



watkins taylor stone

INSURANCE BROKERS

Our Privacy Policy

At Watkins Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd T/as Watkins Taylor Stone, we are committed to protecting your privacy in accordance with the Privacy Act 1998 (Cth) and the Australian Privacy Principles. This Privacy Policy describes our current policies and practices in relation to the collection, handling, use and disclosure of personal information. It also deals with how you can complain about a breach of the privacy laws and how you can access the personal information we hold and how to have that information corrected.

What is Personal Information?

The Privacy Act defines personal information as:

“information or an opinion, whether true or not, and whether recorded in a material form or not, about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable.”

What is Sensitive Information?

“Sensitive Information” is a type of personal information and includes information about:

an individual’s racial or ethnic origin, health information, political opinions, membership of a political association, professional or trade association or trade union, religious beliefs or affiliations, philosophical beliefs, sexual orientation or practices, criminal record, genetic information, biometric information or templates.

Our collection of sensitive information may generally include: criminal record; health information, and membership of a professional or trade association. Collection from you and use of sensitive information is limited and made as required in order for us to carry out the services provided to you. We do not collect sensitive information without your consent.

What information do we collect and how do we use it?

When we arrange insurance on your behalf, we ask you for the information we need to advise you about your insurance needs and management of your risks. This can include a broad range of information ranging from your name, address, contact details, age to other information about your personal affairs including your assets, personal belongings, financial situation, health, wellbeing, and insurance history. If we provide you with a product or service, we will collect any relevant payment or billing information, such as bank account details, direct debit, credit card details and any premium funding and installment information. We provide any information that the insurers or intermediaries who we ask to quote for your insurances and premium funding require, to enable them to decide whether to insure you and on what terms, or to fund your premium and on what terms.

Insurers may in turn pass on this information to their reinsurers. Some of these companies are located outside Australia. For example, if we seek insurance terms from an overseas insurer (eg Lloyd’s of London), your personal information may be disclosed to the insurer. If this is likely to happen, we inform you of where the insurer is located, if it is possible to do so.

When you make a claim under your policy, we assist you by collecting information about your claim. Sometimes we also need to collect information about you from others. We provide this information to your insurer (or anyone your insurer has appointed to assist it to consider your claim, eg loss adjusters, medical brokers etc) to enable it to consider your claim. Again this information may be passed on to reinsurers.

From time to time, we may use your contact details to send you direct marketing communications including offers, updates and newsletters that are relevant to the services we provide. We always give you the option of electing not to receive these communications in the future. You can unsubscribe by notifying us and we will no longer send this information to you.

What if you don’t provide some information to us?

We can only fully advise you and assist in arranging your insurance, premium funding or with a claim, if we have all relevant information. The insurance laws also require you to provide your insurers with the information they need in order to be able to decide whether to insure you and on what terms. You have a duty to disclose the information which is relevant to the insurer’s decision to insure you.

What if you / third parties we deal with provide us with personal information about another person?

If you provide us with personal information about other individuals, we are relying on you to have advised them that you will or may provide their information to us, how and why we collect, use, disclose and handle it in accordance with this Privacy Policy and any Privacy Statements. If you have not meet these requirements, you must advise us before you provide us with the relevant information, and if you have provided sensitive information, we rely on you that you have obtained their consent to the above.

Unless exempted or we agree to differently, you must meet the requirements of the Privacy Act, when collecting, using, disclosing and handling personal information on our behalf.

You are required to ensure that your agents, employees and contractors also meet the above requirements.



Our Privacy Policy

When do we disclose your information overseas?

If you ask us to seek insurance terms and we recommend an overseas insurer, we may be required to disclose the information to the insurer located outside Australia. For example, if we recommend a policy provided by Lloyd's of London, your information may be given to the Lloyd's broker and underwriters at Lloyd's of London to make a decision about whether to insure you.

We will tell you at the time of advising on your insurance if they are overseas and in which country the insurer is located. If the insurer is not regulated by laws which protect your information in a way that is similar to the Privacy Act, we will seek your consent before disclosing your information to that insurer.

Australian and overseas insurers acquire reinsurance from reinsurance companies that are located throughout the world, so in some cases your information may be disclosed to them for assessment of risks and in order to provide reinsurance to your insurer. We do not make this disclosure, this is made by the insurer (if necessary) for the placement for their reinsurance program.

How do we hold and protect your information?

We strive to maintain the reliability, accuracy, completeness and currency of the personal information we hold and to protect its privacy and security. We keep personal information only for as long as is reasonably necessary for the purpose for which it was collected or to comply with any applicable legal or ethical reporting or document retention requirements.

We hold the information we collect from you initially in a working file, which when completed is electronically imaged and stored, after which any paper is destroyed in our onsite shredder or via an external secure document destruction service. In some cases, your file is archived and sent to an external data storage provider for a period of time. We only use storage providers located in Australia who are also regulated by the Privacy Act.

We ensure that your information is safe by protecting it from unauthorised access, modification and disclosure. We maintain physical security over our paper and electronic data and premises, by using locks and security systems. We also maintain computer and network security; for example, we use firewalls (security measures for the Internet) and other security systems such as user identifiers and passwords to control access to computer systems where your information is stored.

Will we disclose the information we collect to anyone?

We do not sell, trade, or rent your personal information to others.

We may need to provide your information to contractors who supply services to us, eg to handle mailings on our behalf, external data storage providers or to other companies in the event of a corporate sale, acquisition, merger, re-organisation, dissolution or similar event. However, we will take reasonable measures to ensure that they protect your information as required under the Privacy Act.

We may provide your information to others if we are required to do so by law, you consent to the disclosure or under some unusual other circumstances which the Privacy Act permits.

How can you check, update or change the information we are holding?

We will take reasonable steps when dealing with you to confirm the details of your personal information we hold and ask you if any changes are required.

The correctness of your personal information is reliant on the information you give us. Therefore, please advise us if:

- you become aware of any inaccuracy or error in your personal information;
- your personal information changes e.g. name, address or contact details.

If you wish to access or correct your personal information, please write to our Privacy Officer, Watkins Taylor Stone, PO Box 455 Strawberry Hills NSW 2012 or email info@watkinstaylorstone.com.au.

Upon receipt of your written request and enough information to allow us to identify the information, we will disclose to you the personal information we hold about you. We will also correct, amend or delete any personal information that we agree is inaccurate, irrelevant, out of date or incomplete.

If a correction to your personal information is made, we may as required by law or for our record purposes retain a copy of the previous information.

We do not charge for receiving a request for access to personal information or for complying with a correction request. Where the information requested is not a straightforward issue and will involve a considerable amount of time, then a charge will need to be confirmed for responding to the request for the information.

In some limited cases, we may need to refuse access to your information, or refuse a request for correction. We will advise you as soon as possible after your request if this is the case and the reasons for our refusal.



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Our Privacy Policy

Complaints

If you have concerns about whether we have complied with the Privacy Act or this Privacy Policy when collecting or handling your personal information, please write to our Privacy Officer, Watkins Taylor Stone, PO Box 455 Strawberry Hills NSW 2012 or email info@watkinstaylorstone.com.au and we will attempt to resolve the issue or complaint.

Your privacy complaint will be considered by us through our internal complaints resolution process and we will try to respond with a decision within 45 days of you making the complaint.

If you are not satisfied with our decision regarding your privacy complaint, you have the right to take the matter to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC). Also, if within 30 days, you have not received any response from us at all to your privacy complaint, you have the right to take the matter to OAIC. Contact details:

Office of the Australian Information Commissioner: Email: enquiries@oaic.gov.au | Telephone: 1300 363 992 | Website: www.oaic.gov.au.

Your consent

By asking us to assist with your insurance needs, you consent to the collection and use of the information you have provided to us for the purposes described above.

Website information and content.

The information provided on this website does not cover all aspects of the law on the relevant subject matter. Professional advice should be sought before any action is taken based upon the matters described and discussed on this site.

To the extent permitted by law, we make no representations about the suitability of the content of this site for any purpose. All content is provided without any warranty of any kind. We disclaim all warranties and conditions with regard to the content, including but not limited to all implied warranties and conditions of fitness for a particular purpose, title and non-infringement.

We will not be liable for any damages or injury caused by, including but not limited to, any failure of performance, error, omission, interruption, defect, delay in operation of transmission, computer virus, or line failure. To the extent permitted by law we will not be liable for any damages or injury, including but not limited to, special or consequential damages that result from the use of, or the inability to use, the materials in this site.

We believe the content of this site to be accurate, complete and current; however there are no warranties as to the accuracy, completeness or currency of the content. It is your responsibility to verify any information before relying on it. The content of this site may include technical inaccuracies or typographical errors.

We reserve the right to modify the content of this site from time to time.

Anonymous data – We use technology to collect anonymous information about the use of our website, for example when you browse our website our service provider logs your server address, the date and time of your visit, the pages and links accessed and the type of browser used. It does not identify you personally and we only use this information for statistical purposes and to improve the content and functionality of our website, to better understand our clients and markets and to improve our services.

Cookies – In order to collect this anonymous data we may use “cookies”. Cookies are small pieces of information which are sent to your browser and stored on your computer’s hard drive. Sometimes they identify users where the website requires information to be retained from one page to the next. This is purely to increase the functionality of the site. Cookies by themselves cannot be used to discover the identity of the user. Cookies do not damage your computer and you can set your browser to notify you when you receive a cookie so that you can decide if you want to accept it. Once you leave the site, the cookie is destroyed and no personal or other information about you is stored.

Forms – Our Websites allows visitors to submit information via Self-Service forms (Claim Forms, Employment and Contact request). The information submitted via the Forms is not encrypted – an option is available for claim forms to be downloaded in PDF format for faxing. Should you be concerned about confidentiality of the claim information, this would be the recommended method.

Information collected via on-line forms is sent to our offices via EMAIL (not encrypted) and is also stored on a database which is accessible by Watkins Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd T/as Watkins Taylor Stone staff only (password protected).

Is this website secure?

Yes. This website is encrypted with 128bit RapidSSL Security. When your browser connects to a secure site it retrieves the site’s SSL certificate, which has been issued by a Certificate Authority the browser trusts. If it fails on any one of the security checks the browser will display a warning to the user. If it succeeds, several security indicators are built into modern browsers to indicate that SSL is enabled.



Our Privacy Policy

How does the website security work?

Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) is a protocol that enables online data encryption to protect communications between web browsers and servers. The 128bit is the level of encryption, similar to a combination lock the larger number of bits, the more possible combinations.

We also use your information to send you requested product information and promotional material and to enable us to manage your ongoing requirements, e.g. renewals, and our relationship with you, e.g. invoicing, client surveys etc.

We may occasionally notify you via direct marketing about new services and special offers, events or articles we think will be of interest to you. We may send you regular updates by email or by post on insurance matters. If you would rather not receive this information or do not wish to receive it electronically, email or write to us.

We may use your information internally to help us improve our services and help resolve any problems.

This Privacy Policy is effective from 12 March 2014. Any future revised version of the Privacy Policy can be obtained by contacting our office or on our websites. Please retain this document for your reference and any future dealings with us.

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Tell us what you think

We welcome your questions and comments about privacy. If you have any concerns or complaints, please contact our Privacy Officer, via telephone number 02 9448 8300 or by email info@watkinstaylorstone.com.au.