

1. General

- 1.1. **Sweeny Miller LLP** (the 'Firm') is a Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) registered in England and Wales with registration number **OC374687**. The Firm's registered office is at Mowbray Villas, Mowbray Road, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear SR2 7EA.

2. Terms of Website Use

- 2.1. These terms and conditions (the 'Terms') set out below will govern your use of this website which can be found at www.sweenymiller.co.uk (the 'Website').
- 2.2. References on the Website to '**Sweeny Miller LLP**', 'the Firm', 'we', 'us' or 'our' mean **the Firm**. The term 'Partner' in relation to the Firm refers to Member of the Firm or to an employee or consultant with equivalent standing and qualifications. A list of our members' names may be inspected at our registered office.
- 2.3. The legal information on the Website is to provide users with the Terms upon which they use the Website and to make accessible certain other legal and regulatory information which it is best practice to place in the public domain where it can be easily accessed by clients and other interested third parties. The legal information on the Website should, for clients of the Firm, be read in association with our client care letter and terms of business (the 'Client Care Documents') and other documents referred to in the Client Care Documents (such as the conditional fee agreement). The Client Care Documents shall take precedence over any legal notice on the Website in the event that they differ from one another.
- 2.4. The Website is owned and operated by the Firm. For the purposes of the Terms, the Firm includes any and all of the Firm's subsidiary undertakings, co-branded businesses and joint ventures which may exist from time to time.
- 2.5. Use of the Website is governed by the following Terms which were last reviewed in **November 2013**. The Firm reserves the right, at its discretion, to make changes to any part of the Website or the Terms. Should the Terms be amended, the Firm will not notify you and it is your responsibility to check the Terms every time you use the Website. Specific terms may also apply to the provision of any of the services that we provide via the Website. You should check any specific terms that apply to the services which you use.
- 2.6. We reserve the right to alter, suspend or discontinue any part of the Website or the services provided through it, including your access to it. Whilst we make every effort to ensure that the information contained within the Website is correct, visitors should be aware that the information may have become out of date and we give no warranty or make any representation regarding the fitness for purpose, continued availability, quality, accuracy or completeness of the content of the Website. Accordingly, the materials on the Website do not give specific legal advice and should not be relied on as doing so. In particular you should be aware that laws and regulations might be different outside England. Your use of the Website does not create a contractual or solicitor-client relationship between you and the Firm. We recommend you contact the advisers who are named in the Website for advice about particular matters. The Firm excludes all liability for any kind of loss or damage that may result to you or a third party in connection with the use, inability to use, or the results of use of the Website.
- 2.7. Website visitors are permitted to read the contents and to download and store on a temporary basis any of the contents of the Website provided this is for their own personal or non-commercial use. Apart from content specifically made available for download, such as court forms and publications, you may not permanently copy, store or redistribute the contents of the Website in any way. Where we make content available for downloading this is only for your personal use, or for circulation within your business and is not for commercial re-use. You may not set up links from your own websites to the Website without our prior written consent.
- 2.8. Any links to other websites from the Website are provided for convenience only and the Firm accepts no responsibility or liability in connection with your use or reliance on the content of any linked website. The inclusion of any link does not imply endorsement by the Firm of any linked website or its provider.

- For further information on the use of materials from the Website, or if you experience any problems with the Website, please contact us by sending an email to enquiries@sweeneymiller.co.uk

3. Copyright and Intellectual Property

- 3.1. Copyright and other intellectual property rights in the content of the Website, including any of the Firm's marks, logos and brands, belongs to the Firm or its licensors (who have expressly licensed content to the Firm). All rights, save as expressly granted, are reserved. If you are in doubt whether an item is copyright or a trade mark of the Firm, please contact us for clarification.

4. Disclaimers Relating to Downloads

- 4.1. The Website may allow users to download certain documents which are also available directly from the original source website and various other websites e.g. court forms.
- 4.2. To the extent permitted by law, the Firm excludes all liability in contract, tort (including negligence) breach of statutory duty or otherwise for any costs, losses, claims, damages, expenses or proceedings (including special, incidental or consequential loss or damage, loss of profits and wasted management time) incurred or suffered by you arising directly or indirectly in connection with the use of the download facility and the content of any downloaded material including any loss, damage or expense arising from, but not limited to, any defect, error, imperfection, fault, mistake or inaccuracy or copyright with the downloads, their content or associated services or due to any unavailability of part or all of any associated website or associated service.
- 4.3. The documents available for download are created exclusively by third parties and the Firm excludes all liability for any illegality arising from error, omission, inaccuracy or copyright in such material and takes no responsibility for such material.
- 4.4. Any downloads are provided solely for your convenience and the Firm does not necessarily endorse the material which can be downloaded and will have no liability to you in respect of the same.
- 4.5. Downloading documents from the Website should not be used as an alternative to legal advice from a qualified solicitor and using any such documents does not create a solicitor-client relationship between you and the Firm.
- 4.6. Any material downloaded or otherwise obtained through the use of the Website is done at your own discretion and risk and that you will be solely responsible for any damage to your computer system or loss of data that results from the download of any such material.
- 4.7. The Firm cannot guarantee that downloading documents from the Website will be free from error and/or uninterrupted and we shall not be liable for any damages including, but not limited to, indirect or consequential damages, damages for loss of opportunity or chance, or any damages whatsoever arising from use or loss of use, data, or profits, whether in contract, negligence or other tortious action, arising out of, or in connection with the download facility or any associated website.
- 4.8. Whilst effort has been taken to ensure that any downloads are free from viruses, no warranties are given to that effect and users are responsible for ensuring that they have installed adequate virus checking software. The Firm shall not be liable for any viruses or any other computer code, files or programs designed to interrupt, restrict, destroy, limit the functionality of or compromise the integrity of users' computer hardware. All documents are downloaded at the user's own discretion and risk and the user shall be solely responsible for any damage to the user's computer system or loss of data that results from the download of any documents.

4.9. Nothing in the Terms serves to exclude or limit liability for death or personal injury arising from negligence or any liability which is otherwise prohibited from being excluded by law.

5. Financial Services and Insurance Mediation

5.1. Marketing

5.1.1. Where the Website or any other of our promotional literature or materials refer to the provision of financial services by the Firm (such as our ability to help clients arrange after the event legal expenses insurance or title indemnity insurance), such references do not indicate and should not be understood as indicating that the Firm is a person to whom the general prohibition does not apply. The general prohibition against providing financial services which are regulated activities does apply to the Firm and its regulated principals and employees. The Firm is not authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority nor is it exempt from authorisation under sections 38 – 39A of the [Financial Services and Markets Act 2000](#).

5.2. Insurance mediation activity

5.2.1. The Firm is not authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority. However, we are included on the Register maintained by the Financial Conduct Authority so that we can carry on insurance mediation activity in the UK, which is broadly the advising on, selling and administration of insurance contracts. This part of our business, including arrangements for complaints or redress if something goes wrong, is regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority. The Register can be accessed via the [Financial Conduct Authority website](#).

5.3. Investment transactions

5.3.1. The Firm is not authorised under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 but we are able in certain circumstances to offer a limited range of investment services to clients because we are regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority. We can provide these investment services if they are an incidental part of the professional services we have been engaged to provide. Nothing we say or do should be construed as an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activities, nor as advice on the investment merits of acquiring or disposing of particular investments.

6. Electronic Commerce (EC) Directive Regulations 2002 and Provision of Services Regulations 2009

6.1. The following information is provided by us to ensure our compliance with the above regulations:

6.1.1. The Firm is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (ID Number: **569467**) and as such is bound by the SRA Handbook 2011 and associated professional rules, which can be viewed at www.sra.org.uk.

6.1.2. The Firm is registered for VAT with the registration number .

6.1.3. The Firm maintains qualifying Professional Indemnity Insurance, details of which can be provided on request.

6.1.4. The Firm is committed to providing an excellent service and operates an internal complaints procedure that can be made available on request. We are also committed to cooperating fully with the Legal Ombudsman, contact details of which can be found at www.legalombudsman.org.uk.

7. Severability

7.1. If the Terms or any part of them should be determined to be illegal, invalid or otherwise unenforceable under the laws of any state or country in which the Terms are intended to be effective, then to the extent that they are so illegal, invalid or unenforceable, they shall in that state or country be treated as severed and deleted from the Terms and the

remaining provisions contained within the Terms shall survive and remain in full force and effect and continue to be binding and enforceable in that state or country.

8. Events Beyond our Control

8.1. The Firm will not be responsible for any breach of the Terms caused by circumstances beyond its reasonable control.

9. Governing Law

9.1. This legal notice and all issues regarding the Website are governed by English law. Access is granted on condition that you accept all of the above and agree to the jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales to settle matters in relation to the Website.

10. Reports of Misuse

10.1. We take feedback very seriously and are constantly looking for ways to improve the Website. If you have any comments or concerns regarding the information or the Website content generally, or would like to report any misuse of the Website, please contact us by sending an email to enquiries@sweeneymiller.co.uk

11. Data Protection and the Firm's Privacy Policy

11.1. The Firm takes data protection seriously and safeguarding the privacy of the Website visitors is important to us. This privacy policy explains how we use any personal information we may collect when you visit the Website. It also explains our use of cookies and tells you how to contact us if you have any queries about how we use your personal information. In using the Website or by registering for any of the specific services we offer through it you are indicating that you understand and accept that your personal information may be used by us in the manner described below.

11.2. Links with other websites

11.2.1. This Privacy Policy only relates to the Website. Any links from the Website to other websites are provided merely for your convenience and do not imply endorsement by us of the content or provider.

11.3. Information collected and how we use it

11.3.1. When you access or sign up to any of the Firm's services including newsletters, bulletins, competitions, webinars etc., we may collect and process personal information such as your name, address, telephone number, email address and other information relating to you.

11.3.2. We will store and use your personal information for purposes such as administering and maintaining our relationship with you; providing services or information requested by you; providing you with further information about our products and services; and for auditing usage of the Website. Your information will not normally be disclosed to third parties except where that is necessary for fulfilment of our obligations to you or we are obliged or permitted to do so by law.

11.4. The Firm does not use any web intelligence software or collect any personal data about users of the Website other than aggregated data which is used to help the Firm improve the quality of the Website. No information about you is stored by us or transmitted by us to any third party.

11.5. Marketing

11.5.1. Occasionally we may contact you with information we think may be of interest to you such as details of events or competitions hosted by the Firm. If you prefer not to receive such promotional material, please notify us by sending an email to enquiries@sweeneymiller.co.uk

11.6. Use of your information outside the European Union

11.6.1. In order to provide you with requested products and services we may need to transfer your personal information to service partners based in countries outside the European Economic Area (EEA). This does not diminish your rights. The Firm will take all reasonable steps necessary to ensure that any personal information transferred outside the EEA will be treated securely and in accordance with this Privacy Policy.

11.7. Security

11.7.1. The Firm has policies and technical measures in place to safeguard and protect your personal information against unauthorised access, accidental loss, improper use and disclosure. However, the internet is not completely secure and though we will do our best to protect your personal information the transmission of your data to us is done so at your own risk.

11.8. How we use cookies

11.9. Cookies Policy

11.9.1. Our website use cookies and you will have been asked to consent to our use of cookies when you first visited our website.

11.9.2. Cookies are small text files originating from us and they are sent from our web server to your web browser and stored by your computer. The file is then sent back to us each time you visit our site. The cookie files help identify you and any particular interests or preferences you express.

11.9.3. Cookies may be either “persistent” cookies or “session” cookies. A persistent cookie consists of a text file sent by us to your computer and will be stored on your computer until its set expiry date (unless deleted by the user before the expiry date). A session cookie, on the other hand, will expire at the end of the user session, when you leave our site.

11.9.4. We use session cookies on this website. We will/may send to you the following cookies:

- (a) [insert name of cookie 1]
- (b) [insert name of cookie 2]
- (c) [insert name of cookie 3]
- (d) [insert name of cookie 4]

[Cookies [insert numbers] are session cookies, whereas cookies [insert numbers] are persistent cookies].

11.9.5. Cookies do not contain information that personally identifies you. We may use the information we obtain from your use of our cookies for the following reasons:

- (a) To recognise your computer when you visit our website;
- (b) To track you as you navigate our website;
- (c) To improve the website’s usability;
- (d) To analyse the use of the website;
- (e) [insert any other uses].

11.9.6. You can set your computer browser to reject cookies but this may preclude your use of certain parts of our Website.

11.10. How we use cookies

Our online services use cookies, a small text file originating from us and stored by your computer. The cookie file helps identify you and any particular interests or preferences you express, making your future Website visits more efficient, but it does not store any personal information. Save for the use of cookies, we do not automatically log data or collect data. You can set your computer browser to reject cookies but this may preclude your use of certain parts of our Website.

11.11. Your rights

11.11.1. You have a right of access to any personal information that the Firm may hold about you (we may charge a small administrative fee for this); to have any inaccurate information about you corrected; and to request that we stop using your personal information for marketing purposes. Access requests should be put in writing and addressed to the Data Protection Manager at our registered office.

12. Email Policy

12.1. The views and opinions expressed in any email from the Firm are those of the author and are not necessarily endorsed by the Firm.

12.2. All information contained in any message or attachments is intended solely for the addressee. It is confidential and may also be legally privileged. If you have received this message in error, please send it back to us, and immediately and permanently delete it. The unauthorised use, disclosure, copying or alteration of this message and/or any attachment is strictly prohibited.

12.3. It is your responsibility to scan for viruses or otherwise check any email and any attachments. All email messages and any attachments are scanned for viruses prior to leaving our network. However, the Firm does not guarantee the security of any message or any attachments and will not be responsible for any damages arising as a result of any virus being passed on or arising from any alteration of any message by a third party.

12.4. We may monitor emails sent to and from our network.

12.5. If you require verification of the content of any email message and/or attachment, or if you have any questions about this policy or our usage of email, please contact us at our offices or by sending an email to enquiries@sweeneymler.co.uk.

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