

INTERNAL DISPUTES RESOLUTION PROCESS

As a registered financial service provider, we are required to and are members of Financial Services Complaints Ltd – A Financial Ombudsman Service. This is a requirement of our registration and of the Financial Service Providers (Registration and Disputes Resolution) Act 2008.

As a requirement of membership of our chosen dispute resolution provider, we are required to and have a compliant internal dispute resolution process. What this means is that, if you have a complaint of any type about our services or our products, you are encouraged to notify us of your complaint and we will attempt to resolve it internally before it is referred to our external complaints resolution service.

What Is A Complaint?

A complaint is an expression of dissatisfaction made to us related to our products, or our complaints handling process itself, or where you might expect a response or resolution to a concern.

How To Notify Us

You can notify us if you have a complaint by any means you choose, either verbally, by telling us, or by writing to us setting out your complaint.

How Your Complaint Will Be Handled

When we receive your complaint, the person you complain to will initially consider it and attempt to resolve the complaint with you. This will normally be the person you were dealing with at our organisation.

If on this first contact, the complaint cannot be resolved to your satisfaction, the person you have initially complained to will escalate the complaint to his manager. This will happen within five working days of the complaint being notified to us.

Once the complaint has been received by the manager, that person will contact you. The manager will again attempt to resolve the complaint to your satisfaction. It is important that you provide this person with all relevant information. If the manager cannot resolve the complaint to your satisfaction, the manager will refer you to our external dispute resolution provider.

What If I do not want to raise the dispute with the person I dealt with?

There may be cases in which you do not feel comfortable discussing your concerns with the person who you were dealing with. This may be because it is that person's conduct that is in question. That should never prevent you from making a complaint. You should feel free to contact the complaints manager of our organisation who is Peter McEvoy. That person will be happy to deal directly with you and to investigate and attempt to resolve your complaint.

Who is our External Complaints Provider?

Financial Services Complaints Ltd (FSCL) – A Financial Ombudsman Service
Free phone 0800 347257
P O Box 5967
Lambton Quay
Wellington 6145
www.fscl.org.nz

Complaints Process

The complaints process can be summarised as follows:

1. Notification of Complaint Customer expresses dissatisfaction to organisation
2. Complaint acknowledged within 2 working days and complaints. Process explained to customer including provision of this document.
3. Consideration of complaint by Initial recipient within a further 5 working days
4. If unresolved referral to manager within further 5 working days
5. Manager to contact customer. Conduct enquiry and reach decision within a further 10 working days

If unresolved, provision of information on EDR (external dispute resolution). Options including contact details and criteria for consideration by our EDR provider:

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FSCL is our independent external ombudsman and dispute resolution service that has been approved by the Minister of Consumer Affairs under the Financial Service Providers (Registration and Dispute Resolution) Act 2008. FSCL's service is free of charge to you.