

# WELCOME TO YOUR OUR HOUSE PROTECTION MAINTENANCE & SERVICE PLAN TERMS & CONDITIONS



# **WELCOME**

These Terms and Conditions will explain what **your** Our House Protection Maintenance & Service Plan does and does not include, as well as how to modify, cancel, claim or complain. This forms a maintenance and service **agreement** between **you** and Our House (Our House Home Assistance Limited).

Our House is not authorised by either the Prudential Regulation Authority or the Financial Conduct Authority. Our **Plans** are not categorised as insurance products and therefore insurance regulation does not apply.

Please read these Terms and Conditions carefully as this is the basis of **your** agreement with **us**. If anything is not correct or **you** have any questions, please call **us** on 0345 296 2785.

**Your** Our House **agreement** does not affect **your** legal rights. **Your agreement** is bound by the laws of the country in which **your home** is located in England, Wales, or Scotland.

Any **repairs** and **replacements** detailed in this **agreement** which are provided outside the **annual service** are provided at the absolute sole discretion of Our House.

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# SECTION ONE: ABOUT YOUR PLAN

#### 1.1 Definitions

Some phrases that **we** use in these terms and conditions have specific meanings. If you're unsure about the words that appear in **bold**, take a look at the list of definitions below.

**Annual service:** An annual check-up that includes **your** windows & doors.

**Authorised contact:** Any person who **you** have agreed can act on **your** behalf to make arrangements under **your** agreement.

Call out fee: The amount you've chosen to pay towards completed repairs or replacements. You will only pay this once for each fault within the plan period. Our engineers will use their expert judgement to assess whether it is the same fault.

**Home:** a building designed for **residential use** that **you** live in, including any attached garage or conservatory.

Home Health Check (HHC): An initial check of your windows and doors.

**Plan**: the agreement of maintenance and support services that **you** have purchased.

**Plans:** The various **plans** Our House offers, like Our House Protection Plan, Our House Boiler Plan, Our House Heating Plan and Total Home Plan.

**Plan period:** The total length of the agreement from the day **your** agreement starts until **your** agreement ends, as shown on **your Plan Statement**.

Plan Statement: the document that shows the plan you have with us, the plan period, how much you're paying and any call out fee.

**Pre-existing faults**: Any problems within **your home** that **our** experts judge to have happened before the start of **your** plan.

**Repair(s):** Fixing your system following a non-cosmetic fault or breakdown, which stops your system from working properly, or makes it unsafe.

**Replacement(s):** changing parts with an Our House approved standard alternative. We'll give **you** parts with similar functionality but not necessarily an identical make and model or type of fitting.

**Residential use:** A building where the majority of the rooms are not used for any type of commercial purposes. **We** can only protect a single **boiler** designed for domestic use.

System: The elements of your home that we have agreed to protect.

**We/us/our:** Means Our House Home Assistance Limited, whose registered office is at: Hamilton House, Church Street, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 4DR. Our House Home Assistance Limited trades as Our House.

Wait period: Our plans have a 28 day wait period. You can only make a claim on these plans once the 28 day wait period has ended. However, if you do need a repair within the 28 days we will offer you a quote for the repair

You/Your: The individual who has entered into the Our House Agreement

## 1.2 When your plan begins

Our plans have a 28 day wait period. Your plan begins once the wait period is ended, we'll send you an email confirming when your plan starts.

#### 1.3 How to make a claim?

Dealing with **your** claim is **our** highest priority and **we** are committed to giving **you** the best claims experience.

Please call us on 0800 368 9881

Please note: Our plans have a 28 day wait period. You can only make a claim on these plans once the 28 day wait period has ended.

# Reasonable time to visit or make repairs

We'll carry out any **repairs** or visits within a reasonable time, unless something beyond **our** control makes that impossible – in which case we'll let **you** know as soon as possible and arrange another time when **we** can visit.

# Our engineers

We'll send an Our House approved engineer to carry out the work for **your** windows and doors. **Our** engineers have experience and knowledge so that they can talk **you** through any problems and how they will fix it.

# On Demand Service

If you need a repair before your Home Heath Check Please call us on 0800 368 9881.

### Cash payments

We won't offer you cash instead of carrying out a home health check, an annual service, repairs or replacements.

# Our guarantee for our work

If we have supplied any faulty parts, we will repair or replace any parts we've supplied. We will also fix any faulty work that we've carried out within 12 months from the date that we carried out the work. This doesn't affect your statutory rights under the Consumer Rights Act 2015, if applicable, and any laws that replace it. If you want independent advice about your rights, you can speak to Citizens Advice, or Trading Standards.

# 1.4 Paying for your plan and call-out fees

**Your plan: You** can pay for **your plan** yearly, quarterly or monthly by Direct Debit. All of **our** prices include the relevant taxes at the current rate.

- Prices and price changes. Your plan statement shows the price of your plan. That price won't go up or down over the plan period, unless:
  - o you change your plan; or
  - the Government changes the relevant tax rate.
- We will let you know if there are any changes to the price of your plan.
- If you miss any payments, we will need you to pay for any unpaid payments and we may not visit the home before these are paid.

Call-out fee: Your plan statement shows the call out fee that you've agreed to pay, whether:

- You report a fault to us; or
- We find a fault during a Home Health Check or Annual

The call out fee is a payment towards a repair you request and will be collected when we book a repair. If you call us out again for the same fault within the plan period, you won't have to pay an additional call out fee. Our engineers will use their expert judgement to assess whether it is the same fault.

If we have reason to believe that the people living in your home are at risk as a result of a health and safety hazard, we'll send an engineer out even if we haven't been able to collect the call-out fee. Instead, we will invoice you for the call-out fee after we've completed the work.

## 1.5 How can you cancel the plan?

You can cancel this plan at any time by writing to us at the postal address:

Our House, Hamilton House, Church Street, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 4DR, or Call us on 0800 368 9881

If you cancel within 14 days of purchase of this Our House Agreement, and you haven't used the service, we will give you a full refund.

If you cancel after 14 days, we'll cancel your plan from the date you tell us but you will have to pay the remaining balance outstanding under the agreement.

Cancelling your Direct Debit through your bank doesn't mean that you've cancelled your plan with us. If you stop your Direct Debit without telling us, we will contact you to collect the money due. If we don't hear from you and you don't pay, we'll cancel your agreement 30 days after the date we first found out your payment failed and we will look to recover any outstanding payments.

# 1.6 How can I complain?

At Our House, we are dedicated to giving you the best customer experience. If we make a mistake or if you think we haven't done the right thing, please let us know so that we can put things right.

Please get in touch on:

- Call us on 0800 368 9881
- Email us at support@ourhouseuk.com

We take any complaint seriously and we'll do our best to fix any issue as soon as possible. If we need time to investigate, we'll let you know and keep you updated. We will aim to provide a final response to any complaint within 8 weeks.

If you are unhappy with our final response, you have the right to request an independent ombudsman to review your case. We will provide details of our appointed ombudsman our final response letter.

#### 1.7 How do I make a change?

If you require any additional information, help, or support, you can write to us at:

Our House Home Assistance Limited. Hamilton House, Church Street, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 4DR. or

Call us on 0800 368 9881

# 1.8 Renewal

- We'll write to you at least 30 days before your agreement is due for renewal.
- If you pay by Direct Debit, we'll keep renewing your agreement automatically, unless you ask us to stop.

#### **SECTION TWO: PRODUCT COVERAGE**

2.1 What is included in your maintenance and service plan

## Home Health Check (HHC):

**Your** agreement includes a **Home Health Check** in the first year of **your** agreement (or if **you** change address).

The HHC is a check of **your** windows and doors. The HHC must be booked or completed within the first 90 days of **your** agreement start date or the date **you** change address.

We will make reasonable efforts to arrange this with you. During the HHC we will check that your windows and doors meet our eligibility criteria and do not have any pre-existing faults and are in good working order.

If the HHC fails we'll either:

- Tell you what needs to be done to fix it and how much it'll cost if it's a repair we
  can complete, or
- Offer you a different plan and adjust your premiums accordingly
- Or, cancel your agreement

If HHC is successful we may complete the Annual Service immediately afterwards.

If the HHC has not been booked or completed within 90 days **we** may cancel the agreement to ensure **you** do not pay for a plan which will not protect **you** in the event of a claim.

#### **Annual Service:**

Your plan comes with an annual service that includes your windows and doors. When we complete the annual service, our engineer will give you, or we will send you a checklist that shows you exactly what we've looked at as part of the list. If we find a problem or fault that needs to be fixed, we'll tell you about it and if it included in your plan, we will fix it at the time or at a subsequent callout.

# Windows and Security:

- Manual check of exterior doors including patio doors.
- Manual check off all window locks.
- Tightening of loose moving mechanical parts to all doors and windows
- Application of lubricant

Please note that all services maybe completed at the same time as a repair at the discretion of Our House.

#### **Protection**

- Repairs / replacement of any moving mechanical parts to all doors and windows providing they are not the result of a poor installation
- Creating emergency access if you are locked out of your property
- Repairs / replacement of locks and keys where the key is snapped in the lock or you have lost the keys needed to secure the property (and you do not have access to another set)
- Boarding up a broken window or door
- Repairs / replacement of broken locks for external windows and doors which secure your property
- Make property secure in the event of a breakdown of an attached garage door
- Use of tarpaulin to protect the property in the event of a damaged roof. This is not designed to be a permanent repair, but a temporary solution to cover the damage and protect you, whilst you seek a permanent solution.
- Please note: We are unable to include repairs of any faults that are above two storeys of a property

Please note: For the avoidance of doubt, this is a maintenance agreement for services supplied at our absolute sole discretion. This is not a contract of insurance, a guarantee or an insurance policy.

# 2.2 When will my Annual Service happen?

- When your annual service is due, 3 attempts will be made to contact you to arrange the
  service. If Our House are not able to contact you and therefore cannot complete your annual
  service, you will not be eligible for a refund of the annual service element of your plan.
- You can however contact Our House to arrange the service within the remaining period of the plan.
- In periods of local or national high demand for **our** services (usually due to cold weather), **we** will prioritise breakdowns and therefore **we** may need to rearrange **your annual service**.
- If your plan has a call-out fee, we will have to take payment before we make any repairs.

#### 2.3 What we are unable to maintain and service

Our House are committed to providing high quality, easy to understand home emergency solutions that come with great service and transparent pricing. All without the jargon, bureaucracy and price-hikes of leading providers.

To enable **us** to do this there are certain scenarios where **we** are unable to offer protection. **We** have spent a lot of time working with **our** customers, engineers and partners to decide what **we** should and should not protect in order to provide a great service at a low price.

As this is a maintenance agreement, rather than an insurance contract, any **repairs** or **replacements** will be carried out at **our** sole discretion. See section 3.3 for more information about sole discretion.

## 2.3.1 Repairs

# Protection repairs not included:

- Security incidents affecting any other building that is not **your** flat or main house, such as; detached outbuildings, detached garages, greenhouses and sheds
- Replacing locks or lost keys if you have access to another set of keys
- Replacing a garage door or repair/replacement of the electrical unit powering a garage door
- Internal doors (and windows) which do not secure the property
- More than one set of keys where your lock has been replaced
- Repair or replacement of the product which has been neglected, abused, misused or damaged intentionally. We expect you to take reasonable care of the product.
- Damage or breakdown caused due to fire, flood or other severe weather condition, natural disaster, or act of god. Any loss other than **repair** / **replacement**.

Please note: For the avoidance of doubt, this is a maintenance agreement for services supplied at our absolute sole discretion. This is not a contract of insurance, a guarantee or an insurance policy.

#### 2.3.2 General exclusions

These conditions exist to make sure **we** provide **you** with the best service Our House can, using **our** expertise. **We** also put **you** first and will always take actions to lower costs for **our plans** wherever possible.

• Obsolete parts:

- We will provide replacements with similar functionality to the replaced parts, but these might not have the exact same features.
- We will try to get parts from the original manufacturer or our suppliers but if a part cannot be sourced, we might need cancel your agreement.
- o If you have an older boiler there is a chance that we may not be able to get hold of all the parts we need to fix your boiler or central heating. If we've agreed to protect a boiler or appliance, we'll do what we can, within reason, to repair it but might not always be able to locate the required part.
- Pre-existing faults: We are likely to refuse to include repairs of any faults that existed before
  you took out the plan. Our engineers will use their expert judgement to decide when the
  damage happened.
- Repair height: We are unable to include repairs of any faults that are above two storeys of a property
- Getting access and making good: Our engineers will let you know if we need to remove cupboards or make holes in original surfaces in order to make a repair. We will spend up to £500 including VAT gaining access or repairing damage we cause by replacing items such as cupboards or filling in any holes. We won't be able to completely make good by replacing or restoring the original surface, e.g. tiles, floor coverings, decoration, grass or plants.
- Intentional damage: We may not repair or replace any parts that have been deliberately damaged or misused though we would usually repair accidental damage. Our engineers will use their expert judgement to decide how the damage happened.
- Damage caused by others: We are unlikely to agree to repair any faults or design faults that are caused by a third-party as part of a poor installation. Our engineers will use their expert judgement to decide how the damage happened and whether anyone other than us carries out any work that caused damaged.
- Any damage that's covered by insurance: Your plan doesn't include repairing or replacing any
  damage caused by extreme weather, flooding, escape of water, structural issues, fire or
  explosions or any other kind of damage that's normally covered by household insurance.
- Making any improvements: Your plan doesn't include any improvements or upgrades, for example:
  - o replacing mechanical parts that are past their recommended **replacement** or expiry date;
  - o swapping mechanical parts for new ones

Where we've told **you** that an improvement is necessary, **we** may not continue to make **repairs** until the work has been carried out.

Please note: For the avoidance of doubt, this is a maintenance agreement for services supplied at our absolute sole discretion. This is not a contract of insurance, a guarantee or an insurance policy.

# SECTION THREE: IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## 3.1 Keeping us informed

- Moving home; Please tell us your new address as soon as possible after you
  move home because the agreement you have with us is based on your current home.
  Depending on the circumstances, we may start a new agreement; transfer your
  current agreement to your new address; or if you ask us to, cancel your
  current agreement.
- Changes to your system: It's your responsibility to let us know if there are any changes to your contact details including telephone number, address or email. If you change your windows and doors during your plan period, please tell us so that we can check whether they meet our criteria or not. Your plan will continue as normal until you inform us. If we can't maintain or service windows and doors, we might need to cancel or change your

- plan. It is **your** responsibility to check that **you** still need the same level of protection, this might not be the case if **your** new windows and doors are covered by a manufacturer's warranty.
- Under warranty from a third party: If your windows and doors are covered by a third-party warranty, it's your responsibility to make sure that any work we do doesn't affect that warranty. We will not be liable if any work we conduct on your windows and doors does not comply with the manufacturer's warranty.

# 3.2 Safety and Security

- Getting into your home: To ensure the comfort and safety of our customers, our engineers will only work on your home if there's someone 18 years or older there the whole time. They must be able to give instructions to our engineer on your behalf. It's your responsibility to arrange for us to access your home. If we can't access your home, you will need to rearrange the appointment. If you don't arrange a new appointment, your agreement will still continue. After three failed attempts to get into your home, we may cancel your agreement, but we'll make sure we let you know beforehand.
- Safety risks in your home: We won't start or continue doing any work in your home if we believe there's a health and safety hazard. We will only return to finish the work if that risk is gone. Asbestos needs to be removed before we can repair your home. You will also need to arrange and pay for someone else to remove the asbestos and give us a Certificate of Reoccupation, which proves that all asbestos has been removed in line with legislation and it is safe to return to the home. Only after this can we start working again.
- Safety advice: From time to time, we may tell you that your windows and doors need repairs or improvements, to keep them working safely, but are not included in your agreement. If you decide not to follow this advice, we will not be able to complete any further repairs, and your agreement will keep running until you or we change or cancel it. When this happens, you will still be liable for the agreed payments under the agreement until it is cancelled.

## 3.3 Legal Information

#### **Authorised** contact

If **you** want to appoint an **authorised contact**, please let **us** know who they are so that **we** can note it on **your agreement**, and **we** can communicate with that authorised person when required.

## Recovering losses caused by third parties

If you request a repair, replacement or service under your plan you will give us all the help necessary to recover any losses owed to us from third parties, following any repair or replacement that we carry out. We may ask you to give us help to recover loses before or after we carry out any repair or replacement.

# What we mean by sole discretion

As this is a maintenance agreement, rather than an insurance contract, any **repairs** or **replacements** will be carried out at **our** sole discretion. What this means is that **we** will use **our** judgement to decide whether or not **we** will complete the **repair** or **replacement** as part of **your plan**, but there will be certain times where the nature of the fault or the **repair** or **replacement** required or the circumstances that caused the fault will mean that **we** will choose not to complete the repair. **We** have provided some common examples in section 2.3 of where **we** are likely to exercise **our** discretion not to undertake the repair, however this is not a fully exhaustive list.

For this reason, **we** are not registered with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) for these agreements and they are therefore outside the remit of the FCA. This operational model allows **us** the discretion to approve or reject claims outside a strict interpretation of these terms and conditions.

# Any other loss or damage

We're not responsible for any loss of, or damage caused as a result of, **your** windows and doors breaking or failing unless **you** can show that **we** caused the damage.

# Who can benefit from this agreement?

Nobody other than **you** can benefit from **your agreement**. However, **you** can add **authorised contact** onto **your** account from whom **we** will take instructions

# Introductory offers

Existing customers, or customers that have cancelled within the 2 years cannot take advantage of any introductory offers.

#### When we can cancel

We can cancel your plan straight away if:

- You give us false information;
- We find an existing fault during your Home Heath Check;
- We can't find the parts we need to complete a repair, despite our best attempts;
- You put our people's health and safety at risk, for example, through physical or verbal abuse;
- Your home is unfit or unsafe to work in:
- You don't let us in to your home to work, despite several attempts;
- We tell you to make permanent repairs or improvements, but you don't; or
- You don't make your payments: We'll try writing to you to collect the money you are due to pay. If we don't hear from you and you don't pay, we'll cancel your agreement no less than 30 days after the date we first found out your payment had failed.

# Using your personal information

Through this **plan we** will use **your** personal data in accordance with our Privacy Policy, which **you** can find at ourhouseuk.com

## Changes to this Plan

If **we** make changes to it that are clearly in **your** favour, we'll tell **you** once we've made them. Otherwise we'll give **you** 30 days' notice. If **you** do not agree with the changes, **you** can cancel without any penalty.

## Moving these plans to an insurance contract

If we move to become an insurance provider in the future you agree that we can move you to an insurance contract at you next renewal, or earlier if you or the regulator request us to.

# Third party rights

Other than as expressly provided for in this **agreement**, no other party shall have the right to enforce any term of this **agreement** which that party would not have had but for the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.