

## Financial Services Guide

Date of issue: 1 January 2023

This Financial Services Guide (“FSG”) explains the financial services provided by First Mutual Australia Pty Ltd (“FMA”) and your adviser (who is authorised through FMA). It is designed to help you make a fully informed decision about whether you want to use our services. Please take the time to read this guide carefully. Sound financial advice is based on open communication. Understanding our services and our fees is the cornerstone of this communication. It’s also important that you know who authorises your adviser, the nature of their associations and relationships and what to do if you have a complaint. If you have further questions, or if there is anything that is unclear, please talk to your adviser or contact us.

This guide must be accompanied by an **Adviser Profile** which outlines the services that your adviser is authorised to provide.

This guide contains information about:

- FMA, who, as the Licensee, is responsible for the financial services
- Your financial adviser
- The financial planning services (advice) your financial adviser can provide and the products they can recommend
- How FMA, your financial adviser and other related parties are paid for the financial planning services provided to you
- Any associations or relationships that could create potential conflicts of interest
- Who to contact should you have a complaint

### Not Independent

As we may receive commission on life insurance products as explained in this FSG under the heading ‘How we are paid’, we do not refer to ourselves or our advice as independent, impartial or unbiased.

### Important documents you can expect to receive

When your adviser provides personal financial advice for the first time, you will generally be given a Statement of Advice (“SoA”). The SoA sets out our advice, the basis on which it is given, the cost of the advice, and information about any associations or relationships that could influence the advice. If you require further advice at a later time, providing your circumstances have not changed significantly since your previous SoA, your adviser may be able to provide the further advice verbally or via a shorter Record of Advice (“RoA”). If you are given verbal advice, your adviser will document the discussion and a copy of this record can be made available to you on request. If you are given further advice and your

circumstances have changed significantly since your previous SoA, you will generally be given another SoA.

To help you make an informed decision about acquiring a financial product, you will generally be given a Product Disclosure Statement (“PDS”) which outlines the product features and costs in detail. In certain circumstances, there is no requirement to provide a PDS (including, for example, where one has already been provided).

If you ask your adviser to undertake a transaction without receiving advice from them, you may be given a letter confirming your instructions and disclosing any costs payable by you in relation to that transaction.

### About us

First Mutual Australia is registered in Australia and holds an Australian Financial Services Licence (“AFSL”) No. 423710 issued by the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (“ASIC”). FMA conducts business through financial advisers appointed as Authorised Representatives under its AFSL.

### Financial Services and Products Available

FMA’s financial advisers can offer a range of insurance, investment, superannuation and retirement strategies and products.

FMA maintains an Approved Products List (“APL”) containing financial products that your adviser can recommend, and which have been researched by one or more external Research houses. A copy of the APL can be supplied to you upon request.

FMA’s financial advisers act for you and not for any life insurance company, fund manager or bank.

### What advice is available to you

FMA and your adviser can provide advice and strategies on the following, but not limited to:

- Savings, wealth creation & investment
- Superannuation & Retirement planning
- Centrelink
- Financial management
- Estate planning
- Asset protection & insurance
- Self-managed superannuation
- Business succession

### Initial services that may be provided

The initial services that may be provided include:

- Identification of your financial goals and objectives

- Collection and analysis of your existing personal and financial situation
- Investigation and consideration of possible financial planning strategies and products that will assist you to meet your goals and objectives
- Presentation of our recommendations, usually in an SoA
- Implementation of your strategy

#### Ongoing services that may be provided

The ongoing services that may be provided include:

- Revision of your personal and financial situation at suitable, agreed intervals
- Discussion of whether our recommendations remain appropriate, should your personal circumstances or the legislative environment change
- Implementation of any recommendations made as part of our ongoing service to you

You and your financial adviser may agree in writing on a more extensive ongoing service.

#### How we are paid

We receive remuneration from:

- Advice and service fees paid by you (fee for service)
- Commissions from insurance providers
- Other payments and benefits as outlined above under the heading 'Important relationships and other benefits'

As the licensee, FMA receives all fees and commissions paid upon the provision of services by your adviser and under contract deducts a Licensee fee from the amounts received. FMA then forwards the residual onto your adviser's practice who will then meet the costs of operating their business, which may include payment of a salary, bonus and/or distributions to your adviser.

#### Advice and service fees paid by you

Before providing personal advice, your adviser will discuss and agree both the fee and payment options with you. These fees will be based on your individual circumstances, the complexity of your situation and the time it takes to prepare your advice. Details of all remuneration and other benefits associated with the advice being provided will also be disclosed in the written advice provided to you.

Any and all fees and commissions will be discussed and agreed with you prior to commencing any work. The initial meeting may be at no charge.

We generally charge fixed price fees for initial advice and implementation of the advice up to \$15,000 but it could be more depending upon complexity (and will be specifically quoted and agreed by you in advance).

We also provide annual service packages on either a 12-month or an ongoing basis with fees generally in the range of \$1,000 to \$25,000 per annum.

We may charge an hourly rate for the advice we provide up to \$500 per hour.

All fees are exclusive of GST.

You will be invoiced directly for these fees and may elect to pay FMA directly or have these fees deducted from your investments.

Your adviser may charge other fees for the ad hoc provision of advice or services including if you instruct your adviser to complete a transaction such as buying or selling specific financial products. This can be a flat fee, an hourly rate (up to \$500 per hour excluding GST) or a combination of both.

Fees can usually be paid by invoice, direct debit, deducted from a financial product, or a combination of two or more of these methods.

#### Commissions from insurance providers

Initial commission may be up to 66% of the initial annual premium. Ongoing commission may be up to 50% of the ongoing annual premium.

Should you cancel an insurance contract within the first two years your adviser reserves the right to invoice you an amount equal to the costs they have incurred as a result of the provision of financial services to you.

All commissions are exclusive of GST.

For insurance products purchased prior to 1 January 2018, we may continue to be paid commissions in the same manner as what would have previously been advised to you at the time of obtaining the product(s).

Where possible we may agree to refuse to receive these commissions, rebate these commissions to your account, or use the commissions to offset some or all of your agreed fee for service.

#### Referral Partners

Your adviser may have referral relationships with third parties. These third parties may include accountants, mortgage brokers, general insurance brokers, solicitors and other third parties who specialise in a specific field.

If you are referred to your adviser by one of these third parties, that third party may receive a referral fee, commission or non-monetary benefit. These amounts do not involve additional costs to you and will be disclosed in your SoA. All Fees and Commissions are subject to GST.

Where you are referred to a third party (including to other financial advisers) by your adviser, your adviser does not receive any payment for that referral. We also do not approve or endorse their advice. You

must assess the merits of their advice in the light of your own circumstances and objectives.

#### Other payments or benefits

We keep a register of any benefits received by advisers of between \$100 to \$300. By law, your adviser is not permitted to receive benefits in excess of \$300 per year from a product issuer. Further, FMA keeps a register of any other non-monetary benefits your adviser may receive in relation to education, training, technology support or software that is relevant to the provision of financial advice. If you would like a copy of either register, please ask your adviser and one will be made available to you.

#### FMA has no relationships or association with issuers of financial products

FMA and your financial adviser do not have any relationships nor associations with any suppliers of products that might be recommended, other than in relation to the direct supply of their products.

#### Information required to provide personal advice

Your financial adviser will complete a Client Questionnaire or Fact Find with you, which will record your personal objectives, lifestyle goals, details of your current financial situation and any other relevant information. The information obtained will be assessed by your financial adviser to assist them in providing appropriate advice. You may withhold personal information, but this might compromise the appropriateness of the advice you receive.

You should carefully read any warnings contained in the client questionnaire and SoA before making any decision relating to a financial strategy or product.

#### How to give instructions about your financial products

You may specify how you would like to give us instructions. For example, you may nominate to instruct us to act by telephone, fax, email or other.

#### Information maintained in your file – your right to access it

Your financial adviser will maintain a record of your personal information including details of your objectives, financial situation, any recommendations made to you and Tax File Numbers if they are specifically needed to be passed to superannuation funds, investment and fund managers or insurers.

If you wish to examine your file, please ask your financial adviser and they will make arrangements for you to do so.

FMA and your financial adviser are committed to complying with a privacy policy to protect the privacy and security of your personal information.

#### Professional Indemnity Insurance

FMA holds Professional Indemnity ("PI") Insurance, which covers claims against us for errors or mistakes relating to our financial planning services. This insurance meets the requirements of the Corporations Act and covers the services provided by your adviser for advice provided whilst they are authorised by FMA.

#### If you have a Complaint

If you have a complaint about the financial services provided to you, your complaint should be directed to your adviser in the first instance. You can also raise your complaint at any time by contacting us at:

By email: [compliance@firstmutual.com.au](mailto:compliance@firstmutual.com.au)

Or in writing to: First Mutual Advice Complaints  
Level 10, 24 Collins Street  
Melbourne Vic 3000

We will investigate and endeavour to resolve your complaint quickly and fairly.

If your complaint has not been resolved to your satisfaction within 30 days, you may refer the matter to the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA). AFCA is an external dispute resolution scheme which provides fair and independent financial services complaint resolution that is free to consumers. FMA is a member of this scheme.

AFCA's contact details are:

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

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

Telephone: 1800 931 678 (free call)

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

#### Your privacy

Your personal information will be collected for the primary purpose of providing you with the services described in this FSG. If you do not provide the personal information requested, we may be unable to provide you with the financial services you have requested.

As a financial service provider, we have an obligation under the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Finance Act 2006 (Cth) to verify your identity and the source of any funds. This means that we will ask you to present identification documents such as your passport or driver's licence. We will also retain copies of this information.

In connection with providing our services to you, we may disclose information about you to our Authorised Representatives and to other professionals, insurance providers, superannuation trustees, product issuers, auditors and our service providers.

Your personal information will be handled in accordance with our Privacy Policy which is provided below.

# Privacy Policy

## Our commitment

It is recognised that privacy is very important to most people, and it is therefore appropriate to define how we deal with personal information.

It is intended that this Statement will address any potential concerns you may have about how personal information about you is collected, held, used, corrected, disclosed and transferred.

Our day-to-day roles involve utilising personal information provided by and about people. Personal Information in this context is generally information about or an opinion of a person whose identity is apparent or can reasonably be determined.

We are bound by the *Australian Privacy Principles (APPs)* set out in Australia's *Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Act 2012*, which amends the Privacy Act 1988.

Our aim is to both support and ensure that we comply with, the APPs that form the basis of laws introduced to strengthen privacy protection for the Australian public. The following information is a summary of our obligations under the APPs.

## Collection

In the course of our activities we collect and hold personal information such as clients attitudes, situations and need. We collect such information from client discussions and questionnaires.

The main purposes for collecting that personal information is to assess how the services we provide may best suit the people that the information relates to.

We only collect personal information:

- That is necessary for one or more of our business functions and activities
- By lawful and fair means, without being unreasonably intrusive
- About you, from you.

Wherever it is lawful and practicable, we will give you the option of not identifying yourself or not providing personal information when entering transactions with us. However, failure to provide full and complete information requested may mean that we are unable to provide services to you fully and properly.

We will take reasonable steps to keep it accurate, complete and up-to-date.

## Security

We will take all reasonable steps to protect personal information from misuse and loss, and destroy or permanently de-identify personal information no longer needed.

## Use and Disclosure

We will only use your personal information for the main purpose it was needed, except where you consent to us using that personal information for another purpose, where the other purpose is related to the main purpose, and you would reasonably expect us to use the personal information for that other purpose, it is permitted or required by law, or we reasonably believe it is necessary on health or public safety grounds to use the personal information for another purpose.

In order to fulfil the above we may provide access to third parties with whom we have a business relationship, for example those who maintain and update our database, or assist with mail-outs, etc.

Where practicable we will seek your consent before we use your personal information for any direct mailing – but tell us at any time if you do not wish to receive further direct marketing material.

Note: We do not release any information overseas.

## Access and Correction

If you request it we will tell you what personal information we hold about you and/or provide copies or a summary of relevant documents - whatever is most appropriate in the circumstances. (Any charge made for access will be reasonable.)

Please note that we are not required to provide access to personal information in various situations, for example where a request is frivolous, or would pose a threat to health or public safety, unreasonably interfere with another person's privacy, or be a breach of the law. You will be advised of the reasons if access is refused.

We will take reasonable steps to correct data where you advise that the personal information is inaccurate.

## Identifiers

We will not adopt any identifiers that you may provide, such as TFNs, Medicare numbers etc.

## Adviser Profile

First Mutual Australia has Darren Brind and Prerequisite Capital Management Pty Ltd provide you with this FSG.

AFS Licensee:	Name	First Mutual Australia Pty Ltd
	ABN	42 154 012 085
	AFSL	423710

The Corporate Authorised Representative (CAR) is:	Name	PREREQUISITE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT PTY LTD
	ABN	27 141 060 933
	CAR No	439 909

The Authorised Representative is:	as Director of Prerequisite Capital Management Pty Ltd and as Authorised Representative 283 912
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Contact Details of Authorised Representative	Business	38 Wintergreen Drive Parkwood Qld 4214
	Postal	PO Box 144, Morningside Qld 4170
	Phone	1300 133 681
	Mobile	0498 671 505
	Email	darren@prerequisite.com.au

### Authorities and Limitations

Darren Brind, as an Authorised Representative, is Authorised to advise retail and wholesale clients on the following:	• Deposit Products
	• Government Debentures, Stocks and Bonds
	• Life Insurance (Risk and Investment Products)
	• Securities
	• Retirement Savings Accounts
	• Superannuation – all including SMSF
	• Interests in Managed Investment Schemes including Investor Directed Portfolio Services (IDPS)

Darren Brind is Not Authorised to provide advice in relation to:	• Derivatives
	• Managed Discretionary Accounts

Please note that Darren Brind is not a qualified tax relevant provider under the current Australian law; and If the receiver of the advice intends to rely on the advice to satisfy liabilities or obligations or claim entitlements that arise, or could arise, under a taxation law, the receiver should request advice from a registered tax agent or a qualified tax relevant provider.