actual Loss which is required under Section 2 of the Policy will be determined as at the Policy Date.

### 1.2 Authorised Expenses

We insure you in respect of Authorised Expenses which are incurred by you or which we agree to pay or are required to pay under the Policy as a result of a Covered Risk up to the Policy Amount.

For the avoidance of doubt, the maximum aggregate amount of Cover described in clauses 1.1 and 1.2 of this Policy shall not exceed the Policy Amount.

### 1.3 Our duty to defend your Title

We will defend any challenge to your Title, including that part of any proceedings or court case, which is based on a Covered Risk under this Policy. We will also pay necessary costs, legal fees and expenses incurred in that defence. You must contact us prior to incurring these costs, fees or expenses. We may decide not to defend your Title, but may alternatively exercise one or more of the options outlined in clause 6. We may also end our duty to defend your Title as insured by exercising any of the options in clause 6.

## 2. COVERED RISKS

### 2.1 Risks occurring before the Policy Date

We will provide you with Cover against all of the following Covered Risks if the circumstances creating or giving rise to these risks existed or occurred before the Policy Date. Any assessment of Actual Loss which is required under this Section 2 will be determined as at the Policy Date.

#### Risks affecting your ownership of the Land

- a) you are not the owner of the estate or interest in the Land detailed in Schedule A;
- b) someone other than you owns an estate or interest in the Title to the Land;
- c) someone else claims to have rights affecting your Title because of forgery, fraud, impersonation, duress, mental incompetence or incapacity;
- d) a document is not properly signed, sealed or delivered, or is not properly recorded or registered in the Public Records resulting in a defect in the Title to the Land;
- e) Unmarketability of your Title;
- f) there is no legal right of Access to and from the Land;
- g) someone else claims to have an easement, an access order, an access right, or a right of way that affects the Title to the Land, other than those registered or otherwise recorded on Title on the Policy Date.

#### Risks regarding boundaries and encroachments

- h) any defect or adverse matter affecting the Title to your Land which a current survey report would have disclosed on the Policy Date, including but not limited to:
  - i. non-compliance with an easement, restriction, right of way or covenant registered or otherwise recorded on the title of the Land;
  - ii. structures on the Land (other than boundary walls or boundary fences) which encroach onto your neighbour's land or vice versa or encroach onto an easement or right of way on your Land.

**Risks affecting your use of the Land**

- i) your Land is Unmarketable, or you are prevented by a Local Authority from using the Land, or you are forced by a Local Authority to rectify or remove all or part of the existing structure(s) on the Land (other than boundary walls or boundary fences) because:
  - i. the present use contravenes existing planning or zoning Laws;

**Risks of Enforcement Orders affecting structures on the Land**

- j) You are issued with an Enforcement Order by a Local Authority which states that a structure (or structures) on the Land, including any part thereof, does not comply with, or was built or modified without obtaining, building or development approvals which were required by the Local Authority at the time the relevant structure(s) were built and as a result of the Enforcement Order:
  - i. you are required to rectify or remove all or part of the existing structure(s) on the Land (other than boundary walls or boundary fences); or
  - ii. you are prevented by a Local Authority from using the Land as a residence; or
  - iii. the Land is Unmarketable.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Cover under clauses 2.1 (i) and 2.1 (j) does not apply to boundary walls or boundary fences or to the cost of any rectification, removal or replacement relating to the condition and repair of any structure(s) on the Land, or the infestation or dilapidation of any structure(s) on the Land, including any failure of any electrical or plumbing fittings/items such as hot water systems, air conditioning systems, electric doors, internal plumbing and electrical wiring.

**3. EXCLUSIONS – RISKS WE DO NOT COVER**

The following risks or circumstances relating to the Land are specifically excluded from Cover. We do not provide any Cover for any loss or damage of the type(s) listed in clauses below or caused by any matter(s) listed in Schedule B, except to the extent that specific Affirmative Cover is given. We will not pay any loss for these matters. Also, we are not obliged to pay costs, legal fees or expenses for these matters.

**3.1 Risks:**

- a) that you at any time create, allow, assume or agree to;
- b) that are known to you, but not us on the Insurance Date;
- c) that are known to your predecessors in Title, but not to us, unless you acquired your interest in the Land for value without notice of the risk;
- d) that cause you no loss or damage;
- e) that occur, come into existence or appear in Public Records after the Policy Date, other than those risks insured under Clause 2.2;
- f) that are disclosed in the agreement of purchase and sale/purchase contract and/or any written report/documentation obtained by the Insured prior to the Policy Date relating to the physical condition of the improvements on the Land;
- g) that arise because you did not pay full value for the Land;
- h) that are noted on Title to the Land on the Policy Date, including: covenants, conditions, restrictions, rights, stipulations, mortgages, caveats, easements or other interest.

**3.2 Laws, contamination, claims and interests against the Land**

- a) the existence of laws which restrict, regulate, prohibit or relate to use or ownership of the Land or the violation or breach of those laws;
- b) matters which are registered or otherwise recorded on Title after the Policy Date;
- c) environmental contaminants or hazardous wastes on or under the Land or covenants, conditions and restrictions for environmental protection or the effect of any laws regulating those contaminants or wastes;
- d) the exercise of any governmental power, including forfeiture of Title, except to the extent any notice of the exercise of such power has been registered in the Public Records as of the Policy Date, but only to the extent of the enforcement referred to in that notice;
- e) the forfeiture of the Title as a result of any governmental action, or the resumption of the Land;
- f) native title claims in relation to the Land;
- g) rights and interests, including riparian rights, reserved under a crown grant or crown lease or the law authorising the issue of the crown grant or crown lease;
- h) matters which are not recorded on Title on the Policy Date, but would be discoverable by an inspection of the Land or by enquiries of persons in occupation of the Land;

- i) rights and interests of any person in occupation of the Land;
- j) public or private utility undertakers or a telecommunications utility company having a statutory right to carry out works affecting the Land;
- k) any claim which arises out of the transaction vesting in the Insured the estate or interest insured by this Policy by reason of the operation of bankruptcy, insolvency, or other creditors' rights laws, that deem the transaction fraudulent or preferential, or subordinate to the interest of another person or entity;
- l) any loss or damage arising from non-compliance with laws, regulations or orders relating to fire safety.

### 3.3 Workmanship, Damage, Infestation and Dilapidation

- a) any claims, loss or damage relating to the condition and repair of any structures erected on the Land, or the infestation or dilapidation of those structure(s);
- b) any claims, loss or damage relating to the condition and repair (including any failure) of any electrical or plumbing fittings/items such as hot water systems, air conditioning systems, electric doors, internal plumbing and electrical wiring;
- c) any claims, loss or damage relating to the failure of any structure(s) on the Land including the external and internal components thereof, to comply with applicable building codes and building standards, including any claims, loss or damage relating to any Enforcement Order issued by a Local Authority which states that a structure (or structures) on the Land, including the external and internal components thereof, fail to comply with applicable building codes and building standards, however this exclusion does not apply if:
  - i. notice of the non-compliance with applicable building codes and building standards appeared in Public Records as at the Policy Date or if the existence of the non-compliance with building codes and building standards would have been disclosed by a Local Authority Search of the Land as at the Policy Date provided that you were not aware of non-compliance as at the Policy Date; or,
  - ii. the Enforcement Order issued by the Local Authority in relation to the structure(s) also states that the structure(s), including any part thereof, which are the subject of the Enforcement Order, does not comply with, or was built or modified without obtaining, the building or development approvals which were required by the relevant Local Authority at the time of construction of the relevant structure(s).

\*Note: Sub-clauses 3.3(c)(i) and 3.3(c)(ii) only affect the operation of sub-clause 3.3(c) and do not affect the operation of any other exclusion in this Policy.

- d) any claims, loss or damage arising from any non-compliant cladding of the building which forms part of your Land, including but not limited to:
  - i. any liability arising from any periodic or special levies which are struck prior to or after the Insurance Date that relate to non-compliant cladding of the building, and
  - ii. any enforcement action issued by a Local Authority requiring you to rectify, alter or replace the non-compliant cladding of the building, because the cladding does not comply with building or developments approvals from the relevant Local Authority which were granted at the time the building was constructed.

### 3.4 Farming/Agricultural Use of Land in Rural Zone

- a) for Land within a Rural Zone that is used for farming or agriculture, cover under Clauses 2.1(i) and 2.1(j) extends only to the primary residence erected on the Land, including sheds, carports and garages used for residential purposes, and any swimming pools erected on the Land and not to any other buildings or structures erected on the Land.

### 3.5 Land Area Over 50 Acres

- a) the Cover described in Clause 2.1 (h) will not apply to Land where the land area exceeds 50 acres.

### 3.6 Exception(s) specifically affecting the Land

- a) exceptions listed in Schedule B of the Policy unless an Affirmative Cover applies;
- b) lack of a right to any land outside the area specifically described and referred to in Schedule A, or in streets, lanes, or waterways that touch your Land – this does not however limit the Cover described in Clauses 2.1(f) and 2.1(h)(ii).

### 3.7 Initiation of enforcement action

- a) the Cover provided in Clauses 2.1 (h) (i) and (ii), 2.1 (i) and 2.1 (j) will not apply in circumstances where the Insured, or a party acting on behalf of the Insured, by conduct or communication, including communication which is verbal or partly verbal or written or partly written, takes action which initiates, instigates and/or encourages any enforcement action by or on behalf of a Local Authority and/or by or on behalf of an adjoining property owner in relation to the Land, including, but not limited to, inviting a Local Authority and/or an adjoining property owner to inspect the Land (including by physical inspection and/or by inspection of plans and records) for the purposes of a Local Authority and/or an adjoining property owner:
  - i. assessing whether any structure on the Land does not comply with, or was built or modified without obtaining building and development approvals required by the relevant Local Authority; and/or
  - ii. assessing whether any structure on the Land encroaches on any other land.; and/or
  - iii. assessing whether in respect of the Land there is any non-compliance with any easement, restriction, right of way or covenant.

## 4. WHO IS COVERED AND FOR HOW LONG

### 4.1 Who is covered?

This Policy insures you, the Insured named in Schedule A. The term “Insured” also includes:

- a) successors to the Title of the Insured by operation of law as distinguished from purchase, including heirs, devisees, survivors, personal representatives, or next of kin;
- b) successors to an Insured by change of name, dissolution, amalgamation, plan of arrangement, merger, consolidation, distribution, or reorganisation;
- c) successors to an Insured by its conversion to another kind of entity;
- d) partners in the Insured or any entity in which any partner(s) is a participant, joint venturer or shareholder if such transfer is without valuable consideration;
- e) shareholders of a corporation which is a partner(s) in the Insured in the event that such partners distribute the Land to such shareholders;
- f) a grantee of an Insured under a transfer/deed delivered without payment of actual valuable consideration conveying the Title:
  - i. if the stock, shares, memberships, or other equity interests of the grantee are wholly-owned by the named Insured;
  - ii. if the grantee wholly owns the named Insured;
  - iii. if the grantee is wholly-owned by an affiliated entity of the named Insured, provided the affiliated entity and the named Insured are both wholly-owned by the same person or entity; or
  - iv. if the grantee is a trustee or beneficiary of a trust created by a written instrument established by the Insured named in Schedule A for estate planning purposes.

with regard to (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) reserving, however, all rights and defences as to any successor that we would have had against any predecessor Insured.

### 4.2 Length of cover

The Policy protects you while:

- a) you have or a person described in clause 4.1 has an estate or interest in the Land;
- b) there has been no Deed of Release in respect of the Policy entered into between us and you;
- c) you hold a debt secured by a mortgage given to you by a person who purchases Title to the Land from you; or
- d) you have a liability as a result of warranties made by you to a subsequent owner.

### 4.3 No policy cover on sale or assignment

This Policy cannot be assigned. The Policy will not protect anyone who purchases the Land from you.

## 5. HOW TO MAKE A CLAIM

### 5.1 Claims are subject to this Policy

You can make a claim in respect of a Covered Risk at any time after the Insurance Date. Any claim you make against us must be made under this Policy and is subject to its terms.

## 5.2 You must give us notice of your claim

If you have a claim, you must give us notice in writing as soon as possible after you become aware of:

- a) legal proceedings, whether commenced or threatened, in relation to your Title to the Land or your use of the Land;
- b) any information or claim which is or may be adverse to the Title to your Land or the use of your Land;
- c) any information or circumstance that might entitle you to make a claim under this Policy.

All notices should be sent to:

Claims Department  
Stewart Title Limited  
GPO Box 527  
Sydney NSW 2001

Please provide the policy number and the full street address of the Land. We may require you to complete a claim form.

Our obligation to you under this Policy may be reduced in part or in whole if you fail to promptly notify us and that failure adversely affects our ability to dispute or defend any claim or to timely commence any claim against other persons.

## 5.3 Proving your loss

You must provide us with a written statement to prove your loss. This statement is to be given to us as soon as the circumstances permit, however, this must not be later than 90 days after you know the facts that will permit you to establish the amount of your loss. The following must be included in the statement:

- a) the Covered Risk which constitutes the basis of your loss;
- b) the amount of your loss;
- c) the method you used to compute that amount, or an assessment prepared by an expert; and
- d) whether you are entitled to an Input Tax Credit for the premium paid and the extent of Input Tax Credit in relation to the period during which the event giving rise to the claim happened.

If you are not in a position to calculate the amount of your loss when notifying us of your claim, you must inform us. Thereafter, you must notify us of the amount of your loss in a written statement promptly after your loss can be established. You must also explain how you calculated that amount or provide us with an assessment prepared by an expert.

We reserve the right to independently assess the amount of your loss, the method of calculation of your loss and any assessment prepared by an expert when you notify us of your claim.

## 5.4 Your obligation to co-operate

After we receive your claim notice, you must:

- a) provide us with all records, in whatever medium maintained, including books, ledgers, cheques, memoranda, correspondence, reports, e-mails, disks, tapes, and videos whether bearing a date before or after the Policy Date which are in your possession or your Conveyancing Practitioner's possession which reasonably pertain to the loss or damage;
- b) take all reasonable precautions to prevent any further damages or claims;
- c) give us the opportunity to inspect your Land before any actions are taken to protect you from any Covered Risk;
- d) assist us in all our endeavours to negotiate, defend or settle any claim under this Policy and to exercise for our benefit your legal right of recovery against any other party; and
- e) answer questions relating to the claim under oath.

## 5.5 Our obligation to you could be reduced or cancelled

If you fail or refuse to meet the obligations described in Clause 5.4 (a)-(e) inclusive, and that failure affects our ability to assess and dispose of your claim, discharge our duty under the Policy or adversely affects our ability to dispute or defend any claim or to timely commence any claim against other persons, then our obligation to you could be reduced or cancelled.

## 5.6 Legal Action – your duty to co-operate

### 5.6.1 Defence of litigation

If we elect to defend a court case related to a claim, we have the right to select the lawyer to handle such defence

(subject to your right to object for reasonable cause) and we will not be responsible for or pay the fees of any other lawyer. We will not be liable for any fees, costs or expenses incurred by you in the defence of those stated claims which allege matters not covered under this Policy, or for any loss or damage for liability voluntarily assumed by you in settling any claim or proceeding without our prior written consent.

#### 5.6.2 Right to prosecute any claim

We have the right, at our sole cost, to commence and prosecute any action or proceeding or to do anything else which in our opinion may be necessary or desirable to establish the estate or interest in the Land as indemnified, or to prevent or reduce your loss or damage. We may take any appropriate action under the terms of this Policy, whether or not we are liable hereunder, and by doing so we shall not be taken to have conceded any liability or waived any provision of this Policy. If we exercise our rights under this paragraph, we will do so diligently.

#### 5.6.3 Final court determination

Whenever we have brought an action or filed a defence as required or permitted by the provisions of this Policy, we may pursue any litigation to a final determination by a court of competent jurisdiction and we expressly reserve the right, in our sole discretion, to appeal against any judgment or order.

#### 5.6.4 Your co-operation

In all cases where this Policy permits or requires us to prosecute or meet the cost of any defence of any action or proceeding, you give us the right to participate in such action, proceeding or appeal and allow us, at our sole option, to use your name for this purpose. If we request, you must, at our expense, give us all reasonable assistance and help us in:

- a) securing evidence, obtaining witnesses, prosecuting or defending the action or proceeding or effecting a settlement; and
- b) any other lawful act which in our opinion may be necessary or desirable to establish Title to the estate or interest in the Land.

#### 5.6.5 Mitigation

Following an event which may result in a claim, you must take all reasonable precautions to prevent further loss or damages or further claims.

## 6. OUR CHOICES WHEN YOU NOTIFY US OF A CLAIM

If you make a claim under this Policy for which we are liable, we can do one or more of the following:

- a) pay the claim against the Title to your Land;
- b) negotiate a settlement;
- c) prosecute or defend a court case related to the claim;
- d) pay you the amount required by the Policy;
- e) take other action that will protect you;
- f) pay the Policy Amount and costs, legal fees and expenses incurred up to the time of payment which we are obligated to pay. Upon payment of the Policy Amount the Policy will be cancelled.
- g) for a claim under Clause 2.1 (j), we have the following options:
  - i. Subject to any applicable Exclusions or Exceptions from Cover, where the cost of removing, upgrading, rectifying or rebuilding the structure or part of the structure which does not comply with or was built or modified without obtaining building or development approvals from the relevant Local Authority is less than \$25,000, we will pay the costs of removing, upgrading, rectifying or rebuilding the structure or part of the structure as an Authorised Expense;
  - ii. Subject to any applicable Exclusions or Exceptions from Cover and subject to Clause 7.1 of this policy, where the cost of removing, upgrading, rectifying or rebuilding the structure or part of the structure which does not comply with or was built or modified without obtaining building or development approvals from the relevant Local Authority is greater than \$25,000, we may:
    1. pay the costs of upgrading, rectifying or rebuilding the structure or part of the structure as an Authorised Expense; or
    2. end the coverage for the claim by removing or paying the costs of removing the structure or part of the structure which does not comply with or was built or modified without obtaining building or development approvals from the relevant Local Authority as an Authorised Expense and paying you your Actual Loss as determined by an appraisal conducted by a member of the Australian Property Institute together with any Authorised Expenses incurred up to that time which we are obligated to pay.

3. The appraiser will be selected and instructed by us. We will pay the appraiser's fees and expenses.
4. In the event that a dispute arises between you and us regarding the value of the Actual Loss, the value of the Actual Loss will be finally determined by a further appraisal conducted by a member of the Australian Property Institute. You will select the further appraiser from a list of at least (2) two appraisers to be provided by us. The further appraiser will be instructed by us. The further appraisers will not have been previously instructed by us in relation to your claim. We will pay the further appraiser's fees and expenses. Upon payment to you of the finally determined Actual Loss and any applicable Authorised Expenses, our liability and obligations to you in relation to the claim, other than to make the payment required, shall terminate, including any liability or obligation to defend, prosecute, or continue any litigation.

## 7. EXTENT OF OUR LIABILITY

### 7.1 Our liability for Claims

Our total liability under this Policy (excluding Legal Fees) will be the lesser of:

- i. your Actual Loss; or
- ii. the Policy Amount when the claim is made; or
- iii. \$160,000 if the claim is made under Covered Title Risk 2.1(j) of the Policy.

If we are notified of a liability for a claim against your Title, and we remove it within a reasonable period of time, we will have no further liability for the claim.

### 7.2 Liability for Legal Fees

We will pay all Legal Fees incurred in the defence or prosecution of any legal proceeding affecting Title to the Land as insured. These payments will be in addition to any payments owing under clause 7.1.

### 7.3 Reduction of Cover

The amount of Cover payable by us under this Policy will be reduced or terminated by any or all of the following:

- a) all payments made under this Policy. However, the Policy Amount will not be reduced for Legal Fees;
- b) any amount we pay to the holder of any mortgage shown in this Policy or a later mortgage given by you;
- c) if you do anything to affect any right of recovery you may have, we can subtract from our liability the amount by which you reduced the value of that right.

### 7.4 Limitations on our liability

We are not liable to indemnify you:

- a) if we establish good and marketable Title to the Land, remove the alleged defect, lien, charge or encumbrance or cure any other matter or thing giving rise to the claim under this Policy in a reasonably diligent manner by any method including litigation;
- b) if we decide to undertake proceedings to determine matters relating to the Covered Title Risks insured under this Policy, until litigation, including any appeals, in relation to a claim conducted by us (or you with our authorisation) has been finally determined by a court of competent jurisdiction with a result which is adverse to the Title, as insured or until we abandon that litigation; or
- c) for liability voluntarily assumed by you in negotiating or settling any claim or litigation without our prior written consent.

### 7.5 Payment of Loss

We shall not be obliged to make any payment under this Policy, unless the Policy is provided to us for endorsement. If the Policy has been lost or destroyed, you must give us proof of its loss or destruction to our reasonable satisfaction. When the extent of our liability under this Policy has been fully determined, we will pay that amount within 30 days.

## 8. TRANSFER OF YOUR RIGHTS - SUBROGATION

When we settle a claim, we have all the rights you had against any person or property related to the claim. You must transfer these rights to us when we ask, and you must not do anything to affect these rights. You must let us use your name in enforcing these rights.

**9. GENERAL POLICY PROVISIONS**

- a) If any provision of this Policy is determined to be invalid or unenforceable under any Law or by any court of competent jurisdiction, the Policy will be deemed to omit that provision and all other provisions will remain in full force and effect.
- b) Any variation or Endorsement to this Policy will have no effect unless made in writing by us.
- c) Each Endorsement to this Policy issued at any time is made a part of this Policy and is subject to all of its terms and provisions. Except as the Endorsement expressly states, it does not (i) modify any of the terms and provisions of the Policy, (ii) modify any prior Endorsement, (iii) extend the Policy Date, or (iv) increase the Policy Amount.
- d) The premium for this Policy becomes due and payable on the Insurance Date. Subject to Clause 2.2, if we do not receive the premium within 14 days of the Policy Date, we will not provide any Cover under this Policy and the Policy will be deemed not to have existed.
- e) If we fail to enforce a provision or right under this Policy, or if we grant you time or an indulgence, we will not be not to have deemed to have given up that right.
- f) Any dispute relating to this Policy shall be subject to the law of the Jurisdiction.
- g) Any litigation or other proceeding brought by you against us must be filed only in a State or Federal court within Australia having appropriate jurisdiction.

**10. CANCELLATION**

You may request cancellation of the Policy within 14 days of the Insurance Date or the date the Policy is received by you (whichever is the later). To do this, you must advise us in writing. We will refund all premium paid for Cover under the Policy subject to a minimum administration charge of \$50.00

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