



**IMMEDIATE: 12.06.2007**

**MEDIA INFORMATION**

**Consumers could claim up to £48,000 in compensation after FSCS steps in**

Consumers can claim compensation of up to £48,000 if they have lost money as a result of their dealings with any one of 22 firms that the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) has recently declared in default. FSCS is the UK's statutory fund of last resort for customers of regulated financial services firms. It provides a free service to consumers.

Declaring a firm in default is the final part of a process whereby a regulated firm (such as a financial adviser) has been found by FSCS to be unable to pay claims. This means that customers who have lost money as a result of dealings with one of these firms can make a claim for compensation to FSCS.

"FSCS's primary role is to help people who have lost money after doing business with an authorised firm if that firm is unable to meet claims made against it," says Loretta Minghella, Chief Executive. "It is important that we let consumers know that FSCS may be able to help if they have nowhere else to turn."

The kinds of investment claims FSCS handles usually relate to advice – for example, if somebody has been advised to buy an investment product such as an endowment policy, but it was unsuitable for them and they have lost money as a result of the advice they received. FSCS can also pay compensation for financial loss arising from negligent investment management and fraud, or if an authorised investment firm stops trading and cannot return its customers' investments or money.

A list of the 22 investment firms is attached. Consumers who believe they may have a claim should contact FSCS on 020 7892 7300, or by email at [enquiries@fscs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@fscs.org.uk) . Further information about FSCS's work is available from its website at [www.fscs.org.uk](http://www.fscs.org.uk) .

FSCS covers investments, deposits, insurance, mortgage advice and arranging (from 31 October 2004), and advice about general insurance and the arranging of policies (from 14 January 2005).

**See Notes to Editors for more information about FSCS.**

**Press Enquiries:**

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## **Notes to Editors:**

### **1. About FSCS**

The Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) is the UK's statutory fund of last resort for customers of authorised financial services firms. This means that FSCS can pay compensation if a firm is unable, or likely to be unable, to pay claims against it. FSCS is an independent body, set up under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (FSMA). Our service is free to consumers.

### **2. Declaring a firm in default**

Before FSCS can pay compensation it must be satisfied that a firm is unable to meet claims. It describes this as being 'in default'. The Scheme will declare a firm in default if:

- it has received at least one claim; and
- it is satisfied that the firm is unable (or likely to be unable) to pay claims against it.

FSCS is required to do this before we can pay compensation to eligible claimants.

Declaring a firm in default allows consumers who believe they may have lost money as a result of their dealings with that firm to apply to us for compensation.

### **3. Authorised firms**

Our rules are made by the Financial Services Authority (FSA), the independent watchdog set up by government under FSMA to regulate financial services in the UK and protect the rights of consumers. The rules tell us which types of claim are eligible for compensation, and limit how much compensation we are allowed to pay. Firms need permission from the FSA to carry out a regulated activity, which covers activities such as accepting deposits, insurance business and investment business.

Dealing with an authorised firm gives consumers access to the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) and FSCS. Consumers can check that the firm they are dealing with is authorised by contacting the FSA's Consumer Helpline on 0845 606 1234.

### **4. Fund of last resort**

As a fund of last resort, FSCS can only pay compensation for financial loss where a firm is unable to meet claims. For investment claims, compensation aims to put consumers back into the position they would have been in had they not invested. The compensation limit for investment claims is £48,000 per person.

## Declarations by FSCS

12 June 2007

### East

**Jackson Downham Insurance Brokers Limited (formerly Foamead Limited), 43  
BROOMFIELD ROAD, CHELMSFORD, ESSEX, CM1 1SY**

### Midlands

**Blessmanor Limited, 50 DERBY ROAD, RIPLEY, DERBYSHIRE, DE5 3HS**

**Bridamar Life Investments and Pensions, SANDY LANE, COTES HEATH, STAFFORD,  
STAFFORDSHIRE, ST21 6SF**

**G Rosser (deceased) t/a G O Rosser Insurance Services, CRAIGMOR, THE GLEN,  
SALTFORD, AVON, BS18 3JP**

**Radbourne Roden & Company (Financial Services) Limited, 2ND FLOOR, 10 UNION  
STREET, STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, CV37 6QT**

### Scotland

**Aberforth Assurance Financial Planning (formerly t/a Walker Roberts), 73 WALLACE  
STREET, STIRLING, FK8 1NX**

### South East (including London)

**AA Mutual International Insurance Company Limited, HAMPDEN HOUSE, GREAT  
HAMPDEN, GREAT MISSENDEN, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, HP16 9RD**

**Acorn Independent Financial Advisors Limited, 121 CRANBURY ROAD, EASTLEIGH,  
HAMPSHIRE, SO50 5HH**

**A Hampton (deceased) t/a A Hampton & Co (Insurance Advisers) (formerly A Hampton  
& Co), 198 Alexandra Avenue, HARROW, MIDDLESEX, HA2 9BU**

**Amalgamated Insurance & Mortgage Services (Winchester) Limited, 6A JEWRY  
STREET, WINCHESTER, HANTS, SO23 8RZ**

**Creed Insurance Services, PENTON HOUSE, 64A HIGH STREET, HARROW-ON-THE-  
HILL, HA1 3LL**

**Edgeworth Limited (formerly Edgeworth (Insurance Broking) Limited)**, CLARIDGE HOUSE, 32 DAVIES STREET, LONDON, W1Y 1LG

**Marshall Williams & Company Limited**, 13 BARTHOLOMEW WAY, HORSHAM, WEST SUSSEX, RH12 5JL

**Marcus Hearn (Life & Pensions) Limited**, MARCUS HEARN HOUSE, 65/66 SHOREDITCH HIGH STREET, LONDON, E1 6JL

**Parker Group Financial Services Limited**, PARKER HOUSE, 44 STAFFORD ROAD, WALLINGTON, SM6 9AA

**Pure Dynamictrust Financial Services Limited**, 147 MUSWELL AVENUE, LONDON, N10 2EN

**Ragnud Limited formerly Danamere Financial Services Limited and Danamere Limited**, INTERNATIONAL HOUSE, HOMEWELL, HAVANT, PO9 1EE

**Sealea Limited t/a Oaklands Insurances and Stilwells**, 30 HIGH STREET, DOVER, KENT, CT16 1EA

**Trudanna (Life & Pensions Consultants) Limited**, ADAM HOUSE, 1 FITZROY SQUARE, LONDON, W1P 6HE

#### South West

**Colebrook Ludgate and Company Limited t/a Hall Insurance Brokers (formerly t/a Colebrook Insurance Brokers)**, 6 ST MICHAEL'S COURT, ST MICHAEL'S SQUARE, GLOUCESTER, GL1 1JB

#### Wales

**J Pearce, N Roe and M Underdown t/a Trinity Financial Services**, 32 HOLTON ROAD, BARRY, CF63 4HD

#### Yorkshire & Humberside

**Lindaye Investments Limited**, LINDORIAN, 14 USHER PARK ROAD, HAXBY, YO3 8RY