

## **Property – Buildings (Office)**

Policy wording

The General terms and conditions, the Property definitions and the following terms and conditions all apply to this section.

# Special definitions for this section

Rent receivable

Rent that **you** cannot legally recover from **your** tenants whilst the **buildings** or any part are unusable as a result of insured **damage**.

#### What is covered

We will insure you against damage occurring during the period of insurance to insured buildings or any other items specified under this section in the schedule.

#### **Additional cover**

The following are also provided up to the amount shown in the schedule:

Trace and access

We will pay for the necessary and reasonable costs you incur with our consent to locate any damage to cables, underground pipes and drains or the source of a gas leak or of any escape of water from permanent internal plumbing, where the damage, leakage or escape first occurs during the period of insurance. We will also pay the cost to make good any damage caused as a consequence of locating the damage or source of leakage or escape.

**Emergency services** 

We will pay for the cost of any fire brigade charges and other extinguishing expenses and other charges made by any organisation responsible for preservation of public safety, including replacing sprinklers, for which you are liable following damage occurring during the period of insurance to insured buildings not otherwise excluded.

Loss prevention costs

 We will pay for necessary and reasonable costs that you incur to protect the buildings from imminent insured damage occurring during the period of insurance.

Additions to buildings

We will pay for damage occurring during the period of insurance to any additions or improvements of standard construction to the buildings once they are completed and become your legal responsibility, provided you tell us the additional values as soon as possible and pay the appropriate premium.

Inadvertent omissions

5. Having notified **us** of the intention to insure all **buildings** in which **you** have an interest and it being **your** understanding that all **property** is accounted for, if any such **property** is found to have been omitted, **we** will deem it to be insured within the terms of this **policy**, provided it is of **standard construction**. This is subject to payment of the appropriate premium either from **policy** inception or from the date which **you** became legally responsible for such **property**.

Selling the buildings

6. If **you** are selling the **buildings**, this **policy** will cover the **buildings** for the buyer from the time **you** exchange contracts to the time of completion, unless the buyer is insured by, or has the benefit of, any other insurance. To obtain the benefit of this additional cover, the buyer must comply with the terms of this **policy**.

Trees, shrubs and plants

7. We will pay for damage occurring during the period of insurance to trees, shrubs or plants at your business premises, which are owned by you or for which you are legally responsible, as a result of fire or explosion.

Discharge of oil

We will pay the necessary and reasonable additional costs and expenses you incur with our consent to decontaminate the land at the premises shown in the schedule following accidental discharge of oil, other than resulting from failure of the storage tank, from any oil fired heating appliance or storage tank occurring during the period of insurance.

#### What is not covered

We will not make any payment for:

- 1. damage caused by:
  - wear and tear, inherent defect, rot, fungus, mould, vermin or infestation, or any gradually operating cause;



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- b. settlement or bedding down of new structures;
- c. settlement or movement of made up ground;
- d. coastal or river erosion;
- collapse or cracking, other than damage to the main building resulting from subsidence;
- f. subsidence:
  - i. to walls, gates and fences, car parks, yards, private roads, pavements and paths unless the main building is physically damaged at the same time and by the same cause:
  - ii. to solid floors unless the walls are physically damaged at the same time and by the same cause:
- g. demolition, building work or groundwork on the premises;
- h. a rise in the water table;
- pressure waves caused by aircraft or other aerial devices travelling at supersonic speeds;
- j. storm or flood to gates or fences;
- frost, other than damage due to water leaking from burst pipes forming part of the permanent internal plumbing provided the building is occupied and in use;
- date recognition;
- m. any virus.
- damage to any computers, equipment, oil and water storage tanks or electrical or mechanical plant or equipment directly resulting from its own failure.
- 3. misuse, faulty workmanship, defective design or the use of faulty materials.
- 4. the cost of maintenance or routine redecoration.
- 5. any indirect losses which result from the incident which caused you to claim.
- pollution or contamination except damage to insured property which is not otherwise excluded and which is caused by:
  - a. pollution or contamination which itself results from insured damage covered under this section; or
  - damage which would otherwise be covered under this section which itself was caused by pollution or contamination;

This clause does not apply to the cover under **What is covered**, Discharge of oil.

- 7. a. **damage** directly or indirectly caused by, resulting from or in connection with **terrorism** or any action taken to control, prevent or respond to **terrorism**;
  - b. **damage** in Northern Ireland directly or indirectly caused by civil commotion.

If there is any dispute between **you** and **us** over the application of this clause, it will be for **you** to show that the clause does not apply.

- 8. war, confiscation and nuclear risks.
- 9. the amount of the excess.

# How much we will pay

We will pay up to the amount insured unless limited below or in the schedule, but we will not pay more than the amount insured in total for the cost of rebuilding or repair and other costs combined.

Rebuilding and repair

**We** will pay the cost of rebuilding or repairing the **buildings** to a condition equal to but not better or more extensive than their condition when new, provided **you** carry out the rebuilding or repair and do so without unreasonable delay.



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Other costs

**We** will pay the following necessary and reasonable costs and expenses **you** incur in rebuilding or repairing following **damage** insured by this section:

- The cost of removing debris of the **buildings** from the premises or the area immediately adjacent;
- b. The cost of dismantling, demolishing, shoring up or propping up any part of the **buildings**;
- c. The cost of complying with any statutory or local authority requirement regarding the damaged part of the **buildings**, unless notice of such requirement was served before the **damage** and provided the **buildings** were originally built according to any government and local authority regulations in force at that time;
- d. The fees of architects, surveyors or consulting engineers;
- e. Clearing, cleaning and repairing drains, gutters, sewers and the like on **your** premises which are blocked or damaged.

We will not pay for the cost of preparing a claim.

Special rebuilding conditions

**You** may rebuild or replace **buildings** which are totally destroyed in any manner suitable to **your** requirements and/or on another site provided this does not increase the cost.

Under insurance

If, at the time of **damage**, the **amount insured** is less than 85% of the total rebuilding cost of the **buildings** including an allowance for other costs, the amount **we** pay will be reduced in the same proportion as the under insurance.

Index linking

The **amount insured** for **buildings** will be adjusted monthly in line with any change in nationally published indices. **We** will not reduce the **amount insured** without **your** consent.

### Your obligations

If any damage occurs

**We** will not make any payment under this section unless **you** notify **us** promptly of any **damage** which might be covered.

**You** should report to the police, as soon as is reasonably possible, any **damage** arising from theft, arson, malicious damage, riot or civil commotion and obtain a crime reference from them.

**You** should arrange for urgent repairs to be done immediately. Before any other repair work begins **we** have the right to inspect the damaged **property**. **We** will tell **you** if **we** want to do this

Unoccupancy

You must tell us immediately if the buildings, including any self-contained areas of the buildings, will be left unoccupied or will not be used for more than 30 consecutive days. If you do not, we will not make any payment for damage occurring while the buildings are unoccupied. We may change the terms and conditions of this policy or impose additional requirements that you must carry out. If we impose additional requirements we will tell you the timeframes within which you must carry them out.

**Building works** 

If **you** intend to undertake any work to extend, renovate, build or demolish any part of the **buildings** and the estimated cost is more than £75,000, **you** must tell **us** about the work at least 30 days before the work starts and before **you** enter into any contract for the works. **We** may then amend the terms of this **policy**. If **you** do not tell **us** about such work, **we** may not pay for any **damage** directly or indirectly caused by or resulting from the building works.

You do not have to tell us if the work is for redecoration only.

## **Special conditions**

Workmen

Workmen are permitted in or about any of the **buildings** for the purposes of carrying out minor alterations, repairs, decoration and maintenance without **invalidating** this insurance.

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