

Thank you for purchasing this policy through **Autonet**. The information in this policy document is important and contains the terms, conditions, and exclusions of the contract between **you** and the **RAC**. Please take time to read through it and contact **Autonet** if **you** need any further information. Failure by **you** to comply with the terms, conditions and exclusions of this policy may result in this policy not covering **you**.

## **HOW TO MAKE A CLAIM**

Before **you** call, please make sure **you** have **your** policy number, **vehicle** registration and the date of **claim** ready to hand.

To make a claim please call Autonet on:

- For claims under Section A on 0330 343 9244
- Legal advice and claims under Section B-F on 0330 343 8728

It is important that **you** let **us** know as soon as possible if **you** think **you** may need to **claim**. If **you** do not, this may prejudice **your claim** and may mean **we** are unable to cover **you**.

Call charges apply. Please check with **your** telephone provider. 03 numbers are charged at national call rates and usually included in inclusive minute plans. **We** do not cover the cost of making or receiving telephone calls. **Our** calls are monitored and/or recorded.

If you have hearing difficulties and have a Textphone, just prefix the number you wish to call with 18001 to access Typetalk.

## Important information about your Autonet Motor Legal Expenses

- Your Autonet Motor Legal Expenses Insurance is a contract of insurance between you and RAC Insurance Limited. The contract consists of:
  - a. This policy booklet;
  - Your schedule, which tells you which vehicles are covered, how long you are covered for, who is covered and the cost of the cover; and
  - c. Any notices we send you, for example, any letter we send you notifying you if there are any changes.
- 2. A premium is payable for the contract of insurance which will be made clear to you in advance of purchase.
- 3. Autonet Motor Legal Expenses Insurance is arranged and administered by RAC Insurance Limited.
  - Autonet Motor Legal Expenses Insurance is intended to provide cover for the costs of:
  - a. Making a claim for uninsured losses against a person who is at fault for a road traffic collision (Section A);
  - b. Defending a prosecution for an alleged motoring offence (Section B);
  - Making a claim for breach of an agreement relating to the buying, selling, repair, servicing or lease of the vehicle (Section C);
  - d. Making a claim following the seizure of the vehicle due to inaccurate information being stored on the Motor Insurance Database (Section D):
  - Defending legal proceedings following the use of the vehicle's identity without your consent (Section E);

It meets the demands and needs of those who wish to ensure such risks are met now and in the future.

- f. Autonet Motor Legal Expenses Insurance also provides for a telephone legal helpline to assist you with advice on any private legal matter. (Section F).
- There is no limit to the number of claims you can make in any policy period. The amount that is covered for certain types of claims or for certain sections are set out in this booklet.

## **DEFINITIONS**

Any words in bold in this document have a specific meaning, which  $\ensuremath{\mathbf{we}}$  explain below.

## Autonet

Autonet Insurance Services is a trading name of Atlanta1 Insurance Services Ltd, registered in England and Wales, registered number 03642372 whose registered office is at: Nile Street, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST6 2BA. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority under number 308213.

## Claim

Means an incident which **we** accept as falling within the terms of this Autonet Motor Legal Expenses Insurance **policy** and which, in **our** reasonable opinion, is the first incident that could lead to a **claim** being made. For example, issues arising from a **road traffic collision** or incident leading to a motoring prosecution.

## Legal costs means:

1. The reasonable, **proportionate** and properly incurred fees, expenses, Page 1 of 4

- costs and disbursements incurred by **you** and agreed by **us** in pursuing or defending a **claim**; and/or
- The reasonable costs of a third party for which you are ordered to pay by the court or are agreed by us and which are incurred in connection with legal proceedings;

## Legal proceedings

Means the pursuit or defence of civil legal cases for damages and/or injunctions or specific performance, or the defence of a motoring prosecution within a court of criminal jurisdiction within the **territorial limits**;

## Legal representative

Means **us** or the solicitors or other qualified experts appointed by **us** to act for **you** provided that they agree:

- 1. To try to recover all legal costs from the other party;
- 2. Not to submit any claim for legal costs until the end of the case; and
- 3. To keep us informed, in writing, of the progress of legal proceedings.

  Limit of indemnity

Means the maximum amount payable per **claim** under the **policy** which is £100,000;

## **Policy**

Means this Autonet Motor Legal Expenses Insurance policy that is subject to the terms and conditions in this booklet, along with **your schedule**;

## Policy period

Means the length of time this **policy** is in force, from the start date as shown on **the schedule**;

## **Proportionate**

Means the value of the **claim** must be greater than the costs of pursuing the **claim**:

#### RAC/we/us/our

- 1. For the provisions of cover under sections A-E means RAC Insurance Ltd;
- For the provision of services under section F of this policy means RAC Motoring Services;
- **3.** In each case any person employed or engaged to provide certain services on behalf of the RAC Group.

## Road traffic collision

Means a collision involving **your vehicle**, for which **you** were not at fault and another party was at fault;

## **RAC Motoring Services and RAC Insurance Limited**

Means RAC Motoring Services and RAC Insurance Ltd. Registered in England, United Kingdom; Registered Offices: RAC House, Brockhurst Crescent, Walsall WS5 4AW. RAC Motoring Services is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority under 310208 & 202737. RAC Insurance Ltd is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority

## Schedule

Means the document that contains all the specific details of your policy, such as:

- dates when your insurance starts and ends (We won't cover incidents that happen outside these dates);
- details of the vehicle insured
- the level of cover you have

## Standard terms of appointment

Means the terms and conditions which we will require the legal representative to accept in order for us to cover your legal costs. This contract sets out the amounts we will pay the legal representative under your policy and their responsibilities to report to us at various stages of the claim. A copy of these terms can be requested by contacting us;

## **Territorial limits**

## Means:

UK

- $\textbf{a.} \quad \text{For section A of } \textbf{your policy}, \text{the } \textbf{UK} \text{ and the European Union};$
- b. For sections B-E of your policy, the UK;

Means England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and for the purpose of this **policy** includes Channel Islands and the Isle of Man;

## Uninsured losses

Means **your** losses directly arising out of a **road traffic collision** that are not covered by insurance;

## Vehicle

Means the UK registered vehicle(s) that appears on **your schedule** and includes attached trailers;

## You/your

Means the person(s) named as the policyholder on the **schedule**, and for the purposes of making a **claim**, includes any person authorised by the policyholder to drive or to be a passenger in the **vehicle**.

## WHAT WE COVER YOU FOR:

## WHAT WE DON'T COVER YOU FOR:

## **Section A - Uninsured Loss Recovery**

If you are involved in a road traffic collision within the territorial  $\boldsymbol{limits}$  during the  $\boldsymbol{policy}$   $\boldsymbol{period}$  for which  $\boldsymbol{you}$  are not at fault, and  $\boldsymbol{you}$ have uninsured losses, for example your motor insurance excess or compensation for personal injury, that you need to recover we will;

A personal injury claim for stress, psychological or emotional injury unless you have also suffered a physical injury.

- 1. Provide you or your passengers with help and advice;
- 2. Put you in touch with our legal representative, who will assess your claim; and
- If our legal representative, in their reasonable opinion, agrees your claim (including an appeal or defence of an appeal) has a 51% or greater chance of succeeding, we will cover you or your passengers for legal costs, up to the limit of indemnity.

## **Section B - Motor Prosecution Defence**

If you have received a summons, citation or requisition for prosecution to attend a court for an alleged motoring offence, involving your vehicle and occurring within the territorial limits during the policy period, we will;

- 1. Provide you with help and advice in respect of the alleged motoring offences:
- 2. Put you in touch with our legal representative, who will assess your case; and
- 3. If in their reasonable opinion, our legal representative agrees you have a 51% or greater chance of success, we will appoint and pay up to the limit of indemnity for a suitable representative to either:
  - a. Defend the allegation; or
  - b. If you plead guilty to the offence, look to reduce the impact of the penalty, where it would otherwise result in you being disqualified or suspended from driving. This is known as a plea in mitigation.
  - c. Appeal against your conviction or sentence.

- 1. We cannot provide help if your summons relates to violence, alcohol or drugs related offences or if you had no valid licence or no licence at all:
- 2. Claims relating to parking offences where penalty points are not applicable to the offence.
- 3. We will not pay fines, costs or other penalties a court of criminal jurisdiction orders you to pay;
- Mitigation of a guilty plea if, in our reasonable opinion, it would not make a material difference to the outcome of your sentence.

## **Section C - Motor Vehicle Consumer Disputes**

If you enter into an agreement during the policy period and within the territorial limits relating to a contract for the sale, purchase, servicing, repair, testing, hire or hire purchase of the vehicle and wish to claim compensation for a breach of that agreement or defend any claim relating to that agreement, we will:

- 1. Provide you with help and advice:
- 2. Put you in touch with our legal representative, who will assess your case: and
- for legal costs, up to the limit of indemnity.

## WHAT WE COVER YOU FOR:

## **MHAT WE DON'T COVER YOU FOR:**

## **Section D - Motor Insurance Database Disputes**

If the **vehicle** is seized within the **territorial limits** and during the **policy period** by the police, local authority or government agency, due to incorrect information being stored on the Motor Insurance Database, which is a result of **your** insurance company failing to update the Motor Insurers' Bureau, we **will**:

- 1. Provide you with help and advice;
- Put you in touch with our legal representative, who will assess your case; and
- If in their reasonable opinion, our legal representative agrees you
  have a 51% or greater chance of successfully challenging the decision
  to seize the vehicle, we will cover you for legal costs, up to the limit
  of indemnity.

## **Section E - Vehicle Identity Theft**

If you are required to attend court regarding an alleged criminal motoring offence due to the unauthorised use of the vehicle's identity within the territorial limits and during the policy period, or you have had a civil or criminal judgment wrongly entered against you, we will:

- 1. Provide you with help and advice;
- Put you in touch with our legal representative, who will assess your case; and
- 3. If in their reasonable opinion, our legal representative agrees you have a 51% or greater chance of successfully defending legal proceedings or challenging a judgment, we will cover you for legal costs, up to the limit of indemnity.
- Claims where the vehicle's identity is used without your permission by someone living with you.
- We will not pay fines, costs or other penalties a court of criminal jurisdiction orders you to pay;

## **Section F - Telephone Legal Helpline**

**We** will provide a telephone legal helpline service, open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Just call **us** on 0330 343 8728.

We will give you initial advice on any private legal matter and any tax matter within the UK. Where possible, we will tell you what your legal rights are, which options are available to you and how best to implement them. We will let you know if you need a lawyer.

- Advice where, in our reasonable opinion, we have already given you
  the options available,
- 2. Advice relating to immigration or judicial review; and
- 3. Advice against us.

## **GENERAL CONDITIONS AND EXCLUSIONS**

The following conditions apply to all sections of this **policy**. If **you** do not comply **we** can refuse cover and/ or cancel **your policy**.

- You must pay your premium;
- You must request services directly from us, as we will only provide cover if we make arrangements to help you;
- 3. Legal claims can be complex and technical. You must follow our advice or that of the legal representative, to continue to receive funding from us. If you do not (for example, you go against our advice, fail to cooperate with our reasonable requests, delay the claim, do not submit legal costs to us straight away or take any other action that may harm your case) we may withdraw cover;
- 4. We will not cover legal costs:
  - a. that have not been agreed by us or were incurred prior to us accepting the claim;
  - b. for claims arising from:
    - faults in the vehicle or faulty, incomplete or incorrect service, maintenance or repair of the vehicle; or
    - ii. a road traffic collision occurring during a race, rally or competition;
- We may withdraw cover if at any point your claim has less than a 51% chance of succeeding;

- 6. You must always keep any losses you incur to a minimum. Ensure you take steps to prevent any loss in the first place and don't do anything that could unnecessarily increase your losses or prejudice your claim. If you do not, we may not cover you and it may affect your ability to claim. Please speak to us if in doubt;
- You must notify us of all offers to settle your claim. We may withdraw cover if we have not provided written authorisation to accept or reject an offer to settle your claim;
- 8. You must ensure you take steps to prevent any loss in the first place and don't do anything that could unnecessarily increase your losses or prejudice your claim. If you do not, we may not cover you and it may affect your ability to claim. Please speak to us if in doubt;
- We will need to be able to speak directly to any legal representative appointed, or agreed by us, even if this is one you have chosen;
- 10. Whilst we must appoint the legal representative, you may choose your own if it becomes necessary to start court proceedings, or if there is a conflict of interest. If you wish to do this, please tell us their name and address so we can consider your request. Your suggested legal representative must agree to our Standard Terms of Appointment. If for any reason we cannot agree to your suggested legal representative, we will ask the Law Society of England and Wales (or similar body) to name one:
- 11. If you have a dispute with us or complaint about the service provided by us or a legal representative we appoint, please let us know using our

complaints procedure. Please note however, this **policy** will not cover any advice or **your legal costs** in connection with this or any **claim** against **us**;

- 12. We may decide not to issue legal proceedings, but instead pay you directly for your claim, for example, where the legal costs of your claim are greater than the value of your claim;
- 13. If you have legal expenses cover with a provider other than RAC or if you are a member of a trade union and the cover or membership benefits provide cover for your claim, we will not provide cover.
- 14. During extreme weather, riots, war, civil unrest, industrial disputes, our services can be interrupted. We will resume our service to you as soon as we can in these circumstances.

## **CANCELLATION OF YOUR POLICY**

You can cancel your policy within the cooling off period, being 14 days from the later of:

- 1. the start date; or
- 2. the date you receive your policy documents.

If you do this, we will cancel the policy with immediate effect from the day you request it and we will refund your premium in full unless you have made a claim within this cooling off period.

After this cooling off period you can still cancel but we will not refund any premium to you.

Cancelling a direct debit will not always cancel **your** policy, if **you** wish to cancel the policy then contact **Autonet** on 0330 343 8628.

## **MISUSE OF YOUR POLICY**

You must not:

- Behave inappropriately towards us, including acting in a threatening or abusive manner, whether verbally or physically;
- 2. Persuade or attempt to persuade us into a dishonest or illegal act;
- 3. Omit to tell us important facts about a claim in order to obtain a service;
- 4. Provide false information in order to obtain a service;
- Knowingly allow someone that is not covered by your policy to try and obtain a service under it;

If these conditions are not complied with, we may:

- 5. Restrict the cover available to you at the next renewal;
- Refuse to provide any services to you under this policy with immediate effect.

We may also take any of the additional steps as set out above if any claim is found to be fraudulent in any way, and the policy will be cancelled with effect from the date of the fraudulent act, and the fraudulent claim forfeited. We will not refund any premium. We will notify you in writing if we decide to take any of the above steps.

## **COMPLAINTS**

We are committed to providing excellent service. However, we realise that there are occasions when you feel you did not receive the service you expected.

If you are unhappy with how your policy is arranged and administered, for example, the way it was sold to you, please contact Autonet on 0330 343 8628.

If you are unhappy with our services please contact us as follows: Telephone: 0330 159 0610

## In Writing

Legal Customer Care RAC Motoring Services Great Park Road Bradley Stoke

Bristol

**BS32 4QN** 

legalcustomercare@rac.co.uk

#### FINANCIAL OMBUDSMAN SERVICE

In the event that **we** cannot resolve **your** complaint to **your** satisfaction under the complaints process set out above, **you** may in certain circumstances be entitled to refer **your** complaint to the Financial Ombudsman Service at the following address:

The Financial Ombudsman Service

**Exchange Tower** 

London

0800 023 4567 / 0300 123 9123

complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk

www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk

The Financial Ombudsman Service will only consider **your** complaint once **you** have tried to resolve it with **us**. Using this complaints procedure will not affect **your** legal rights.

#### FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPENSATION SCHEME

RAC Insurance Limited is covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). If it is unable to meet its obligations under the relevant sections of cover, you may be entitled to compensation from the FSCS.

Further information about FSCS arrangements is available from the FSCS website www.fscs.org.uk

## **YOUR DATA**

When providing **you** with services under **your** Home Legal Protection cover, RAC Motoring Services and RAC Insurance Limited are the data controllers of **your** personal data. They mainly collect data directly from **you** and use **your** personal data in order to provide their services, including the establishment, exercise or defence of a **claim**. The data they use may include information about your health, ethnicity or racial origin, sexual orientation, or religion (depending on the nature of the service **you** require).

RAC Motoring Services and RAC Insurance Limited may share **your** personal data with its service providers and may monitor and record any communications with **you** for quality and compliance reasons. For further information regarding how they will process **your** personal data and **your** rights under the Data Protection law, please visit rac.co.uk/privacy-policy or contact the Data Protection Officer by emailing dpo@rac.co.uk or by writing to Data Protection Officer, RAC, Great Park Road, Bradley Stoke, Bristol, BS32 4QN.

