



POLICY DOCUMENT

PRIVATE RENTAL

VERSION 8

Welcome to **Your LABC Private Rental Warranty** insurance **Policy**. Although it is unlikely that there will be problems with **Your Home**, the **Policy** gives **You** the comfort of knowing that particular types of problem which may arise in the first ten or twelve years after **Your Home** is built, converted or renovated will be corrected.

You need to read these terms and conditions, **Your Development Initial Certificate**, **Your Certificate of Insurance**, and any endorsements attached to them, to make sure **You** know what is covered by the **Policy**.

The **Policy** does not cover any legal liabilities that **You** may have to others in connection with **You** owning **Your Home**.

If **You** have any questions about the **Policy**, please telephone us on **0800 183 1755** or the person who arranged this **Policy** for **You**.

HOW TO MAKE A CLAIM

We know how difficult and stressful it can be if things go wrong with **Your Home** and we aim to work with **You** to ensure that we can get **You** back to normality as quickly as possible.

If **You** feel **You** have a valid claim, please check **Your Development Initial Certificate** or **Your Certificate of Insurance** (as appropriate) to ensure that cover is included. **You** should also refer to the relevant section to obtain full details of what we will require from **You** should **You** make a claim. **You** can visit the LABC Warranty website www.labcwarranty.co.uk to review the applicable cover and notify us of the issues **You** are experiencing. **You** can manage and submit **Your** notification online. If **You** experience any difficulties submitting **Your** notification please contact the **Scheme Administrator** on **0151 650 4318** or **You** can write to us at.

MD Insurance Services Limited
2 Shore Lines Building
Shore Road
Birkenhead
Wirral
CH41 1AU



Jacqueline Goodman
Managing Director

LABC Warranty is a brand name for a range of structural warranties arranged by MD Insurance Services Limited whose registered office is 2 Shore Lines Building, Shore Road, Birkenhead, Wirral CH41 1AU. MD Insurance Services Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). **Your Policy** is insured with MD Insurance Services Limited acting in its capacity as managing general agent for and on behalf of HSB Engineering Insurance Limited (HSBEIL).

HSBEIL is registered in England and Wales under company number 02396114. Registered Office: Chancery Place, 50 Brown Street, Manchester, England M2 2JT, Tel: +44 (0)20 7264 7000. HSBEIL is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority in the UK (FCA registration number 202738)

The Financial Conduct Authority's website includes a register of all regulated firms.

You can contact the Prudential Regulation Authority at:

The Prudential Regulation Authority
20 Moorgate
London
EC2R 6DA

Tel: +44 207 601 4444
Website: www.bankofengland.co.uk

You can contact the Financial Conduct Authority at:

Financial Conduct Authority
25 The North Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 5HS

Tel: 0800 111 6768 or +44 (0)20 7066 1000
Website: www.fca.org.uk

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1. INFORMATION

HOW THIS POLICY IS ISSUED

To help **You** understand how this **Policy** operates and the nature of the cover provided, we have set out below a brief explanation of the steps leading to the **Policy** being issued:

- The **Builder** will apply to us to register the **New Development** before work starts.
- We will instruct a **Surveyor** to check the plans and proposals, and the progress of the building work and to confirm to us, when the work is completed, that they believe it meets the functional requirements set out in our **technical manual**.
- Upon completion of the building work, if the **Surveyor** is satisfied it meets these standards, they will issue a **Certificate of Approval** to us.
- In the event that works do not meet our standards, cover under Sections 3.1 – 3.4 will not be provided.
- In the event that the **Surveyor** is satisfied with the work, we will then issue **You** with a **Certificate of Insurance** to confirm that the **Building Period** has ended and that the cover under Sections 3.1 (Defects Insurance Period) and 3.4 (Machinery Inherent Defects) of the **Policy** have commenced. Cover under Section 3.4 (Machinery Inherent Defects) shall cease after 5 years.
- After one year from the **Certificate of Insurance**, cover under Section 3.1 (Defects Insurance Period) shall cease and cover shall automatically commence under Section 3.2 (Structural Insurance Period) and Section 3.3 (Contaminated Land) for a further period of nine or eleven years.

PLEASE NOTE: the purpose of the **Surveyor**'s inspections is to enable us to issue the **Certificate of Insurance**. In undertaking the inspections and performing their role, the **Surveyor** is not assuming any duty or responsibility towards **You** to assure **You** that the work has been completed to any particular standard. In accepting the benefit of cover under this **Policy**, **You** accept and acknowledge that the **Surveyor** shall be under no liability to **You** for the way in which they conduct their inspections or perform their role. We will be under no liability to **You** for any acts or omissions of the **Surveyor**. The full extent of our liability to **You** is as set out in this **Policy**.

TYPES OF PROTECTION

We can provide **Policyholders** with protection in a number of ways. It should, however, be noted that all sections of the **Policy** may not necessarily be applicable for every **Home**. The **Development Initial Certificate** and **Certificate of Insurance** will detail the exact cover provided.

In order to illustrate the service which we provide, the following bullet points provide examples of the kinds of cover which a typical **Policy** *might* provide.

- During the first year from the date of completion of the **Home**, or the date specified in the **Certificate of Insurance**, the **Builder** is responsible for remedying **Defects** and resultant damage to the **Home**. Should the **Builder** unjustifiably refuse to remedy the **Defect** and resultant damage (including after the use of the **Dispute Resolution Service** where applicable) and / or fails to do so because of **Insolvency**, then the **Underwriter** will meet valid claims under the **Policy**. See sections 3.1 and 7 for details.
- Insuring the **Home** for a period of nine or eleven years from expiry of the **Defects Insurance Period** against:
 - the risk of **Major Damage** to the **Home**. See section 3.2 for details.
 - **Remediation Expenses** incurred in treating or isolating or removing any substance from the **Policyholder's Land** in a controlled manner in accordance with the requirements of any **Statutory Notice**. See section 3.4 for details.
- Insuring the **Mechanical And Electrical Services Equipment** at the **Home** for a period of five years commencing from the date specified in the **Certificate of Insurance**, against the risk of **Equipment Damage** as a result of an **Inherent Fault**. See section 3.5 for details.

It should be noted that the examples provided above are given for illustrative purposes only. Since each contract of insurance will differ according to individual requirements, the **Policyholder** should refer to the **Development Initial Certificate / Certificate of Insurance** and the **Policy** to ascertain the precise cover in force at any time.

It is important to note that the **Policy** does not provide cover for loss or damage which would ordinarily be covered under a standard buildings insurance policy, for example damage caused by fire, storm or flood amongst other things, whether or not **You** have in fact purchased such a policy. The **Policy** should not be viewed as a substitute for a standard buildings insurance policy and any claim for this type of loss or damage should be directed to your buildings insurer (if any).

THE QUALITY OF YOUR HOME

All **Homes** insured under the **Policy** are the subject of a system of checks and inspections:

- The **Builder** has to comply with **Building Regulations** and the authorised Local Authority Building Control Body involved inspects their work. These **Building Regulations** are statutory requirements and are concerned mainly with health and safety, access for the disabled and conservation of fuel and power issues.
- The **Builder** has been issued with the LABC Warranty **Technical Manual**. This sets out the functional requirements the **Builder** has to comply with when constructing a **Home** and will be detailed on **Your Certificate of Insurance**. The latest version of the **Technical Manual** can be downloaded from the LABC Warranty website – www.labcwarranty.co.uk – although this may not be the version applicable to **Your Policy**. If **You** contact us on **0800 183 1755** we will be able to confirm which version of the **Technical Manual** applies to the **Home** and provide **You** with a further copy if required.
- **Surveyors** will have completed inspections before the **Certificate of Insurance** was issued. Such inspections are carried out solely for the purpose of satisfying the **Underwriter** that the **Home** represents a normal risk for insurance under **LABC Private Rental Warranty**. It should not be inferred that the inspections are for any other purpose.
- It is the first **Policyholder's** responsibility to ensure that a thorough inspection of the **Home** is carried out prior to hand-over. If the inspection identifies any defects, they should be reported to the **Builder** and remedied prior to completing the purchase of the **Home**.
- The **Certificate of Insurance** will be issued to the **Policyholder** by the **Scheme Administrator** on behalf of the **Underwriter** provided that a **Certificate of Approval** has been issued by the **Surveyor** and subject to satisfaction of all **Policy** conditions. The **Certificate of Insurance** should be filed with the **Policy**.
- Any extensions in cover that we agree to will be confirmed in separate endorsements, which **You** should keep with the **Policy**.
- This **Policy** automatically transfers to future owners of the **Home** during the period of the **Policy**.

YOUR PRIVACY

We will store personal information about **You** safely and keep it confidential. We may need to pass on personal information such as **Your** name and address to the **Builder** to assist in the resolution of a claim. If required by a court or government body, we may be required to pass on personal information. We may need to tell a subsequent owner(s) about claims an earlier owner has made, if it affects what a subsequent owner of the **Home** can claim under the **Policy**. For further details please refer to www.labcwarranty.co.uk/privacy-policy.

We will also pass on **Your** personal information to the **Underwriter** who may use **Your** personal information to make decisions about the cover we provide to **You**, any claims **You** make, or to detect and prevent fraud. The **Underwriter** also may record incoming and outgoing telephone calls with **You** for training, monitoring and quality control purposes.

For further details on how the **Underwriter** uses **Your** information and **Your** rights in relation to **Your** information, please see the **Underwriter's** Privacy Statement at <https://www.munichre.com/HSBEIL>.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

If **You** are a consumer:

- **You** are responsible for answering any questions in relation to any proposal for insurance cover honestly and to the best of **Your** knowledge, providing complete and accurate information which the **Underwriter** will require. This also applies to **Your** responses in relation to any assumptions **You** may agree to in the process of applying for insurance cover. This is particularly important before taking out a policy but also if **You** make a mid-term amendment to **Your Policy**.
- Because of the way in which the **Policy** is arranged, the duration of these responsibilities is expressly extended so that they apply not only up to the point when any insurance quotation is accepted but also up to the point when the **Certificate of Insurance** is issued. If there is any change, prior to the issue of the **Certificate of Insurance**, which means that the information provided to the **Underwriter** in the process of applying for insurance cover is no longer accurate in any way, then **You** must correct the information provided and the **Underwriter** will have the right to amend or withdraw its offer to provide insurance.
- If **You** fail to answer all questions completely and accurately or to correct any information previously provided which later becomes inaccurate and this influences the **Underwriter's** decision to accept the risk or to issue the **Certificate of Insurance** or the terms offered, this could invalidate the **Policy** and mean that any claims may not be paid.

If **You** are a commercial customer:

- **You** have a duty to give a fair presentation of risk to us. This means that **You** should disclose every material circumstance relevant to the risk being insured following a reasonable search within **Your** business to identify and verify such information. This should include information which **You** and where applicable **Your** senior management, persons responsible for arranging **Your** insurance or other relevant third parties know or ought to know and should include all information that would influence the judgement of the **Underwriter** or that would put the **Underwriter** on notice that it needs to make further enquiries.
- Because of the way in which the **Policy** is arranged, the duration of this duty is expressly extended so that it applies not only up to the point when any insurance quotation is accepted but also up to the point when the **Certificate of Insurance** is issued. If any information comes to light, prior to the issue of the **Certificate of Insurance** but after the acceptance of any insurance quotation, which would have fallen within the scope of **Your** initial duty of fair presentation had it come to light prior to acceptance of the insurance quotation, then **You** must make a fair presentation of this information to the **Underwriter** prior to the issue of the **Certificate of Insurance** and the **Underwriter** will have the right to amend or withdraw its offer to provide insurance.

Examples of material circumstances include but are not limited to:

- Special or unusual circumstances relating to the risk;
- Any particular concerns which led **You** to seek insurance cover for the risk; and
- Anything which those concerned with the class of insurance and field of activity in question would generally understand as being something that would be dealt with in a fair presentation of risks for this type of insurance.

The information must be presented in a way, which would be reasonably clear and accessible to a prudent insurer. If **You** are unsure whether to disclose any information **You** should speak to us. **You** need to take into account the size and complexity of **Your** business, and allow **You** sufficient time to consider and / or assess **Your** insurance requirements.

Failure to provide a 'fair representation' may result in a number of remedies by the **Underwriter**. If the breach was deliberate or reckless the **Underwriter** can void the contract and keep the premium. If the breach was not deliberate or reckless the **Underwriter** can void the contract, proportionately reduce a claim settlement or amend the insurance policy terms and conditions then review the merits of a claim on this basis.

You should therefore always provide complete and accurate information to us when we ask **You** about the insurance risks **Your** business faces before taking out a policy, at renewal and throughout the life of the **Policy**. This also applies to **Your** responses in relation to any assumptions **You** may agree to in the process of applying for insurance cover.

CANCELLATION PRIOR TO COVER BEING ISSUED

It is important to note that the **Builder** (or other quote recipient as the case may be) is required to comply with a range of terms and conditions in order for cover to be issued under the **Policy** and that the **Underwriter** retains the right to cancel any offer to issue cover under the **Policy** where those terms and conditions are not complied with. Moreover, these terms and conditions continue to apply even after a **Development Initial Certificate** is issued (as applicable). As a result, even where insurance cover is provided under any Endorsement for **Insolvency** of the **Builder** during the **Building Period** (if applicable) for the **Home** during the **Building Period**, the **Underwriter** retains the right to cancel any offer to issue cover and such cover will only come into effect if and when a **Certificate of Insurance** is issued.

YOUR RIGHT TO CANCEL

You can cancel the **Policy** within 14 days of the day after **You** receive the **Certificate of Insurance**. In the event of cancellation after the **Certificate of Insurance** has been issued, **You** will not be entitled to a return of premium. Any refund can only be paid back to person named as the quote recipient, the original **Policyholder** or their successors in title at the time of the refund.

Before cancelling the **Policy**, check with **Your** mortgage lender as **You** may need to have this cover (or equivalent cover) to get the mortgage. Also, if **You** want to sell the **Home** while the insurance is in force, the buyer (and their lender) will usually need this cover to be in place.

If **Your Home** includes **Common Parts**, **Your** cancellation will also apply to the cover for any amount **You** have to pay towards the cost of putting right any **Defect** or **Major Damage** affecting the **Common Parts**.

HOW TO CANCEL

To cancel the **Policy**, send an email to customerservices@labcwarranty.co.uk or write to:

Scheme Administrator
MD Insurance Services Limited
2 Shore Lines Building
Shore Road
Birkenhead
Wirral
CH41 1AU.

Your letter or email must reach us within the 14-day period referred to above. **You** must return or destroy the **Certificate of Insurance**, if we have sent **You** one.

2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

2.1 DEFINITIONS

Wherever any of the following words or expressions are used in the **Policy** (including in the welcome and introductory pages), then such word or expression shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning given below. Where a word is given a particular contractual meaning, it will appear throughout the contract in bold.

Builder	Any person, sole trader, partnership, company or other organisation which is registered with us and with whom the Policyholder has entered into an agreement or contract to construct the Home(s) at the New Development .
Building Period	The period commencing on the date specified in the Development Initial Certificate issued for the Home by the Scheme Administrator on behalf of the Underwriter and ending upon the date the Certificate of Approval is issued for the Home at the New Development .
Building Regulations	The Building Regulations (Building Standards in Scotland) are a set of standards for the design and construction of new and altered buildings.
Certificate of Approval	The certificate issued by the Surveyor to the Scheme Administrator on behalf of the Underwriter on or following satisfactory completion of the Home .
Certificate of Insurance	The certificate issued by the Scheme Administrator on behalf of the Underwriter to signify acceptance of a Home for insurance under this Policy following issue of the Certificate of Approval by the Surveyor and satisfaction of all Policy conditions.
Common Parts	Those parts of a multi-occupied building (of which the Home is part) for which the Policyholder is legally obliged to contribute for the cost and upkeep with the owners of other parts of such building, or by way of contribution to the Management Company . Examples include stairways, drainage systems and communal areas.
Condition Precedent	An important legal term which sets out a step or action You must take. If You do not comply with or meet the requirements set out in a Condition Precedent You will not be able to bring a claim under the Policy and the Underwriter will not become legally liable to pay that claim.
Continuous Structure	A single building or structure containing more than one unit of housing (such as blocks of flats or terraces) which does not rely on any other building or structure to sustain and transmit combined loads safely to the ground.
Contract	The contract or agreement between the Builder and the Policyholder in respect of the purchase, construction, conversion, refurbishment and / or renovation of the Home(s) at the New Development .
Defect	<p>A failure to comply with a functional requirement of the Technical Manual as detailed in the Certificate of Insurance. It is important to note that failure to follow certain guidance in the supporting requirements of the Technical Manual may not in itself amount to a Defect, as it may be possible to achieve the recommended performance in other ways.</p> <p>Where a New Development entails the conversion, refurbishment or renovation of an existing building(s), failure to comply with the Functional Requirements of the Technical Manual, in relation to the retained elements of the Home only, will not constitute a Defect, unless Major Damage has occurred.</p>

Defects Insurance Period	<p>For Common Parts, the period commencing on the earliest date specified for the commencement of the Defects Insurance Period on a Certificate of Insurance issued for a Home that shares the Common Parts and ending either two years from such date, or twelve months from the latest date specified for the commencement of the Defects Insurance Period on a Certificate of Insurance for a Home sharing the Common Parts, whichever is the earlier.</p> <p>For all other purposes, the period commencing on the date specified in the Certificate of Insurance and ending twelve months after such date. The Defects Insurance Period may differ to the period referenced above and if this is the case it will be detailed in the Certificate of Insurance. It is important that the Certificate of Insurance is read in conjunction with the Policy.</p>
Development Initial Certificate	The certificate issued by the Scheme Administrator , where applicable on behalf of the Underwriter signifying its agreement to the provision of the insurance cover for the New Development as set out in this Policy , subject to receipt of a Certificate of Approval for each Home , and satisfaction of all Policy conditions.
Dispute Resolution Service	A service we may offer to try to settle a dispute between the Policyholder and the Builder . We can only do this if the Policyholder and the Builder agree to use this service.
Equipment Damage:	Failure of all or any part of the Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment resulting from an Inherent Fault or, with the specific agreement of the Underwriter , a condition, resulting from an Inherent Fault , that needs to be immediately corrected to prevent present or imminent physical damage to or physical destruction of the Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment .
Excess	<p>The amount the Policyholder is required to pay in the event of a valid claim under each section of the Policy. The Excess is index-linked in accordance with the condition of the Policy in section 6 entitled 'Indexation'.</p> <p>Note that a separate Excess shall apply to each separately identifiable Defect or Inherent Fault giving rise to loss or damage for which a payment is made under the Policy by the Underwriter, regardless of whether more than one cause of loss is notified at the same time.</p>
External Envelope	The basement, ground floors, external walls, roofs, skylights, windows and doors of a Home .
Financial Limit	The maximum the Underwriter will pay for any claims under the terms of a particular section.

<p>Home</p>	<p>The property newly built, newly converted, newly refurbished or newly renovated by the Builder as part of the Contract and described in the Certificate of Insurance comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the Structure; b) all non-load bearing elements and fixtures and fittings for which You are responsible; c) any Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment newly installed at the date of issue of the Certificate of Approval and for which the Policyholder is responsible; d) any Common Parts; e) any path or driveway within the curtilage of such property giving access to the principal entrance; f) the drainage system that the Policyholder is responsible for maintaining; and g) any garage included within the Contract. <p>References to the Home do not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> h) Swimming pools; i) other permanent outbuildings and temporary structures including but not limited to garden sheds; j) free-standing household appliances; k) fences, boundary walls or retaining walls not forming part of, or supporting, the Structure of the Home; or l) anything which did not form part of the original planning application for the Home, was not built at the same time as the Home or which the Building Regulations do not apply to.
<p>Inherent Fault</p>	<p>An inherent defect within Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment resulting from faulty or defective design, plan, specification, materials or workmanship or caused by the incorrect installation of the Mechanical and Electrical Service Equipment which existed prior to the commencement date of the Machinery Inherent Defects Insurance Period stated on the Certificate of Insurance but which remained undiscovered until the failure occurred or was first discovered.</p>
<p>Insolvency</p>	<p>The occurrence of any of the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) an order is made, or a resolution is passed, for the winding-up, administration or bankruptcy of the Builder (except for the purposes of solvent amalgamation or reconstruction previously approved by the Underwriter in writing); or b) a liquidator, trustee, administrator, administrative receiver, receiver, manager, trustee in bankruptcy or similar official is appointed over the whole or any part of the assets of the Builder, or the Builder, or the directors of the Builder, request any person to appoint any of the same; or c) a notice of intention to appoint an administrator, or a notice of appointment under Schedule B1 to the Insolvency Act 1986, is issued by the Builder or its directors.
<p>Land</p>	<p>The area that is covered by a single detailed planning consent, or a series of consents, relating to continuous development by the Builder, including the ground that surrounds and supports the Home and which was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) purchased by the initial Policyholder with the Home at the same time as the Contract was entered into or completed; and / or b) owned by the initial Policyholder when a Contract was entered into.
<p>Legislative or Regulatory Requirements</p>	<p>Any requirements that apply pursuant to any statute, statutory instrument, regulation, rule, order or other directive made under or pursuant to any statute or other directive having the force of law, any regulation, bye-law or other similar directive of any local authority or statutory undertaker which has any jurisdiction, or any other rule, regulation, instrument, provision, bye-law, decision, order, request, guidance or other similar directive of any regulator or similar body.</p>

<p>Limit of Indemnity</p>	<p>The maximum liability of the Underwriter in respect of the Home during the Defects Insurance Period, the Structural Insurance Period and / or the Machinery Inherent Defects Insurance Period, being the amount shown as the Sum Insured on the Certificate of Insurance or the Financial Limit in the relevant section, whichever is the lesser. The Limit of Indemnity is index-linked in accordance with the condition of the Policy in section 6 entitled 'Indexation'.</p> <p>The total liability of the Underwriter in respect of the Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment during the Machinery Inherent Defects Insurance Period will be the Limit of Indemnity for the Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment as shown in the Certificate of Insurance.</p>
<p>Machinery Inherent Defects Insurance Period</p>	<p>The period commencing on the date specified in the Certificate of Insurance and ending five years after such date. The Machinery Inherent Defects Insurance Period may differ to the period shown above and if this is the case it will be detailed in the Certificate of Insurance. It is important that the Certificate of Insurance is read in conjunction with the Policy.</p>

Major Damage

Shall mean either:

- a) Destruction of or physical damage to any portion of the **Home** for which a **Certificate of Insurance** has been issued, caused by a **Defect** in the design, workmanship, materials or components of:
 - i. the **Structure**; or
 - ii. the waterproofing elements of the **External Envelope**;and which is first discovered and notified to the **Scheme Administrator** during the **Structural Insurance Period**.

Or:

- b) A condition which, in the **Underwriter's** opinion requires immediate remedial action to prevent imminent destruction of, or physical damage to, any portion of the **Home** for which a **Certificate of Insurance** has been issued, caused by a **Defect** in the design, workmanship, materials or components of:
 - i. the **Structure**; or
 - ii. the waterproofing elements of the **External Envelope**;and which is first discovered and notified to the **Scheme Administrator** during the **Structural Insurance Period**.

Where the **New Development** contains the conversion, refurbishment or renovation of an existing building(s) then the period during which **Major Damage** can be first discovered is extended to the **Defects Insurance Period**.

For the purposes of part (b) above, destruction or physical damage is "imminent" where it can properly be said that such destruction or damage is certain or almost certain (i.e. certain beyond any reasonable doubt) to happen in the immediate future (which for the avoidance of doubt will usually mean in the coming hours or days as opposed to weeks or months).

For the avoidance of doubt, the definition of **Major Damage** above shall not apply:

- in relation to part (a), to any destruction or physical damage which falls within the scope of the "Special Perils" exclusion (or any other exclusion) below; and/or
- in relation to part (b), where the destruction or physical damage which is imminent would, if it came about, fall within the scope of the "Special Perils" exclusion (or any other exclusion) below. For the purposes of this definition (and this **Policy** as a whole), property shall not be viewed as being subject to present or imminent destruction or damage purely as a result of that property being affected by a **Defect** (or similar).

The term **Major Damage** shall include any physical loss, destruction or damage to the **Home** caused by contamination or pollution as a direct consequence of a **Defect** in the **Structure** of the **Home**.

<p>Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment</p>	<p>New mechanical and electrical fixed service equipment comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) space heating, ventilating, air conditioning, and water heating systems including boilers and calorifiers; b) lifts, escalators and mobility apparatus; c) lighting and electrical distribution systems; d) building security and environmental control systems; or e) electrical and mechanical parts of water pumping, distribution and waste systems <p>which forms part of the permanent apparatus for the proper functioning of Your Home and must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> f) be included in the Contract for the original construction of the Home; g) have been installed prior to the Certificate of Approval of the Machinery Inherent Defects Insurance Period as stated in Certificate of Insurance: and h) be owned by You, or in Your care, custody and control and for which You are legally liable. <p>Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment does not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) computer programs, electronic data and codes, software and data storage materials; or b) any freestanding or removable household appliances.
<p>Management Company</p>	<p>The person(s) (in the context of a multi-occupied building) having contractual responsibility for the repair and maintenance of the Structure and / or the Common Parts under any applicable agreement.</p>
<p>New Development</p>	<p>A Home or group of Homes located at the site noted on the Development Initial Certificate for the New Development and for which an individual Certificate of Insurance is issued for each Home.</p> <p>New Development shall be deemed not to include any building works other than the Home(s) detailed in the Development Initial Certificate.</p>
<p>Policy</p>	<p>This policy document, the Development Initial Certificate, the Certificate of Insurance any endorsements thereto.</p>
<p>Policyholder / You / Your</p>	<p>The owner retaining a freehold interest and / or part or future owners of the property which is the subject of this insurance acquiring a freehold or leasehold interest in each Home within the New Development or their successors in title, or any mortgagee or lessor (other than the Builder) and for whom a Certificate of Insurance has been issued for the Home showing that the relevant cover under those Sections is applicable.</p>
<p>LABC Private Rental Warranty</p>	<p>The insurance cover provided by the Underwriter in accordance with, and subject to, the provisions of this Policy.</p>
<p>Remediation Expenses</p>	<p>Reasonable expenses incurred for the investigation, isolation, removal or treatment of contamination to the extent required by any Statutory Notice.</p>
<p>Rules of Registration</p>	<p>The conditions which the Builder must comply with in order to be able to insure a New Development with us.</p>
<p>Scheme Administrator</p>	<p>MD Insurance Services Limited, 2 Shore Lines Building, Shore Road, Birkenhead, Wirral, CH41 1AU (acting as agent on behalf of the Underwriter). The terms 'we', 'us' or 'our' denote MD Insurance Services Limited.</p>
<p>Statutory Notice</p>	<p>A notice served on the Policyholder by a Statutory Authority, under the provisions of legislation that requires the Policyholder to carry out remediation of contamination.</p>

Structural Insurance Period	<p>For Common Parts, the period commencing on the earliest date specified on a Certificate of Insurance issued for a Home that shares the Common Parts and ending either ten or twelve years from such date, or nine or eleven years from the latest date specified on a Certificate of Insurance for a Home sharing the Common Parts, whichever is the earlier.</p> <p>For all other purposes, the period commencing on the date specified in the Certificate of Insurance and ending nine or eleven years after such date.</p> <p>The Structural Insurance Period may differ to the period shown above; if this is the case it will be detailed in the Certificate of Insurance. It is important that the Certificate of Insurance is read in conjunction with the Policy.</p>
Structure	<p>Comprises the following elements of a Home:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) All loadbearing structural elements providing support to the Home; b) ceilings and non-load bearing partition walls; c) staircases and guarding that protect the Policyholder from falling; d) roof coverings; e) external finishing surfaces (including rendering, windows and doors) necessary for the water-tightness of the External Envelope; f) internal screeds where these fail to support normal loads; and g) the underground drainage that the Policyholder is legally responsible for maintaining.
Sum Insured	The amount that has been declared to us as the reconstruction cost for the individual Home and specified within the Certificate of Insurance .
Surveyor	The party appointed by the Scheme Administrator and the Underwriter who carries out checks and inspections solely on behalf of the Underwriter and who, prior to the issue of the Certificate of Insurance for the Home , issues a Certificate of Approval .
Technical Manual	The functional requirements issued to the Builder by the Scheme Administrator at the time that the Policy is executed (or any amendments which have been notified to the Builder by the Scheme Administrator , as set out in the Rules of Registration). The latest version of the Technical Manual can be downloaded from the LABC Warranty website – www.labcwarranty.co.uk – although this may not be the version applicable to Your Policy . If You contact us on 0800 183 1755 we will be able to confirm which version of the Technical Manual applies to the Home and provide You with a further copy if required.
Underwriter	HSB Engineering Insurance Limited (HSBEIL).

2.2 INTERPRETATION

1. References to this **Policy** or to any other document or contract referred to in this **Policy** means this **Policy** or such other document or contract as amended, varied, supplemented, modified or novated from time to time.
2. In this **Policy** (unless the context otherwise requires):
 - a) the words “including” and “include” and words of similar effect shall be deemed to have the words “without limitation” following them;
 - b) words importing persons shall include natural persons, firms, associations or other unincorporated bodies, companies, corporations or other bodies corporate and vice versa;
 - c) words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa;
 - d) references to a section are to a section of this **Policy**; and
 - e) any reference to any legislative provision, shall be deemed to include any subsequent re-enactment or amending provision and any regulations made under it.
3. The headings in this **Policy** are for ease of reference only and shall not affect its construction or interpretation.

3. TYPES OF COVER

3.1. DEFECTS INSURANCE

3.1.1 The **Underwriter** will indemnify the **Policyholder** during the **Defects Insurance Period** against the cost of repairing, replacing or rectifying any **Defect** and resultant damage to the **Home** for which the **Builder** is responsible and which:

- a) is first discovered and notified in writing to the **Builder** during the **Defects Insurance Period**; and
- b) is notified in writing to the **Scheme Administrator** no later than 6 months after the expiry of the **Defects Insurance Period**.

3.1.2 The **Underwriter** will only be liable under this section if the **Builder**:

- a) cannot carry out the necessary work because they have become **Insolvent**; or
- b) has not carried out the necessary work within a reasonable time (as determined by us) of being told about the **Defect** or damage, and has:
 - i. not responded, within a reasonable time decided by us, to a request to settle the dispute using the **Dispute Resolution Service**; or
 - ii. accepted the decision made through the **Dispute Resolution Service** but failed to carry out the work or repairs within the agreed time; or
 - iii. not accepted the final decision of the **Dispute Resolution Service** and failed to exercise the '**Builder's** right of challenge' as detailed within section 7 of the **Policy** - Dispute Resolution Service and alternative options; or
 - iv. not effected the relevant repairs or works determined by the outcome of any legally binding decision.

3.1.3 In the event of a valid claim being made under this section, the **Underwriter** will either (at its option) arrange to have such **Defect** and resultant damage to the **Home** corrected or pay the reasonable cost of repairing, replacing or rectifying any **Defect** and resultant damage to the **Home**.

3.1.4. FINANCIAL LIMITS FOR SECTION 3.1 (DEFECTS INSURANCE)

1. The maximum the **Underwriter** will pay for all claims relating to a **Home** under this section 3.1 is in the case of each **Policy**:

- a) £500,000 for any newly constructed **Home**; or
- b) £250,000 for any converted or refurbished **Home**; or
- c) (in either case) the **Sum Insured** for the **Home**, whichever is the lesser.

2. The cumulative maximum which the **Underwriter** will pay under all sections (3.1 - 3.4 inclusive) for claims made by all **Policyholders** (of whatever type of **Policy** issued by the **Underwriter**) relating to any property within the same **Continuous Structure** is:

- a) £25,000,000 for all claims relating to all newly constructed **Continuous Structures** out of which no more than £5,000,000 will be payable under section 3.4; or
- b) £5,000,000 for all claims relating to all converted or refurbished **Continuous Structures** out of which no more than £1,000,000 will be payable under section 3.4.

3. For the avoidance of doubt, the **Financial Limits** under this section shall be applicable notwithstanding the fact that property within the same **Continuous Structure** may be employed for different uses (commercial, domestic or social for example) and have different owners. Once the cumulative maximum liability for the claims made in respect of any or all property located within the same **Continuous Structure** is reached, the **Underwriter** shall not be liable for any further claims in respect of any property located elsewhere within that same **Continuous Structure**, whomsoever made by.

4. The maximum the **Underwriter** will pay for any claim relating to **Common Parts** will be the proportion of the loss represented by the number of individual **Certificates of Insurance** issued to the **Policyholders** that share those **Common Parts**. The **Underwriter** is not responsible for the proportion of any loss where individual **Homes** have not received a **Certificate of Insurance**.

5. Unless stated otherwise in the **Certificate of Insurance**, the **Financial Limits** above are index-linked in accordance with the condition of the **Policy** in section 6 entitled '**Indexation**'.
6. Claims under this section are subject to the **Excess** as detailed in the **Certificate of Insurance**.
7. Please note in the event that **You** are not the first owner of the **Home**, the **Financial Limits** may have already been utilised by a previous owner and **You** will only be entitled to the remainder.

3.1.5. SPECIAL CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO SECTION 3.1 (DEFECTS INSURANCE)

1. If the **Policyholder** receives back, either in part or whole, any payments in respect of a claim under this section 3.1 which has already been paid by the **Underwriter**, then the **Policyholder** shall reimburse the **Underwriter** in full for the amount of such payment up to the amount of the claim paid.

3.1.6. EXCLUSIONS TO SECTION 3.1 (DEFECTS INSURANCE)

1. The **Underwriter** is only liable under this section in respect of the **Contract** for the **Home** and not in respect of any extras agreed subsequently.
2. The **Underwriter** shall not be liable to the **Policyholder** for any:
 - a) external landscaping or garden features;
 - b) adjustment of doors following the fitting, alteration or re-fitting of carpets or flooring;
 - c) drawing of chimneys;
 - d) contractual disputes between the **Builder** and the **Policyholder** (including issues regarding specification of items)
 - e) dampness, condensation or shrinkage not caused by a **Defect**;
 - f) chips or scratches to the **Home** not caused by a **Defect**;
 - g) minor blemishes that are subjective in degree (including brush marks, decoration and other cosmetic issues);
 - h) items that have been subsequently changed or altered on behalf of the **Policyholder** at their request (such as fitting of wardrobes and other fittings);
 - i) deterioration caused by neglect or failure to carry out normal maintenance;
 - j) **Defets** within external handrails or balustrades, paths, drives, garden areas or paved areas sold as part of the **Contract** for the sale of the **Home**;
 - k) **Defects** or other issue about which the **Policyholder** was aware prior to purchasing the **Home**, and for which have agreed a reduction in the purchase price for the **Home** or obtained any other remedy, benefit or compensation of any kind;
 - l) ceilings that are not in an enclosed part of the **Home** (such as balcony ceilings);
 - m) water entry, dampness or condensation to the enclosing walls, floors and ceilings of any underground: car-parking and any underground refuse stores, cycle stores, plant rooms (that do not house items of plant that directly service the **Home** and for which the failure of such plant would prevent the normal use of the **Home**), lifts/escalators, access stairs and lobbies; where a **Continuous Structure** entails the conversion, refurbishment or renovation of an existing building(s) and where the structural integrity of the **Home** is not affected;
 - n) replacement of any solar roof tiles or panels solely due to failure to generate heat or electricity or any failure to generate anticipated amounts of heat or electricity;
 - o) costs, losses, expenses or damage to any areas of decorative flooring (including laminates, carpets, tiles and parquet).

3.1.7. CLAIMS PROCEDURE FOR SECTION 3.1 (DEFECTS INSURANCE)

- a) The **Builder** is responsible for rectifying any **Defect** and resultant damage which occurs within the **Defects Insurance Period**.
- b) If **You** consider that there is a **Defect** which requires the attention of the **Builder**, it is a **Condition Precedent** that **You** notify the **Builder** in writing as soon as possible to allow them to arrange for any **Defect** and resultant damage (subject to **Policy** exclusions) to be corrected. Correspondence with the **Builder** should be recorded as evidence and made available, if required, to the **Scheme Administrator**.
- c) If the **Builder** is unable, unwilling, unresponsive or failing to progress to rectify the **Defect** and resultant damage, it is a **Condition Precedent** that the **Policyholder** should, as soon as possible visit the LABC Warranty website www.labcwarranty.co.uk to review the applicable cover and notify us of the issues **You** are experiencing. **You** can manage and submit **Your** notification online. If **You** experience any difficulties submitting **Your** notification please contact the **Scheme Administrator** on **0151 650 4318**.
- d) Once **You** have notified the **Scheme Administrator** of a potential claim under section 3.1, it is a **Condition Precedent** that **You**:
 - i. send evidence (including photographs and reports if appropriate) to the **Scheme Administrator** to show that the **Builder** has been approached to rectify the **Defect** and resultant damage; and
 - ii. if there is any **Insolvency** affecting the **Builder**, provide evidence to demonstrate this.
 - iii. take all responsible steps to prevent further loss or damage; and
 - iv. allow us to have all reasonable access to the **Home** during normal working hours; and
 - v. obtain permission to access neighbouring land and obtain any other permission needed to allow investigations and work; and
 - vi. To the extent that this is in **Your** possession or control, provide the **Scheme Administrator** with all information and documentation it may request which is necessary in order to investigate the claim.
- e) At this point, the **Scheme Administrator** may offer the **Dispute Resolution Service** if at its sole discretion it considers this appropriate. Details of the **Dispute Resolution Service** and other options available to settle a dispute are available in section 7.

3.2. STRUCTURAL INSURANCE

- 3.2.1. The **Underwriter** will indemnify the **Policyholder** against all claims first discovered and notified to the **Scheme Administrator** during the **Structural Insurance Period** in respect of the cost of complete or partial rebuilding or rectifying work to the **Home** which has been affected by **Major Damage** to a condition and design equivalent to or substantially the same as but not better than or more extensive than its condition when new, provided always that the liability of the **Underwriter** does not exceed the reasonable cost of rebuilding or rectifying the **Home** to its original specification and always excluding the additional costs of complying with subsequent changes in applicable **Legislative or Regulatory Requirements**.
- 3.2.2. In the event of a valid claim being made under this section 3.2, the **Underwriter** will either (at its sole discretion):
- a) arrange to have such damage corrected; or
 - b) pay the cost of repairing, replacing or rectifying any damage.
- 3.2.3 If the **Underwriter** elects to arrange to have such damage corrected then the maximum obligation of the **Underwriter** will be to have such damage corrected to the extent possible by applying the monies that would have been payable had this election not been made. The **Underwriter** will not have any obligation to apply any further monies beyond those that would have been payable had this election not been made even if, as a result of not applying such further monies, it is not possible to fully correct such damage.
- 3.2.4 If the **Underwriter** elects to pay the cost of repairing, replacing or rectifying any damage then:
- a) the **Underwriter** will have no obligation to bear any such cost unless and until the **Policyholder** has either actually paid the cost of repairing, replacing or rectifying any damage or demonstrated to the **Underwriter's** reasonable satisfaction that the **Policyholder** has a genuine, fixed and settled intention to incur such cost; and
 - b) the **Policyholder** must commence, carry out and complete such repair, replacement or rectification without unreasonable delay.
- 3.2.5 Where the **Policyholder** fails to commence, carry out or complete the repair, replacement or rectification of the **Home** without unreasonable delay in accordance with section 3.2.4(b) above, the **Policyholder's** entitlement shall be limited to whichever is the lesser of:
- a) The cost of repairing, replacing or rectifying any such damage to the **Home** or any part thereof less an appropriate deduction for depreciation, wear and tear;
 - b) The diminution in market value of the **Home** as a result of the **Major Damage**; or
 - c) Such other measure of damage as the **Policyholder** and the **Underwriter** may agree upon.

Subject always to the **Underwriter's** liability not exceeding the **Financial Limits** set out in section 3.2.6 below.

3.2.6. FINANCIAL LIMITS FOR SECTION 3.2 (STRUCTURAL INSURANCE)

1. The maximum the **Underwriter** will pay for all claims relating to a **Home** under this section 3.2 is in the case of each **Policy**:
 - a) £500,000 for any newly constructed **Home**; or
 - b) £250,000 for any converted or refurbished **Home**; or
 - c) (in either case) the **Sum Insured** for the **Home**, whichever is the lesser.
2. The cumulative maximum which the **Underwriter** will pay under all sections (3.1 - 3.4 inclusive) for claims made by all **Policyholders** (of whatever type of **Policy** issued by the **Underwriter**) relating to any property within the same **Continuous Structure** is:
 - a) £25,000,000 for all claims relating to all newly constructed **Continuous Structures** out of which no more than £5,000,000 will be payable under section 3.4; or
 - b) £5,000,000 for all claims relating to all converted or refurbished **Continuous Structures** out of which no more than £1,000,000 will be payable under section 3.4.
3. For the avoidance of doubt, the **Financial Limits** under this section shall be applicable notwithstanding the fact that property within the same **Continuous Structure** may be employed for different uses (commercial, domestic or social for example) and have different owners. Once the cumulative maximum liability for the claims made in respect of any or all property located within the same **Continuous Structure** is reached, the **Underwriter** shall not be liable for any further claims in respect of any property located elsewhere within that same **Continuous Structure**, whomsoever made by.
4. The maximum the **Underwriter** will pay for any claim relating to **Common Parts** will be the proportion of the loss represented by the number of individual **Certificates of Insurance** issued to the **Policyholders** that share those **Common Parts**. The **Underwriter** is not responsible for the proportion of any loss where individual **Homes** have not received a **Certificate of Insurance**.
5. Unless stated otherwise in the **Certificate of Insurance**, the **Financial Limits** above are index-linked in accordance with the condition of the **Policy** in section 6 entitled '**Indexation**'.
6. Claims under this section are subject to the **Excess** as detailed in the **Certificate of Insurance**.
7. Please note in the event that **You** are not the first owner of the **Home**, the **Financial Limits** may have already been utilised by a previous owner and **You** will only be entitled to the remainder.

3.2.7. EXCLUSIONS TO SECTION 3.2 (STRUCTURAL INSURANCE)

1. The **Underwriter** is only liable under this section in respect of the **Contract** for the **Home** and not in respect of any extras agreed subsequently.
2. The **Underwriter** shall not be liable to the **Policyholder** for any:
 - a) ceilings that are not in an enclosed part of the **Home** (such as balcony ceilings);
 - b) water entry, dampness or condensation to the enclosing walls, floors and ceilings of any underground: car-parking and any underground refuse stores, cycle stores, plant rooms (that do not house items of plant that directly service the **Home** and for which the failure of such plant would prevent the normal use of the **Home**), lifts / escalators, access stairs and lobbies; where the structural integrity of the **Home** is not affected;
 - c) dampness, condensation or shrinkage to garages or outbuildings that form part of the **Home**, where the relevant **Building Regulations** do not require the building to resist moisture;
 - d) replacement of any solar roof tiles or panels solely due to failure to generate heat or electricity or any failure to generate anticipated amounts of heat or electricity;
 - e) The transmission of sound into, within or from the **Home**;
 - f) cracking, spalling or mortar erosion, which does not impair the structural stability or weather tightness the **Home**;
 - g) damage to the roof covering (including any underlays, fixings, mortar and weatherproofing details) unless damage results in the entry of water into the **Home**;
 - h) costs, losses, expenses or damage to any areas of decorative flooring (including laminates, carpets, tiles and parquet);
 - i) any **Inherent Fault**; or
 - j) loss or damage caused by or consequent upon any failure to comply, in connection with the **Home**, with the requirements of any of the following, insofar as such requirements relate to fire safety:
 - i. the **Building Regulations**;
 - ii. any related legislation;
 - iii. any other legislation, regulation, regulatory requirement or governmental or other body empowered by law; and/or
 - iv. the functional requirements of the **Technical Manual**.

3.2.8. CLAIMS PROCEDURE FOR SECTION 3.2 (STRUCTURAL INSURANCE)

1. On discovery of any occurrence or circumstance that is likely to give rise to a claim under this section, it is a **Condition Precedent** that the **Policyholder** should, as soon as possible visit the LABC Warranty website www.labcwarranty.co.uk to review the applicable cover and notify us of the issues **You** are experiencing. **You** can manage and submit **Your** notification online. If **You** experience any difficulties submitting **Your** notification please contact the **Scheme Administrator** on **0151 650 4318**.
2. Once **You** have notified the **Scheme Administrator** of a potential claim under section 3.2, it is a **Condition Precedent** that **You**:
 - a) send evidence (including photographs and reports if appropriate) to the **Scheme Administrator** confirming that there has been **Major Damage**; and
 - b) take all responsible steps to prevent further loss or damage; and
 - c) allow us to have all reasonable access to the **Home** during normal working hours; and
 - d) obtain permission to access neighbouring land and obtain any other permission needed to allow investigations and work; and
 - e) to the extent that this is in **Your** possession or control, provide the **Scheme Administrator** with all information and documentation it may request which is necessary in order to investigate the claim.

3.3. CONTAMINATED LAND

- 3.3.1. The **Underwriter** will indemnify the **Policyholder** against all claims first discovered and notified to the **Scheme Administrator** during the **Structural Insurance Period** in respect of **Remediation Expenses** incurred in treating or isolating or removing any substance from the **Land** in a controlled manner in accordance with the requirements of any **Statutory Notice**.
- 3.3.2. The **Underwriter** shall only be liable for any claims under this section that are first discovered and reported by the **Policyholder** to the **Scheme Administrator** during the period specified in the **Certificate of Insurance**.
- 3.3.3. In the event of a valid claim being made under this section, the **Underwriter** will either (at its sole option) pay the **Remediation Expenses**, or itself have any work necessary for remediation of contamination of **Land** carried out at its own expense.

3.3.4. FINANCIAL LIMITS FOR SECTION 3.3 (CONTAMINATED LAND)

1. The maximum the **Underwriter** will pay for all claims relating to a **Home** under this section is in the case of each **Policy**:
 - a) £50,000 for any newly constructed **Home**; or
 - b) £50,000 for any converted or refurbished **Home**;
2. The maximum the **Underwriter** will pay for all claims relating to a **New Development** under this section is in the case of each **Policy**:
 - a) £500,000 for any newly constructed **Home**; or
 - b) £500,000 for any converted or refurbished **Home**;
3. The cumulative maximum which the **Underwriter** will pay under all sections (3.1 - 3.4 inclusive) for claims made by all **Policyholders** (of whatever type of **Policy** issued by the **Underwriter**) relating to any property within the same **Continuous Structure** is:
 - a) £25,000,000 for all claims relating to all newly constructed **Continuous Structures** out of which no more than £5,000,000 will be payable under section 3.4; or
 - b) £5,000,000 for all claims relating to all converted or refurbished **Continuous Structures** out of which no more than £1,000,000 will be payable under section 3.4.
4. For the avoidance of doubt, the **Financial Limits** under this section shall be applicable notwithstanding the fact that property within the same **Continuous Structure** may be employed for different uses (commercial, domestic or social for example) and have different owners. Once the cumulative maximum liability for the claims made in respect of any or all property located within the same **Continuous Structure** is reached, the **Underwriter** shall not be liable for any further claims in respect of any property located elsewhere within that same **Continuous Structure**, whomsoever made by.
5. The maximum the **Underwriter** will pay for any claim relating to **Common Parts** will be the proportion of the loss represented by the number of individual **Certificates of Insurance** issued to the **Policyholders** that share those **Common Parts**. The **Underwriter** is not responsible for the proportion of any loss where individual **Homes** have not received a **Certificate of Insurance**.
6. Unless stated otherwise in the **Certificate of Insurance**, the **Financial Limits** above are index-linked in accordance with the condition of the **Policy** in section 6 entitled '**Indexation**'.
7. Claims under this section are subject to the **Excess** as detailed in the **Certificate of Insurance**.
8. Please note in the event that **You** are not the first owner of the **Home**, the **Financial Limits** may have already been utilised by a previous owner and **You** will only be entitled to the remainder.

3.3.5. EXCLUSIONS TO SECTION 3.3 (CONTAMINATED LAND)

1. The **Underwriter** shall not be liable to the **Policyholder** for any:
 - a) damage and or expenses to any property and / or any costs associated with the remediation of land which is not owned by the **Policyholder**; or
 - b) contamination which first occurs after the issue of the **Certificate of Approval** for the **Home**; or
 - c) any damages payable to third parties, compensation or criminal expenses arising out of or in connection with contamination in, or under, the **Land**; or
 - d) contamination that migrates onto the **Land** after commencement of the building works; or
 - e) any damage caused by the presence of invasive plant species such as Japanese Knotweed or any other invasive non-native plant species; or
 - f) contamination caused by, consisting of or resulting from an infectious disease or virus.

3.3.6. CLAIMS PROCEDURE FOR SECTION 3.3 (CONTAMINATED LAND)

1. Before making a claim under the **Policy**, please check **Your Certificate of Insurance** to ensure that cover under this section is included.
2. On discovery of any occurrence or circumstance that is likely to give rise to a claim under this section, it is a **Condition Precedent** that the **Policyholder** should, as soon as possible visit the LABC Warranty website www.labcwarranty.co.uk to review the applicable cover and notify us of the issues **You** are experiencing. **You** can manage and submit **Your** notification online. If **You** experience any difficulties submitting **Your** notification please contact the **Scheme Administrator** on **0151 650 4318**.
3. When notifying the **Scheme Administrator** of a claim under section 3.3, it is a **Condition Precedent** that the **Policyholder** must also:
 - a) send evidence (including **Statutory Notice**, photographs and reports if appropriate) to the **Scheme Administrator**; and
 - b) take all responsible steps to prevent further loss or damage; and
 - c) allow us to have all reasonable access to the **Home** during normal working hours; and
 - d) obtain permission to access neighbouring land and obtain any other permission needed to allow investigations and work; and
 - e) to the extent that this is in **Your** possession or control, provide the **Scheme Administrator** with all information and documentation it may request which is necessary in order to investigate the claim.

3.4. MACHINERY INHERENT DEFECTS COVER

- 3.4.1 The **Underwriter** will indemnify the **Policyholder** against all claims first discovered and notified to the **Scheme Administrator** during the **Machinery Inherent Defects Period** as a result of **Equipment Damage** provided always that the liability of the **Underwriter** does not exceed the **Financial Limit**.
- 3.4.2 In the event of a valid claim being made under this section 3.4, the **Underwriter** will either (at its sole discretion) arrange to have such damage corrected or pay the cost of repairing, replacing or rectifying any damage:
 - a) If the **Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment** is partially damaged, cover provides for the cost of repairing or restoring the damaged part to a condition similar to the condition when new.
 - b) If the **Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment** is damaged beyond economical repair (that is if the costs of repairs is higher than the cost of replacing the **Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment**) cover provides for the cost of a new replacement that is equal in specification and performance to, but not better than, the damaged **Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment**.
 - c) If there is an **Inherent Fault** in the **Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment** which the **Underwriter** agrees requires immediate remedial works to prevent **Equipment Damage**, cover provides for the reasonable costs incurred in respect of such remedial works.
- 3.4.3 If **You** make a valid claim under section 3.4, the **Underwriter** will pay the reasonable cost of repair, restoration, re-build, replacement or other damage to the **Home** which is necessarily damaged with our prior written consent in order to access or breakout the **Mechanical and Electrical Service Equipment** which has sustained **Equipment Damage**.

3.4.4 FINANCIAL LIMITS FOR SECTION 3.4 (MACHINERY INHERENT DEFECTS COVER)

1. The maximum the **Underwriter** will pay for all claims relating to **Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment** under this section 3.4 of the **Policy** is the **Limit of Indemnity** for the **Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment** as stated on the **Certificate of Insurance**.
2. The cumulative maximum which the **Underwriter** will pay under all sections (3.1 - 3.4 inclusive) for claims made by all **Policyholders** (of whatever type of **Policy** issued by the **Underwriter**) relating to any property within the same **Continuous Structure** is:
 - a) £25,000,000 for all claims relating to all newly constructed **Continuous Structures** out of which no more than £5,000,000 will be payable under section 3.4; or
 - b) £5,000,000 for all claims relating to all converted or refurbished **Continuous Structures** out of which no more than £1,000,000 will be payable under section 3.4.
3. For the avoidance of doubt, the **Financial Limits** under this section shall be applicable notwithstanding the fact that property within the same **Continuous Structure** may be employed for different uses (commercial, domestic or social for example) and have different owners. Once the cumulative maximum liability for the claims made in respect of any or all property located within the same **Continuous Structure** is reached, the **Underwriter** shall not be liable for any further claims in respect of any property located elsewhere within that same **Continuous Structure**, whomsoever made by.
4. The maximum the **Underwriter** will pay for any claim relating to **Common Parts** will be the proportion of the loss represented by the number of individual **Certificates of Insurance** issued to the **Policyholders** that share those **Common Parts**. The **Underwriter** is not responsible for the proportion of any loss where individual **Homes** have not received a **Certificate of Insurance**.
5. Unless stated otherwise in the **Certificate of Insurance**, the **Financial Limits** above are index-linked in accordance with the condition of the **Policy** in section 6 entitled '**Indexation**'.
6. Claims under this section are subject to the **Excess** as detailed in the **Certificate of Insurance**.
7. Please note in the event that **You** are not the first owner of the **Home**, the **Financial Limits** may have already been utilised by a previous owner and **You** will only be entitled to the remainder.

3.4.5 EXCLUSIONS FOR SECTION 3.4 (MACHINERY INHERENT DEFECTS COVER)

1. Anything which the **Underwriter** would otherwise pay under sections 3.1 to 3.3 of this **Policy**.
2. The **Underwriter** is only liable under this section for the **Mechanical and Electrical Services Equipment** of the **Home** as described in the **Contract** and not for any extras that were agreed at a later date.
3. The **Underwriter** will not be liable to **You** for any of the following.
 - a) consumable parts, including but not limited to batteries, bulbs and fuses, that require periodic renewal, unless caused by an **Inherent Fault** resulting in **Equipment Damage**
 - b) any cost of improving or servicing equipment following **Equipment Damage**
 - c) damage caused by intentional overloading, testing, experiment or deliberate application of abnormal condition.
 - d) Any **Defect**.

3.4.6. CLAIMS PROCEDURE FOR SECTION 3.4 (MACHINERY INHERENT DEFECTS COVER)

1. On discovery of any occurrence or circumstance that is likely to give rise to a claim under this section, it is a **Condition Precedent** that the **Policyholder** should, as soon as possible visit the LABC Warranty website www.labcwarranty.co.uk to review the applicable cover and notify us of the issues **You** are experiencing. **You** can manage and submit **Your** notification online. If **You** experience any difficulties submitting **Your** notification please contact the **Scheme Administrator** on **0151 650 4318**.
2. When notifying the **Scheme Administrator** of a claim, it is a **Condition Precedent** that the **Policyholder** must also:
 - a) send evidence (including photographs and reports if appropriate) to the **Scheme Administrator** confirming that there has been **Equipment Damage**; and
 - b) take all responsible steps to prevent further loss or damage; and
 - c) allow us to have all reasonable access to the **Home** during normal working hours; and
 - d) obtain permission to access neighbouring land and obtain any other permission needed to allow investigations and work; and
 - e) to the extent that this is in **Your** possession or control, provide the **Scheme Administrator** with all information and documentation it may request which is necessary in order to investigate the claim.

4. ADDITIONAL COVER

In addition to any applicable cover under section 3, the **Underwriter** will pay for the following additional covers provided always that the total cost of the claim does not exceed the **Limit of Indemnity**:

4.1 ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATION COSTS

If the **Home** is rendered uninhabitable then the **Underwriter** will pay the necessary cost of reasonable alternative accommodation incurred by the **Policyholder** with our prior written consent, including removal and storage of the **Policyholder's** own possessions (for a period not exceeding 26 weeks).

The **Underwriter** will not pay for any costs or expenses payable in respect of any **Home** not occupied by the **Policyholder** as its main and permanent residence.

The maximum amount payable under this section 4.1 is subject to a maximum liability of 10% of the unused **Limit of Indemnity** or £100,000 whichever is the lesser.

4.2 FEES

Such Architects', Surveyors', Legal, Consulting Engineers' and other professional fees as are necessarily and reasonably incurred by the **Policyholder** with our prior written consent in relation to investigation of any occurrence or circumstance that is likely to give rise to a claim or to the complete or partial rebuilding or rectifying work to the **Home**.

4.3 REMOVAL OF DEBRIS

The reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the **Policyholder** with our prior written consent in respect of:

- a) removal of debris at; and / or
- b) dismantling or demolishing; and / or
- c) shoring up,

the **Home**.

5. EXCLUSIONS (APPLICABLE TO ALL SECTIONS)

The **Underwriter** shall not be liable to the **Policyholder** for any of the following:

1. ALTERATIONS

Loss or damage due to or arising from any alteration, modification or addition to a **Home** after the issue of the **Certificate of Approval** unless (in each case) the **Scheme Administrator** has been informed and agreed to include, the **Policy** endorsed and any applicable additional premium paid to the **Scheme Administrator**.

2. ASBESTOS

Loss or damage arising from or in relation to asbestos or the presence of asbestos in the **Home**.

3. CHANGE IN COLOUR

Any change in colour, texture, opacity or staining or other ageing process to any element of the **Home**.

4. ENDORSEMENT

Anything excluded by an endorsement issued by the **Scheme Administrator** and noted on the **Certificate of Insurance**.

5. FLOODING AND WATER TABLE

Loss or damage resulting from flooding or failure of flood prevention / defence measures, however caused, or from a change in the water table level.

6. GLAZED PANES

Loss of, or damage to, any existing double or triple glazing panes in any **Home** that has been converted, refurbished or renovated, unless such double or triple glazing panes were newly installed by the **Builder** at the time of such conversion, refurbishment or renovation.

7. HUMIDITY

Loss or damage caused by, or consequent upon humidity, normal dampness or condensation in a **Home** that is not the direct result of a **Defect** or **Inherent Fault**.

8. INDIRECT LOSS

Unless expressly provided for in this **Policy**, economic or financial loss of any description (including costs arising from inconvenience or distress, loss of enjoyment, loss of use, reduction in value of the **Home**, loss of income or business opportunity) arising either directly or indirectly as a result of the events or circumstances that led to **Your** claim.

9. MAINTENANCE AND USE

Inadequate maintenance of a **Home** or the imposition of any load greater than that for which the **Home** was designed or the use of a **Home** for any purpose other than that for which it was designed, unless (in each case) the **Scheme Administrator** has been informed in writing and agreed to include, the **Policy** endorsed and any applicable additional premium paid to the **Scheme Administrator**.

10. PERSONAL INJURY

Any costs, losses, expenses or damages for death, bodily injury, disease, illness or injury to mental health, however caused.

11. PLANNING PERMISSION

Any loss or damage caused by the **Builder** having failed to obtain planning permission and associated conditions for **Your Home** and/or the **New Development** or having built **Your Home** and/or the **New Development** other than in accordance with the planning permission and associated conditions actually obtained. If work is required to demolish, rebuild or alter **Your Home** or any part of the **New Development** due to the absence of valid planning permission and associated conditions or the need to comply with retrospective planning permission and associated conditions, such cost is not covered under this **Policy**.

12. PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

During the **Defects Insurance Period**:

Any loss or damage arising out of any issue which the **Policyholder** was aware or had knowledge of prior to purchasing the **Home** and which would otherwise constitute a valid claim under the **Policy**, where the **Policyholder** agreed a reduction in the purchase price for the **Home** as a consequence or obtained any other remedy, benefit or compensation of any kind.

During the **Structural Insurance Period**:

Any loss or damage arising out of any issue which the **Policyholder** was aware or had knowledge of prior to purchasing the **Home** and which would otherwise constitute a valid claim under the **Policy**, where the **Policyholder** agreed or could have agreed a reduction in the purchase price for the **Home** as a consequence or obtained or could have obtained any other remedy, benefit or compensation of any kind.

13. RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION, CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, BIO-CHEMICAL AND ELECTROMAGNETIC WEAPONS

Any loss or destruction of or damage to any property, any loss or expense whatsoever, any consequential loss or any legal liability directly or indirectly caused by or contributed to by, or arising from:

- a)
 - (i) ionising radiations or contamination by radioactivity from nuclear fuel or from nuclear waste from the combustion of nuclear fuel;
 - (ii) the radioactive, toxic, explosive or other hazardous or contaminating properties of any nuclear installation, reactor or other nuclear assembly or nuclear component thereof
- b) the use of any weapon or device:
 - (i) dispersing radioactive material and / or ionising radiation; or
 - (ii) using atomic or nuclear fission and / or fusion or other like reaction
- c) the radioactive, toxic, explosive or other hazardous or contaminating properties of any radioactive matter but this will not apply in respect of radioactive isotopes (other than nuclear fuel or nuclear waste) used for the purposes for which they were intended;
- d) any chemical, biological, bio-chemical, or electromagnetic weapon.

14. REASONABLENESS

In the event of a valid claim under the **Policy** the **Underwriter** shall only be responsible for costs, professional fees and expenses that a reasonable person would incur if spending their own money.

In respect of the settlement of any claim, the **Underwriter** will try to provide or pay for items that match, or are largely similar to, existing items. However, the **Underwriter** will not pay any costs that are more than 20% higher than the original cost of the items.

15. SANCTIONS LIMITATIONS

The **Underwriter** shall not be deemed to provide cover and shall not be liable to pay any claim or provide any benefit hereunder to the extent that the provision of such cover, payment of such claim or provision of such benefit would expose that **Underwriter** to any sanction, prohibition or restriction under United Nations resolutions, or the trade or economic sanctions, laws or regulations of the European Union, United Kingdom or United States of America.

16. SETTLEMENT AND OTHER GROUND MOVEMENT

Loss or damage caused by or in connection with any movement of land or settlement of bedding down of a **Home**, unless the loss or damage is caused by a **Defect**.

17. SONIC BANGS

Loss or damage directly occasioned by pressure waves caused by aircraft or other aerial devices travelling at sonic or supersonic speeds.

18. SPECIAL PERILS

Loss or damage caused or contributed to by any of the following:

- a) fire, lightning or explosion;
- b) earthquake;
- c) flood;
- d) storm;
- e) aircraft or other flying objects, or articles falling from them;
- f) water, oil or any other liquids leaking or bursting from tanks, pipes, heating systems or other equipment;
- g) malicious acts (such as vandalism or criminal damage);
- h) theft or attempted theft;
- i) accidental damage; and/or
- j) loss or damage which would ordinarily be covered under a standard buildings insurance policy (regardless of whether or not **You** have in fact purchased such a policy).

Where loss or damage has been caused or contributed to by any of the above, this exclusion will apply even if the loss and damage has also been caused or contributed to, at the same time, by a **Defect** or **Inherent Fault** which would otherwise have been covered under this **Policy**.

19. SUBSIDENCE

Loss or damage caused by or consequent upon subsidence, heave or landslip, except where such loss or damage is as a direct result of a **Defect** in the design, workmanship, materials or components of the **Structure** of a **Home**.

20. TERRORISM

Any loss or damage directly caused by an act of terrorism. For the purposes of this exclusion, an act of terrorism shall mean an act involving the use of force or violence and / or the threat thereof that is committed for political, religious, or ideological purposes and with the intention to influence any government and / or to put the public, or any section of the public, in fear. The perpetrators of an act of terrorism can be acting alone or on behalf of, or in connection with, any organisation(s) or government(s).

21. TOXIC MOULD

Loss or damage arising out of any bacteria, yeasts, mildew, viruses, fungi, mould or their spores, mycotoxins or other metabolic products in a **Home** that is not the direct result of a **Defect** or **Inherent Fault**.

22. VERMIN

Loss or damage caused by or consequent upon the actions of rodents, vermin or insect infestation.

23. WAR RISKS

Any consequence whatsoever which is the direct or indirect result of any of the following, or anything connected with any of the following, whether or not such consequence has been contributed to by any other cause or event:

- a) war, invasion, act of a foreign enemy, hostilities or a warlike operation or operations (whether war be declared or not), civil war, rebellion, revolution, insurrection, civil commotion assuming the proportions of or amounting to an uprising, military or usurped power, mutiny or military uprising, martial law; and
- b) nationalisation, confiscation, requisition, seizure, damage or destruction by or by order of any government or any local or public authority; and
- c) any action taken in controlling, preventing, suppressing or in any way relating to (a) and / or (b) above.

24. WEAR AND TEAR

Wear and tear, normal dampness, condensation, thermal movement, movement between different types of materials or shrinkage or normal deterioration (whether caused by neglect or otherwise).

25. WILFUL ACTS

Any wilful neglect or criminal act of the **Policyholder** or any other person.

6. CONDITIONS

1. APPLICABLE LAW

The law of England and Wales will apply to this contract unless:

- a) **You** and we agree otherwise; or
- b) at the date of the contract **You** are a resident of (or, in the case of a business, the registered office or principal place of business is situated in) Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, in which case (in the absence of agreement to the contrary) the law of that country will apply.

2. CLAIMS SETTLEMENT – COMPONENT ELEMENT / ITEM LIMITS

The **Underwriter** will have the option to limit any amount paid under this **Policy** for any defective or damaged item or component element of the **Home** to an amount not exceeding 150% of the original replacement cost of the same item or component element as at the time of construction, conversion, refurbishment or renovation of the **Home**, provided always that the liability of the **Underwriter** does not exceed the **Financial Limit** of that section of the **Policy**.

3. CONTRIBUTION

If at any time of any occurrence giving rise to a claim under this **Policy**:

- a) there is (or would be, but for the existence of this insurance) any other insurance applicable; or
- b) the **Policyholder** has entitlement to any statutory damages, damage or compensation; or
- c) the **Policyholder** has initiated legal proceedings from which compensation may be received,

then any applicable cover under this **Policy** shall be limited to such amount in excess of such insurance, damages or compensation (without prejudice to any **Financial Limits** specified in the **Policy**) and shall not be called into contribution.

4. FRAUD

If a claim made is fraudulent or fraudulently exaggerated or supported by a false statement or fraudulent means or fraudulent evidence is provided to support the claim, the **Underwriter** will:

- a) refuse to pay the claim which will be deemed forfeit as a result,
- b) recover any sums paid in respect of the claim,
- c) by notice to the **Policyholder** terminate the **Policy** with effect from the date of the fraudulent act without any return of premium.

If the **Underwriter** terminates the **Policy** under (c) above, then the **Underwriter** may refuse to provide cover after the time of the fraudulent act. This will not affect any liability the **Underwriter** may have in respect of the provision of cover before the time of the fraudulent act.

5. INDEXATION

The **Limit of Indemnity** and **Excess** referred to within the **Certificate of Insurance** will be increased in line with the RICS House Re-Building Index or 5% per annum compound (whichever is the lesser) on each anniversary of the commencement of the period of insurance for section 3. For the purpose of settlement of any claim hereunder, the **Limit of Indemnity** and **Excess**, as adjusted in accordance with the foregoing provisions, shall be regarded as the **Limit of Indemnity** and **Excess** at the time of discovery by the **Policyholder** of such claim.

6. MULTI-OCCUPIED BUILDINGS

Where the **Home** is part of a multi-occupied building (where a number of **Homes** are contained within one building), the **Management Company** shall normally co-ordinate the claim in respect of all **Policyholders** of the multi-occupied building and where that is the case the **Scheme Administrator** shall not be obliged to correspond with the individual **Policyholder** regarding such claims.

7. NON DISCLOSURE, MISREPRESENTATION OR MISDESCRIPTION

*Before the **Policy** was entered into:*

If the **Policyholder** has breached their duty to make a fair representation of the risk to the **Underwriter** before the **Policy** was entered into then where the breach was deliberate or reckless, the **Underwriter** may avoid this **Policy** and refuse all claims, and keep all premiums paid.

Where the breach was neither deliberate nor reckless, and but for the breach:

- a) The **Underwriter** would not have agreed to provide cover under this **Policy** on any terms, the **Underwriter** may avoid this **Policy** and refuse all claims, but will return any premiums paid, and / or
- b) The **Underwriter** would have agreed to provide cover under this **Policy** but on different terms (other than premium terms), the **Underwriter** may require that this **Policy** includes such different terms with effect from its commencement, and / or
- c) The **Underwriter** would have agreed to provide cover under this **Policy** but would have charged a higher premium,

the **Underwriter's** liability for any loss amount payable shall be limited to the proportion that the premium the **Underwriter** charged bears to the higher premium the **Underwriter** would have charged, as outlined in Schedule 1 to the Insurance Act 2015.

*Before a variation to the **Policy** was agreed*

If the **Policyholder** has breached the **Policyholder's** duty to make a fair representation of the risk to the **Underwriter** before any variation to this **Policy** was agreed, then where the breach was deliberate or reckless, the **Underwriter** may cancel this **Policy** with effect from the date of the variation, and keep all premiums paid.

Where the breach was neither deliberate nor reckless, and but for the breach:

- a) The **Underwriter** would not have agreed to the variation on any terms, the **Underwriter** may treat this **Policy** as though the variation was never made, but will return any additional premiums paid, and / or
- b) The **Underwriter** would have agreed to the variation but on different terms (other than premium terms), the **Underwriter** may require that the variation includes such different terms with effect from the date it was made, and / or
- c) The **Underwriter** would have agreed to the variation but would have increased the premium, or would have increased it by more than the **Underwriter** did, or would not have reduced it or reduced it by less than the **Underwriter** did,

the **Underwriter's** liability for any loss amount payable shall be limited on a proportionate basis, as outlined in Schedule 1 to the Insurance Act 2015.

This condition operates in addition to any provisions relating to underinsurance in this **Policy**.

7. NOTIFICATION OF CLAIMS

It is the **Policyholder's** responsibility to submit claims in line with the procedures noted within the relevant section (3.1 – 3.4) of the **Policy**.

It is important to note that it is a **Condition Precedent** to the payment of any claim(s) under section 3.1 that concerns have been notified to the **Builder** in writing before the expiry of the **Defects Insurance Period** and if the **Builder** does not rectify then the **Defects** and resultant damage must be notified to the **Scheme Administrator** in writing within 6 months of the expiry of the **Defects Insurance Period**. The **Underwriter** will have no liability for any matter which is not notified within these time frames.

8. RECOVERIES FROM THE BUILDER

The **Underwriter** will not take proceedings against the **Builder** for claims, which occur following the expiry of the notification period of the **Defects Insurance Period**, unless:

- a) the claims relate to remedial works undertaken by the **Builder** as part of a previous claim under the **Defects Insurance Period**, that have subsequently failed; and / or
- b) the **Builder** made a change in the design or the materials used during construction of the **Home** without notifying the **Surveyor**;
- c) the **Builder** breached their duty to make a fair presentation of the risk to the **Scheme Administrator** before the issue of the **Certificate of Approval**.

9. RECOVERIES FROM THIRD PARTIES

The **Underwriter** is entitled to take action, at their own expense, to enforce any right **You** may have against a third party. In some situations it may be necessary to take action to protect a right of recovery against a third party before the **Underwriter** has had chance to consider **Your** claim and confirm coverage under this **Policy**. In such a situation it is a **Condition Precedent** that **You** cooperate with the **Underwriter** to take the steps required to protect the right of recovery. The **Underwriter** will be responsible for paying any costs or expenses of taking any such agreed steps. If cover for **Your** claim under the **Policy** is subsequently declined, **You** will then have the option of continuing with the recovery action against the third party, but **You** will have to pay any costs incurred after the **Underwriter** has notified **You** that **Your** claim under this **Policy** is not covered. The **Underwriter** will not seek repayment from **You** of any costs incurred prior to the claim under the **Policy** being declined.

10. REINSTATEMENT OF LIMIT OF INDEMNITY

Where any successful claim has been made under section 3 and which is met by the **Underwriter** for less than the **Limit of Indemnity** for the relevant section, such **Limit of Indemnity** shall (in accordance with the provisions of this **Policy**) be reduced to the extent such claim has been met by the **Underwriter**. In such circumstances, the **Policyholder** may request that the **Limit of Indemnity** be reinstated. The decision to reinstate any **Limit of Indemnity** shall be at the sole discretion of the **Underwriter** and shall in any event be subject to:

- a) payment by the **Policyholder** of any fee charged by the **Surveyor** for checking the design of the **Home** and inspecting any work for the repair or rebuilding of any **Home** which has been the subject of a claim under this **Policy**; and
- b) the **Surveyor** certifying that such repair or rebuilding work meets the **Underwriter's** required standards; and
- c) payment by the **Policyholder** of any additional premium required to be paid in respect of any such reinstatement, as notified by the **Underwriter**

If the **Underwriter** accepts **Your** request to reinstate the **Limit of Indemnity**, an endorsement to the **Policy** will be issued showing that the limit has been reinstated. If no such endorsement has been issued, then the **Limit of Indemnity** has not been reinstated regardless of any request **You** or a previous owner may have made .

For the avoidance of doubt, the **Policyholder** shall be required to pay the **Surveyor's** fee referred to above regardless of whether or not the **Limit of Indemnity** is reinstated.

11. TAX

Any claim we pay will not include VAT unless **You** cannot recover part or all of the VAT **You** have paid.

12. TERMINATION

This **Policy** will terminate automatically without refund of premium in the event that:

- a) the **Home** is destroyed by a cause other than that insured against in this **Policy**; or
- b) the **Underwriter** has paid a claim under an Endorsement for Insolvency of the **Builder** during the **Building Period** where this has been added to the **Policy**; or
- c) the **Underwriter** has paid the maximum amount for which it will be liable under the **Policy** in accordance with the **Limit of Indemnity** unless the **Limit of Indemnity** has been reinstated in line with the Reinstatement of **Limit of Indemnity** Condition.

The cover under this **Policy** will terminate automatically without refund of premium in the event that the **Underwriter** has paid the maximum amount for which it will be liable under the relevant section in accordance with the relevant **Limit of Indemnity**.

13. THIRD PARTY RIGHTS

A person who is not a party to this **Policy** has no right under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 to enforce any term of this **Policy**, but this does not affect any right or remedy of a third party which exists or is available apart from that Act.

14. UNDERWRITER'S RIGHTS

In the event of any occurrence which may give rise to a claim under this **Policy**, it is a **Condition Precedent** that the **Underwriter** and/or its agents (including the **Builder** and / or their subcontractors) shall, with the permission of the **Policyholder**, be entitled to enter the **Home** and be given all reasonable access in order to carry out rectification works or the complete or partial rebuilding of the **Home**. If such permission is unreasonably withheld by the **Policyholder** then the **Underwriter** may refuse to indemnify the claim under the **Policy** and/or the **Policyholder** shall be responsible for any additional costs caused by the delay in carrying out such works and the **Underwriter** has the sole option to terminate the **Policy** with immediate effect.

7. DISPUTE RESOLUTION SERVICE AND ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 7.1 During the **Defects Insurance Period**, if **You** tell us that the **Builder** has not put right any **Defect** and associated damage above any **Excess** applicable that **You** have reported to them, or that **You** are not satisfied with their response, we may choose to offer our **Dispute Resolution Service** which will try to bring **You** and the **Builder** together. Our **Dispute Resolution Service** will contact relevant parties, investigate the dispute and make a final decision which is binding on the **Builder**, but not on **You**.
- 7.2 Using our **Dispute Resolution Service** does not affect **Your** legal rights in any way. However, **You** may want to get independent legal advice before using the **Dispute Resolution Service**.
- 7.3 Our **Dispute Resolution Service** will not be suitable for all disputes. We can give **You** advice on technical issues, particularly whether the **Builder** has met the functional requirements set out in the **Technical Manual**. The resolution service only helps with disputes about the builder's responsibilities under the builder warranty. We cannot help with other matters such as disputes over boundaries, planning and contractual and financial matters.
- 7.4 The possible outcomes after using the **Dispute Resolution Service** are as follows.
- **You** and the **Builder** accept the service's decision and the **Builder** carries out any necessary work within the agreed time.
 - **You** and the **Builder** accept the service's decision but the **Builder** fails to carry out any necessary work within the agreed time. In this case, **You** should tell us and we will try to make sure the work is carried out.
 - **You** and the **Builder** accept the service's decision, but **You** do not give the **Builder** access to **Your Home** for them to carry out the necessary work. If this is the case, the service cannot provide any further help with **Your** dispute.
 - **You** do not accept the service's findings. If this is the case, please refer to "Alternative action **You** can take" below.
 - The **Builder** does not accept the service's decision. In this case, the **Builder** must exercise the **Builder's** right of challenge as described at section 7.7.1.
- 7.5 We and the **Underwriter** are not liable to **You** for any damage, loss, costs or expenses arising out of us performing our duties under the **Dispute Resolution Service**.
- 7.6 **ALTERNATIVE ACTION YOU CAN TAKE**
- 7.6.1 If **You** disagree with the content of the resolution report, **You** may choose to use an alternative dispute resolution service, such as the Independent Dispute Resolution Scheme. The Independent Dispute Resolution Scheme is run by CEDR Ltd, the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution: www.cedr.com. Alternatively **You** may wish to begin court proceedings.
- 7.6.2 The guidance above is not a recommendation for any form of dispute resolution and **You** may wish to take legal advice to decide the most appropriate process.
- 7.7 **BUILDERS'S RIGHT OF CHALLENGE**
- 7.7.1 The **Builder** may challenge the **Dispute Resolution Service's** binding final decision by commencing arbitration within 28 days. Arbitration is administered by CEDR under the UNCITRAL arbitration rules. Where a **Builder** exercises their right to challenge the **Dispute Resolution Service's** final decision, the **Underwriter** shall have no liability under this **Policy** until the arbitration process is resolved.

8. HOW TO MAKE A COMPLAINT

1. We have the authority to administer complaints on behalf of the **Underwriter**. We aim to provide a first class service to every **Policyholder**. However, occasionally an enquiry or a complaint may arise, often as a result of a misunderstanding, which will usually be resolved quickly and to the satisfaction of the **Policyholder**.
2. If **You** have an enquiry or cause to make a complaint regarding **Your Policy** then **You** should, in the first instance, contact the insurance agent who arranged the insurance for **You**. If they are unable to resolve the problem, please contact:

The Complaints Officer
MD Insurance Services Limited
2 Shore Lines Building
Shore Road
Birkenhead
Wirral
CH41 1AU

Email: complaints@mdinsurance.co.uk

Tel: 0151 650 4343

3. A copy of our Complaints Procedure will be provided with an acknowledgement of **Your** complaint.
4. Any complaint that cannot be resolved by us may be referred to the Financial Ombudsman Service. Further details will be provided at the appropriate stage of the complaint process or are available on request. This complaint procedure is without prejudice to the **Policyholder's** right to take legal action. Their address is:

The Financial Ombudsman Service
Exchange Tower
London
E14 9SR

Or via the website: www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk

5. In all cases, the Reference Number appearing in the **Development Initial Certificate** and **Certificate of Insurance** should be quoted.

6. **Financial Services Compensation Scheme**

Policies issued by us on behalf of the **Underwriter** are covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. **You** may be entitled to compensation from the scheme if the **Underwriter** is unable to meet its obligations under the terms of the **Policy**. If **You** are entitled to compensation under the Scheme, the level and extent of the compensation would depend on the nature of the **Policy** contract. Further information about compensation scheme arrangements are available from the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. Their address is:

Financial Services Compensation Scheme
10th Floor
Beaufort House
15 St Botolph Street
London
EC3A 7QU

Or via the Scheme website: www.fscs.org.uk



2 Shore Lines Building Shore Road Birkenhead Wirral CH41 1AU
0800 183 1755 | enquiries@labcwarranty.co.uk | labcwarranty.co.uk

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