

INFORMATION FOR CLIENTS

Set out below is the information required by the Rules of Conduct and Client Care for Lawyers of the New Zealand Law Society (**Law Society**).

1. Fees

The basis on which fees will be charged is set out in our letter of engagement. When fees are to be paid is set out in our Standard Terms of Engagement.

We may deduct from any funds held on your behalf in our trust account any fees, expenses or disbursements for which we have provided an invoice.

2. Professional Indemnity Insurance

We hold professional indemnity insurance that meets or exceeds the minimum standards specified by the Law Society. We will provide you with particulars of the minimum standards upon request.

3. Lawyers Fidelity Fund

The Law Society maintains the Lawyers Fidelity Fund for the purposes of providing clients of lawyers with protection against pecuniary loss arising from theft by lawyers. The maximum amount payable by the Fidelity Fund by way of compensation to an individual claimant is limited to \$100,000. Except in certain circumstances specified in the Lawyers & Conveyancers Act 2006 the Fidelity Fund does not cover a client for any loss relating to money that a lawyer is instructed to invest on behalf of the client.

4. Complaints

We maintain a procedure for handling any complaints by clients, designed to ensure that a complaint is dealt with promptly and fairly. If you have a complaint about our services or charges, you may refer your complaint to the person in our firm who has overall responsibility for your work.

If you do not wish to refer your complaint to that person, or you are not satisfied with that person's response to your complaint, you may refer your complaint to one of the partners, Andrew Macdonald, Mark Hornabrook, Angus McLean, or Benjamin Sutton. They may be contacted by letter to: PO Box 91845, Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142; or:

- Andrew Macdonald Email: andrew.macdonald@hmlaw.co.nz
Phone: 021 618 822
- Mark Hornabrook Email: mark.hornabrook@hmlaw.co.nz
Phone: 021 624 986
- Angus McLean Email: angus.mclean@hmlaw.co.nz
Phone: 021 501 127
- Benjamin Sutton Email: benjamin.sutton@hmlaw.co.nz
Phone: 021 288 7008

The Law Society also maintains a complaints service and you are able to make a complaint to that service. To do so you should contact the Law Society:

Phone: 0800 261 801

Website: www.lawsociety.org.nz/for-the-community/lawyers-complaints-service/concerns-form

Email: complaints@lawsociety.org.nz

Persons responsible for the work

The names and status of the person or persons who will undertake or have overall responsibility for the services we provide for you are set out in our letter of engagement.

5. Client care and service

The Law Society client care and service information is set out below.

Whatever legal services your lawyer is providing, he or she must:

- Act competently, in a timely way, and in accordance with instructions received and arrangements made.
- Protect and promote your interests and act for you free from compromising influences or loyalties.
- Discuss with you your objectives and how they should best be achieved.
- Provide you with information about the work to be done, who will do it and the way the services will be provided.
- Charge you a fee that is fair and reasonable and let you know how and when you will be billed.
- Give you clear information and advice.
- Protect your privacy and ensure appropriate confidentiality.
- Treat you fairly, respectfully and without discrimination.
- Keep you informed about the work being done and advise you when it is completed.
- Let you know how to make a complaint and deal with any complaint promptly and fairly.

The obligations lawyers owe to clients are described in the Rules of Conduct and Client Care for Lawyers. Those obligations are subject to other overriding duties, including duties to the courts and justice system.

If you have any questions concerning the rules of conduct and client care or to obtain a copy, please visit www.lawyers.org.nz or www.lawsociety.org.nz or contact the Law Society at the address in paragraph 4 above.

6. Limitations on extent of our Obligations or Liability

Any limitations on the extent of our obligations to you or any limitation or exclusion of liability are set out in our standard terms of engagement and letter of engagement.