

For customers

Our new  
platform



Effective at the point of upgrade

# Platform services terms and conditions

for Life Office SIPP

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# 1. Introduction

Nucleus offers a range of financial products and services held on a single platform, allowing you to manage your money and accounts in one secure environment.

These Platform Services Terms and Conditions, and any variations we notify you of, provide important information about your relationship with Nucleus, and the services available.

You should read this document carefully, as together with your initial Application and the supporting charges schedule and list of permitted investments, it forms our contract with you to provide your Product and associated services.

We provide our products and associated services to you on an execution only basis. We do not provide any form of advice, and the content of our documents and anything on our Website or Platform should not be read as financial, investment or tax advice. Any information provided does not constitute a recommendation or guarantee for any product or investment. Any taxation information we provide is based on our interpretation of current legislation and HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) practice, and this may change from time to time.

Ideally you will have an Adviser to support you during the lifespan of your Product, and you can instruct us to change the Adviser associated with your Product at any time. There may be certain tools and functions that can only be used by your Adviser, and you may not be able to execute some actions if there is no Adviser linked to your Product.

During any periods where you do not have an Adviser, you will be deemed a 'non-advised Customer', which means that you may not be able to fully access all of your Product's services and platform tools. If you do not have an adviser but would like to speak to one, you can find a list of regulated financial advisers in your local area from [moneyhelper.org.uk](https://moneyhelper.org.uk).

All references to 'you/your' in this document mean the underlying Customer(s) in whose name the Product has been opened.

Where one is appointed, we normally expect your Adviser to operate your Product on your behalf, and instructions received from your Adviser will be carried out as if received directly from you. This may also apply to any attorneys you appoint where they have the right to act on your behalf under a Power of Attorney.

## 1.1 Variation

As the Nucleus Products and services continue to evolve, we may make changes to these Platform Services Terms and Conditions or the other documents listed above.

We can change these Platform Services Terms and Conditions or the documents listed above where we have a valid reason to do so. Updates will typically (though not always) be required to reflect:

- changes to laws, regulation or industry codes;
- recommendations or decisions made by the FCA, courts, the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) or the Pensions Ombudsman;
- changes to the way investment markets work, where this has an impact on your Product;
- changes to our systems, administration procedures, services or facilities (including as a result of outsourcing);
- legitimate cost increases/decreases associated with the provision of our services (including regulatory or industry levies);
- changes to the corporate structure or ownership of our business or how it operates;
- the correction of errors, where this has an impact on your Product.

We will notify you at least 30 days prior to any of these types of material changes to the Platform Services Terms and Conditions and related contractual documents, except where changes are outside of our control (for example, to reflect changes in law or regulation).

Non-material changes (including typographical corrections, clause restructuring or clarifications that do not materially change the meaning of the clause) may take effect immediately without notice to you. An up-to-date version of this document will always be available on our Website [nucleusfinancial.com](https://nucleusfinancial.com) or on request.

If any provision of these Platform Services Terms and Conditions becomes invalid, unlawful or unenforceable, it shall be deemed modified to the minimum extent necessary to make it valid, lawful and enforceable. If this is not possible, the relevant provision shall be deemed obsolete. Any modification or deletion of a provision shall not affect the validity and enforceability of the rest of these Platform Services Terms and Conditions.

If you are unhappy with any change made, you can close your Product or transfer your Assets to another provider. Although we do not charge to transfer Assets out of your Product, any outstanding charges accrued up until the date of transfer or closure are still payable.

1.2 Legal structure

Product	Legal entities
Life Office SIPP	<p><b>Scheme Administrator</b> - This is the company appointed to act as administrator of the SIPP Products from time to time in accordance with the SIPP Scheme's Trust Deed and Rules. <b>This is currently Nucleus Financial Services Limited</b>                      (Registered in England with company no. 05629686)                      Registered office: Dunn's House, St Paul's Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP2 7BF                      Authorised and regulated by the FCA under Firm Reference Number: 456117</p> <p><b>Scheme Trustee</b> – This is the company appointed to act as the trustee of the SIPP Scheme from time to time, in accordance with its Trust Deed and Rules, <b>This is currently James Hay Pension Trustees Limited</b>                      (Registered in England with company no. 01435887)                      Registered office: Dunn's House, St Paul's Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP2 7BF</p> <p>The SIPP Products are currently part of the James Hay Personal Pension Plan (JHPPP), which is a personal pension plan registered with HMRC under the Finance Act 2004, with Registered Pension Scheme Number: 00616231RE. JHPPP is established under and governed by its Trust Deed and Rules, a copy of which is available on our Website or on request.</p>

## 2. Definitions (including roles of parties)

Unless the context otherwise requires, words in the singular/plural shall include the equivalent plural/singular.

The following expressions shall have the following meanings:

**Adviser** means the individual or firm appointed by you that provides you with financial and investment advice, and who may operate your Product on your behalf. Any Adviser must be UK based, be authorised and regulated by the FCA and permitted by Nucleus to access the Platform by agreeing to our Adviser Terms of Business;

**Adviser Charge** means the charge you agree to pay to your Adviser for the advice and services they provide to you;

**Adviser Charges Agreement** means an agreement (either completed on our Platform or using our standard form) entered into between you and your Adviser which sets out their agreed limits for initial, ongoing and/or ad-hoc Adviser Charges;

**Application** means the initial Product application, submitted in your name as a request to open and hold your Product;

**Asset** means the individual holdings within the Product, including all investment types and cash;

**Business Day** means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in England when banks in London are open for business;

**Cash Interest Policy** means our policy for the payment of interest earned on cash held in Product bank accounts and property cash accounts. This can be found on our website at [nucleusfinancial.com/bankaccounts](https://nucleusfinancial.com/bankaccounts);

**Charges Schedule** means the list of our charges relevant to your Nucleus Product for the provision of Nucleus services, available on request;

**Corporate Action(s)** means events that occur periodically that change Assets in terms of ownership, structure, and features which may involve different options, charges or returns for investors.

**Custodian** means the person or entity responsible for the ownership and safekeeping of your investments;

**Customer** means you, the person in whose name the Product is opened; as a customer of Nucleus and as a client of your appointed financial Adviser;

**DIM** means a Discretionary Investment Management firm authorised by the FCA and permitted by Nucleus to make their managed accounts available for investment on the Platform;

**FCA** means the Financial Conduct Authority or any successor regulator;

**FCA's Client Money Rules** means the rules set out by the FCA from time to time, available at [handbook.fca.org.uk](https://handbook.fca.org.uk)

**Flexi-access Drawdown** means a way of taking income from your pension Product while other money remains invested. Flexi-access drawdown means there is no limit on the amount that can be withdrawn (until the fund is fully exhausted);

**Life Office SIPP (SIPP)** means the Self-Invested Personal Pension Product on the Nucleus Platform described by these Platform Service Terms and Conditions, and where context allows, the cash and assets held within it;

**Fund Manager** means the manager of a fund in which you invest;

**HMRC** means His Majesty's Revenue and Customs;

**In-specie transfer** means the transfer of an Asset in its current form to another provider, as an alternative to selling an investment and transferring cash;

**Investment Manager** means an entity that can hold and manage Assets on a Customer's behalf in an account opened within a Product, and that can execute trades for these investments depending on the basis of their appointment. Any appointed Investment Manager must be based in the UK and authorised by the FCA;

**Nominee** means an entity designated to act as the registered owner of Assets on behalf of another;

**Nucleus** means Nucleus Financial Services Limited (NFS), registered in England and Wales with company number 05629686. Registered office address: Dunn's House, St Paul's Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP2 7BF. NFS is authorised and regulated by the FCA (firm reference number 456117). References to Nucleus may include any other group companies or third parties engaged by us in the provision of our products and services;

**Pension Commencement Lump Sum** means a tax free lump sum paid on commencement of pension benefits from a pension product, typically up to 25% of the value being designated for the provision of benefits. This designation is also referred to as crystallisation;

**Platform** means the secure portal through which Advisers and Customers can access the Platform Service.

**Platform Service** means the services provided by Nucleus in accordance with these Platform Service Terms and Conditions. This includes the distribution, administration and safeguarding of Assets held within your Product, and associated online portals and tools available to Advisers and Customers to manage their products and Assets;

**Product** means the individual account available to Customers, opened on the Platform for the purposes of facilitating investments. In this document, Product refers to the Nucleus Life Office SIPP;

**Receiving Scheme** means the pension scheme that receives money/investments from a transferring pension scheme as part of a pension transfer;

**SIPP Scheme** means the registered pension scheme under which your Life Office SIPP is held. This is currently the James Hay Personal Pension Plan, though we can choose to use a different registered pension scheme for your SIPP if we reasonably consider that this will not be detrimental to you;

**Transferring Scheme** means the pension scheme that sends money/investments to a receiving pension scheme as part of a pension transfer;

**Trust Deed and Rules** means the legal document setting out how the SIPP Scheme is established and governed, as amended from time to time.

**UK** means the United Kingdom, comprising England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and excluding the Isle of Man and Channel Islands;

**Uncrystallised Funds Pension Lump Sum (UFPLS)** means a lump sum of money, comprising a tax-free element and a taxable income element, that can be taken from pension funds that have not yet been designated for the provision of benefits;

**Unit** means a notional share of an Asset used as a means for calculating the value of your Product's right or interest in that Asset;

**We/we/Us/us** means Nucleus Financial Services Limited or, where the context requires, another company in the Nucleus group of companies involved in the provision, administration and operation of your Nucleus Products;

**Website** means the main Nucleus website found at [nucleusfinancial.com](https://nucleusfinancial.com);

**You/you/Your/your** means the underlying Customer in whose name the account has been opened.

## 3. General

### 3.1 Services

Nucleus provides the following services in respect of the Product:

- Administering your Product
- Processing your instructions for the movement of all money to/from the Product, including payments in, transfers, withdrawals, distributions, interest payments, charges and rebates
- Executing investment instructions on your or your Adviser's behalf, where applicable
- Arranging and maintaining the custody, safeguarding and administration of Assets
- Maintaining records of the value of your Product and transaction history, and providing you with access to this information
- Providing you and your Adviser with online access to view and manage your Product
- Providing consolidated tax information, detailing any income and distributions for the relevant tax year
- Carrying out other services we deem necessary to effectively administer your Products and comply with regulatory requirements.

The following services are not provided by Nucleus, and are the responsibility of you and your Adviser:

- Obtaining pension, investment, tax or any form of financial advice
- Conducting due diligence checks on your chosen investment options prior to purchase
- Ascertaining the suitability of your investment decisions
- Monitoring the ongoing performance of your Product and the underlying Assets
- Monitoring the status and activity of any appointed third party, including an Investment Manager, a third party stockbroker, fund provider, or any person or authority able to influence your Product or Assets (including your Adviser and any party with power of attorney).

As part of our regular business activity, we conduct our own due diligence on permissible Assets prior to them being made available for investment through our products. This extends to investment managers/providers, adviser firms and other connected third parties, and may include checks to ensure adherence with HMRC rules, evidence of appropriate regulation and authorisation.

We have appropriate controls in place designed to minimise any foreseeable risks associated with investing through our products. However, for the avoidance of doubt, our due diligence does not replace the requirement for your own, and you and your Adviser should conduct thorough initial and ongoing due diligence prior to any investment decision.

### 3.2 Role of Adviser

Your Adviser will normally be granted full access rights to your Product where appointed. This means that we will accept information and act on instructions from them as if they are from you. Where we have queries, require further information or are issuing correspondence, we will normally contact your Adviser in the first instance.

Your Adviser should also be your first point of contact regarding the operation of your Product, with the exception of administrative queries aimed at Nucleus, or where you do not have an Adviser.

Your Adviser must agree to our Adviser Terms of Business and register with Nucleus prior to completing a Product Application on your behalf.

Certain processes can be completed by your Adviser only, though they should only be executed in accordance with your instructions. These may include (but are not limited to):

- Scheduling regular crystallisation on the Platform
- Requesting to transfer in a pension that contains safeguarded benefits (specific guarantees).
- Placing trades in respect of 'complex investments', as defined by the FCA.

If you remove your Adviser's authority to manage your Product, or end your relationship with them, your service experience with Nucleus may vary due to the different ways we must interact with non-advised Customers. Changes to operational processes in this scenario may include (but are not limited to):

- Issuing risk warnings to you where appropriate, with regard to taking pension benefits.
- Issuing warnings to you regarding liquid/illiquid holdings within your plan.
- Different cancellation rights.

You may also lose access to products and services that are exclusively available to that Adviser, which could result in a change to your Product and therefore the underlying investment options and associated charges.

Your Adviser will agree with you any Adviser Charges to be paid to them, which will be paid from your Product's cash balance. We must receive your authorisation to pay Adviser Charges from your Product, and you must notify us if you wish to make any changes to this arrangement.

The Adviser Charges set-up process shows certain limits that we are willing to facilitate on our products. Within these limits, it is your responsibility to ensure that you are happy with the level of charges to be paid to your Adviser, before your Product is opened and on an ongoing basis.

We can terminate our relationship with your Adviser if they do not comply with our Adviser Terms of Business or cease to hold the required regulatory permissions. We will notify you if we need to do this with your Adviser.

You can change your Adviser at any time provided you notify us in writing. We'll remove an adviser's authority from your Products on your request as soon as we can after you notify us.

Any new Adviser you subsequently wish to appoint must also hold the required regulatory permissions and agree to our Adviser Terms of Business.

### 3.3 Banking

Payments into your Product, from you or a third party, are received into a pooled bank account, held in the name of the Scheme Trustee, before being invested in accordance with your instructions. Cash held with our banks in the pooled accounts is held separately from our money. Details of the current trustee are provided in Section 1.2.

As SIPP assets and cash are generally held in the name of the SIPP Scheme Trustee, money in the SIPP Product bank account is not client money under the FCA's Client Money Rules.

The pooled bank accounts hold money for you and other Nucleus customers. Your Product's cash holdings are recorded in our records but not in those of the bank or deposit taker with which the pooled account is held. The cash balance you hold within the Product is known as your Product bank account. You can view your Product bank account on the Platform.

The Product bank account is designed for holding cash for short periods while your investments are being made, or benefits or charges are being paid, rather than for holding cash over the longer term.

Only your Product bank account can be used for settling transactions within your Product. The relevant provider/trustee will be the sole authorised signatory for the operation of the pooled bank account(s) in which your cash is held.

Your Product bank account must always be kept in credit. In the event of a negative balance, you must take action to bring the balance back into credit as soon as possible, including paying any applicable charges. Please see Section 4.9 for the steps we can take when trying to prevent this if we believe there is a risk of the balance in your Product bank account becoming negative or being insufficient to meet payments due and payable from it.

Payments into your Product can be made by electronic means, such as Faster Payments services. Regular payments can also be made by Direct Debit. No payments into your Product can be made by you by cash or cheque.

Payments into your Product must be accompanied by the appropriate reference, which we will provide to you. Failure to do so may result in us being unable to allocate the money to your Product and needing to return it to the payer.

We will normally place your instructions to trade against new cash paid into your Product in accordance with our Instruction Transmission Policy, which is available on our Website. This may result in instructions being placed before a new payment has cleared. If the payment has not cleared (or has been returned unpaid) by the settlement date for the trade and other cleared cash is not available in your Product within five working days, we will sell the investment and you will bear any shortfall in the sale proceeds.

If we are unable to sell the investment, the debt amount will be settled from other cleared cash in your Product's bank account, or we may need to sell other investments you hold. This could also mean your Product incurs trading charges.

At our discretion, we may at any time determine that we will not place your trading instructions until cleared cash to settle them is available in your Product's bank account.

Client money may be received by, or transferred to, a third party in the course of operating your Product. We may transfer to a third party some or all of the client money held in the Product bank account as part of the transfer of all or part of our business provided that:

- the client money relates to the business being transferred,
- the third party is required to return such money to you as soon as practicable at your request, and
- either;
  - the monies transferred will be held by that third party in accordance with the FCA's Client Money Rules, or
  - the third party will apply other adequate measures to protect those monies.

We may change the structure of the Product bank account, and/or the providers used to hold cash, without any prior notice to you if we reasonably consider that the change will not have a material detrimental impact on you. We exercise due skill, care and diligence in the selection and periodic review of any providers we use to hold cash. We cannot be held responsible for the actions, omissions, default or insolvency of any provider used to hold cash for a Nucleus Product bank account.

In the event of the failure or default of a bank or deposit taker with which a pooled bank account is held, we will attempt to recover your share of the cash held in that account on your behalf. In the event the bank or deposit taker is unable to satisfy all claims against it, you may have to bear any shortfall on a pro rata basis based on the cash balances relating to each of our customers held in that pooled bank account.

We will not be liable to (and will not compensate) you for any such shortfall you suffer. You may, subject to eligibility, be able to claim against the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). Please note that FSCS limits apply per person per banking licence. This means that the limit on compensation to which you may be eligible applies to your aggregate exposure to a failed bank or deposit taker (or, more accurately, to banks which share a banking licence). Please see Section 5.2 for more information.

### 3.3.1 Interest

We may pay interest on the cash balance in your Product bank account and any cash account held in relation to a property. The interest you receive on your cash balance is allocated in accordance with the 'rate of interest paid', which is available on our Website. The interest rates may change at any time without prior notice, in accordance with our Cash Interest Policy.

Interest on cash held in the Product bank account is calculated daily and paid monthly in arrears. The amount you receive may be subject to bank charges and differences in the timing of interest payments received from the banks or deposit takers who provide the accounts.

We retain a proportion of the interest earned so that we may continue to invest in our technology and service provision and to keep our charges competitive.

The applicable interest rate may be zero. For the avoidance of doubt, interest which accrues on pooled bank accounts will not be treated as client money until it is applied to your Product bank account.

To obtain better interest rates, we may diversify cash holdings into a combination of instant access, notice and unbreakable term deposit accounts. Money may be placed in accounts with notice periods or unbreakable terms of up to 95 days, in accordance with the FCA's Client Money Rules.

Nucleus placing your money in notice or term deposit accounts does not affect your ability to deal with or withdraw funds from your Product. However, in the event of our insolvency or the insolvency or default of one of the banks or other deposit takers with whom your money is held, some amounts may not be immediately available.

### 3.4 Charges

The fees we charge for providing your Product are set out in your Charges Schedule, or as separately notified to you from time to time. We reserve the right to introduce new charges or change the type and level of charges. Any such changes will be made in accordance with Section 1.1 of these Platform Service Terms and Conditions.

We will also facilitate payments to:

- Your Adviser – for the provision of financial advice to you, in accordance with your signed Adviser Charges Agreement; and
- Third parties – such as DIMs, Investment Managers or fund providers, for the provision of their custody/management services, as outlined in their own documentation.

Your Product may also attract other costs from time to time, such as tax (including VAT where applicable) and industry levies.

All charges and other costs are deducted from your Product bank account as they become due. Subject to our requirements, you may be able to nominate a different Product's bank account from which charges and costs should be paid.

You are responsible for ensuring your Product bank account contains sufficient funds to pay our charges, third party charges and costs, expenses, tax charges, levies, fees and/or other liabilities incurred in relation to your Product as and when they become due. Please see section 4.9 (Automatic Disinvestment) which explains the steps we take if there are insufficient funds in your Product bank account for these purposes.

If you fail to pay any charges, losses, liabilities, expenses, legal fees or other costs that are due, you (or your estate if you die) will be personally liable for all outstanding amounts. We can charge interest on late payment of our charges at 3% over the prevailing Bank of England base rate. Any third parties to whom money is owed may also charge interest on outstanding balances.

We reserve the right to defer the application of any charges, costs or related rebates at our reasonable discretion.

In cases where charges or costs are based on the price of a particular Asset, where up-to-date price information is unavailable, we reserve the right to use estimates based on reasonable assumptions.

#### 3.4.1 Nucleus charges

A copy of your Product's Charges Schedule is available on request, and your Adviser can help you to understand the charges you will pay.

Where annual charges are specified in your Product's Charges Schedule, such charges increase each year in line with the rise in the Average Weekly Earnings (AWE) Index (EARN01 for whole economy K54U) produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), for the previous calendar year. This does not include transaction-based charges or those payable at a frequency other than annually. We will not separately notify you of this increase each year.

We will not refund any charges paid in part or in full where you stop using the associated service, or if you close or transfer out of your Product. Charges will continue to become due up until the Product has been closed or transferred to another provider.

We reserve the right to insist on the settlement of all charges due to us before processing a request to transfer away from Nucleus or close a Product.

We will continue to monitor the balance of your Product bank account for a short period following closure, to allow for transactions which are in progress to be completed and to settle charges that are outstanding. Any remaining cash balance will then be transferred as requested, following any post-closure administration fees as detailed in the Charges Schedule.

### 3.4.2 Adviser charges

We will pay Adviser Charges from your Product bank account to your Adviser in accordance with your signed Adviser Charges Agreement. You should agree any charges to be paid in advance and notify us of any changes.

The amount of Adviser Charges we will pay from your Product bank account to your Adviser is subject to certain limits, based on what we are willing to facilitate on the Platform. Within these limits, we are not obliged to assess or query the level of Adviser Charges you have agreed with respect to suitability, fairness and value, as you should make this assessment.

If you tell us to reduce or stop the charges we are paying to your Adviser, we will do so as soon as reasonably practical. We are not liable to you or your Product if your Adviser does not make any repayments you are owed.

## 3.5 Communications and instructions

### 3.5.1 Communicating with you

We will normally correspond with your Adviser (if you have one) or other third party appointed by you, in relation to your Product. In appointing your Adviser or other third party, you authorise us to correspond with them in relation to your Product and to accept and act on all information and instructions from them as if they were received directly from you. Any requirement in these Platform Service Terms and Conditions for us to notify you of any matter will be satisfied by us notifying your Adviser (or other third party appointed by you).

Our correspondence to you will be in writing, in English, and primarily delivered via:

- the secure messaging system within your online Platform account,
- system-generated emails and documents uploaded to your online Platform account, or
- by post to the correspondence address we hold for you.

Correspondence sent to you via the secure messaging system shall be deemed to have been received when it appears as a sent item in our secure portal and no error message has been generated.

For system-generated outputs and online document uploads, a notification is sent to you or your Adviser (by other electronic means, such as email) confirming correspondence has been sent. The notification will not typically contain the full content of the communication, and users will be directed to access their online account to securely view all correspondence.

Correspondence sent by us by post shall be deemed to have been received on the fifth Business Day after it was posted.

Platform users can opt in and out of electronic communications and receive paper correspondence on request. We can apply a charge for the provision of paper correspondence where appropriate.

Where permitted by the FCA Handbook of rules and guidance, we can notify you of changes to our products and services, including changes made to these Platform Service Terms and Conditions, via our Website or other electronic means.

You must notify us as soon as possible if any of your contact details change, including your address, email address or contact telephone number, as well as personal details such as marital status or name changes.

### 3.5.2 Communicating with us

Any instruction not placed directly on the Platform from you or your Adviser must be in writing, in English and sent to us:

- via the secure messaging system within your online Platform account, or
- by prepaid post to our correspondence address.

In exceptional circumstances, we can accept instructions by telephone. Where we do, you or your adviser must confirm those instructions in writing as soon as practicable by the means specified above.

We will not be liable to you or any other person for loss where we fail to act on instructions that are not made in accordance with this clause, or those which are not actually received by us.

We reserve the right to change the means by which we accept instructions or other communications, and this can include requiring all communication to be made via a secure, electronic means. We shall give you reasonable notice of any such change.

### 3.6 Valuations

Your Product's transaction and investment histories are available through your online Platform account.

Where we receive daily value/price data, the value of the Assets within your Products will normally be updated every Business Day. For Assets that provide data less frequently, we will use the most recent data available, which may not reflect the current trading value/price for that Asset.

Quarterly statements will be sent to you based on the anniversary of your Product being opened, and copies will be saved in your online Platform account. You will also receive an annual statement and illustration.

You and your Adviser can produce ad-hoc valuations at any time from your online account. You can also request ad-hoc paper valuation statements, though we reserve the right to apply a charge for producing and sending these.

The information displayed in our statements and online systems regarding your investments, such as prices and holdings data, reflects the information we are given by third parties, and is provided by us to you in good faith. We do not accept responsibility for errors or omissions in this data and will notify you of any issues we encounter in obtaining or later amending this data.

### 3.7 Eligibility

You cannot hold the Product if you are under the age of 18 or are a US Person. A US Person is an individual who is either a citizen or national of the United States of America ('US'), including dual citizens or nationals, or who is ordinarily resident in the US for tax purposes.

If you are not resident in the UK, you will not typically receive tax relief on contributions you make to any your SIPP. There may be exceptions, such as crown employees stationed overseas.

You must notify us immediately if your eligibility status changes. We reserve the right to close your Nucleus Product if you no longer satisfy your Application's eligibility criteria.

### 3.8 Using the platform

When we provide you with access to the Platform, you must not share your log-in details with anyone else. Your Adviser will be given their own separate log-in details. Additional online terms of use apply to your use of the Platform. You will be asked to review and accept these when you first register to use the Platform.

We categorise you as a 'retail client' as defined by the FCA. You may be able to request alternative categorisation, subject to our agreement. However, this may limit the level of protection available to you.

### 3.9 Cancellation

Your rights to cancel are set out in the table below.

In the circumstances set out in the table, we'll provide you with a cancellation notice that explains your right to change your mind. You can complete and return this notice to us within the relevant cancellation period if you wish to cancel your instruction.

If we are unable to return any money or Assets received to their original source in accordance with the table, we'll let you know so that you can make alternative arrangements to have them transferred to another provider.

We will refund our charges incurred prior to the date of cancellation where you exercise your right to cancel in line with the Cancellation Notice and these Platform Service Terms and Conditions.

We are normally not able to arrange for a refund of any third party charges incurred in the period prior to cancellation, such as Adviser Charges, asset management fees or initial investment charges. You should contact the third party or your Adviser directly to request any refund of charges paid to them.

Event	Advised Clients	Non-advised Customers
<p><b>Transferring in a pension from another provider</b></p>	<p>A 30 day cancellation period applies. During this time you may choose to cancel your transfer, at which point we will return all money and Assets to the Transferring Scheme, if they are able to accept it.</p> <p>Market movements may mean that the value of your Assets rises or falls during the cancellation period, and you may get back less than you transferred in. Any market gains in this period will be paid to a charity chosen by us.</p>	<p>A 30 day cancellation period applies. During this time you may choose to cancel your transfer, at which point we will return all money and Assets to the Transferring Scheme, if they are able to accept it.</p> <p>Market movements may mean that the value of your Assets rises or falls during the cancellation period, and you may get back less than you invested. Any market gains in this period will be paid to a charity chosen by us.</p> <p>Unless you have waived your right to cancel as part of the transfer request (including as part of your Application), any money transferred in will not be available to invest until the expiry of the 30 day cancellation period.</p>
<p><b>Taking pension Flexi-access Drawdown for the first time</b></p>	<p>A 30 day cancellation period applies. During this time you can choose to cancel your request to take withdrawals from your SIPP. You must return to us all benefits taken in full (including any Pension Commencement Lump Sum and income you have taken). These funds will be considered to remain 'uncrystallised', meaning a new cancellation period will be available the next time you request to take withdrawals from your SIPP.</p> <p>Please note that your right to cancel only applies to your initial request for Flexi-access Drawdown from your SIPP (unless that request is cancelled), and does not apply to any subsequent designations, income changes or UFPLS payments.</p>	
<p><b>Payments in (excluding transfers)</b></p>	<p>No cancellation rights apply to payments that you make into your Product, beyond your right to cancel opening your Product. Where you exercise that right, any payments into your Product during the 30 day Product cancellation period will be returned as stated above.</p>	
<p><b>Assets (per investment/ transaction)</b></p>	<p>Each investment provider is responsible for providing details of any cancellation rights that apply to their investments. If we receive a cancellation notice from a provider of an investment held in your Product, we will forward this on to you. Please note that where you exercise cancellation rights in respect of an investment, market movements may mean that the value of the investments has fallen during the cancellation period, and you may get back less than you invested.</p>	

## 4. Managing your SIPP

Where an online option is available and you are able to, you and your Adviser must use the Platform to manage your Product and give instructions.

You and your Adviser have separate login details to access the Platform. Under no circumstances should you disclose your log in details to any other person.

Your Adviser will be given full access to view and manage your Products, only where they have been appointed by you. They can also instruct us to set the level or access permissions you have on the Platform.

This means that some online tools and services may not be available to you where your Adviser has not assigned you the relevant permission (or where we only allow Advisers to access a certain tool or service).

The permissions they can amend may include payments in/out and trading functions, where your Adviser deems it appropriate. If in doubt, you should discuss your Platform access permissions with your Adviser.

You are responsible for the accuracy of your personal details which you provide to us, and for promptly informing us of any changes or errors.

You must notify us immediately if:

- you decide you no longer want your Adviser to have authority to manage your Products, or you wish to remove or change your Adviser,
- you are no longer eligible to hold your Products in accordance with Section 3.7, or
- you become aware that your Platform password or other log in details have been compromised or if you think an unauthorised person may have accessed your Product via the Platform.

Nucleus accepts no liability for the misuse of any of the Platform functionality by its users.

We make no warranty that our services can be accessed at all times. We reserve the right to limit the availability of our services for maintenance and other operational reasons without prior notice to you. We will always try to ensure that maintenance is performed outside of normal business hours, but for emergency maintenance this might not always be possible.

### 4.1 Investing

Your initial Application confirms the range of investment options available within your Product. We have the right to make changes to the Product's permissible investment options in accordance with the Variation provisions above.

You are responsible for agreeing and directing the investment strategy of your Product, subject to any restrictions set out in these Platform Service Terms and Conditions. You should discuss your investment strategy with your Adviser on a regular basis. We are not responsible or liable for the choice or performance of your investments.

The investments made within the Product are typically held by the SIPP Scheme Trustee. Full details of how your assets are held and any relevant protections are provided in our **How Your Money and Investments Are Held** document, available on our Website or on request. You should consult with your Adviser if you have any questions about the investments permitted to be held in your Product.

All investments must be entered into on a commercial basis and in accordance with our policies, HMRC guidelines and legislation. Our requirements are set out in the guides we produce on investing within your Product.

These guides may change from time to time, so it is important that you always use the latest versions available from our Website. If your Product holds an investment that is affected by a change we make to these guides, we will contact your Adviser to discuss any implications.

The guides are not intended to be relied upon or construed as financial, investment or tax advice. If you are unsure about the suitability or appropriateness of any investment, you should speak with your Adviser.

We can reverse, suspend or decline to make an investment if:

- it contravenes these Platform Service Terms and Conditions or the content of any of the other contractual Product documents stated in Section 1;
- there is insufficient cash available in your Product bank account to make the investment;
- it is contrary to our internal risk and investment policies;
- it could expose us to a liability greater than the value of the Assets in your Product, or to any reputational risks;
- it will incur punitive tax charges;
- it is overly complicated or expensive to administer;
- we are unable to value it regularly;
- at our discretion, we have reasonable grounds for doing so.

If we decline to make an investment for any reason, we will inform you as soon as possible.

We will not be responsible where we cannot process your instructions to deal in an asset because the manager of that asset has suspended dealing in it.

You must submit an instruction to us each time you wish to make an investment, in accordance with these Platform Service Terms and Conditions and applicable Product literature, such as our Instruction Transmission Policy.

You are responsible for the accuracy of your investment instructions. We transmit your orders to the relevant third party without amendment, except for where we are required to conduct additional administration in order for the transaction to be executed, such as signing documents as the trustee/registered account holder.

We will confirm to you our onward transmission of your instruction, or the placement of the trade, following notification from the relevant asset manager/deposit aggregator.

We will notify you of any difficulties we experience in relation to executing your investment instructions. We will not be responsible for any related delay.

Our target timescales for acting upon your instructions can be found in our Instruction Transmission Policy, which is available from our Website. These timings are not guaranteed and transmissions can take longer than stated.

Your dealing instructions may be combined with those of other customers and executed in aggregated transactions. Where we disaggregate the proceeds of transactions or receive money by way of income, dividend or otherwise, we may receive more or less than you would have received if the transactions had not been aggregated. In this case, we will fund any shortfall and retain any surplus.

#### 4.2 Distribution, dividends and rebates

Any rebates of a fund manager annual management charge, distributions and dividends in respect of your holdings of less than £1 will be credited to the Product bank account once the money has been received and reconciled.

For rebates from holdings in investment manager accounts, the treatment will depend on the nature of your agreement with them, and the adviser if applicable.

Where an amount of £50 or more is received after your Product is closed, we will make a payment to you or a new provider, depending on the manner of closure. Amounts below this value will be retained by us as a post closure charge.

Tax reclaims, where appropriate, will be processed upon receipt of the tax vouchers from the fund managers. The amount will be added to the Product bank account once the money has been received and reconciled from HMRC.

When we receive any distribution or dividend, we will disaggregate them according to underlying client ownership, even where fractions of units are held. Where distributions or dividends cannot be dis-aggregated, due to amounts being less than £0.01, we will keep a record of such amounts and pay these to a charity of our choice on a periodic basis.

We will deduct tax from any such payments when required to do so. For information on the tax treatment of such payments, you should speak to your Adviser.

#### 4.3 Corporate actions and voting rights

We will only forward to you copies of reports and accounts, scheme particulars, or meeting/voting information that we receive related to your investments where there is a regulatory obligation for us to do so, or where we otherwise decide it is necessary for us to do so, at our complete discretion. We can do so via any of our standard communication channels with you, including through our secure online messaging system or by post.

If you wish to receive anything in addition to this, you may request it, and where we accept your request, we can charge a reasonable fee for facilitating that request.

If you would like us to consider any specific requirements or action in relation to the treatment of Corporate Actions for any of your investments, please contact us. If we choose, at our sole discretion, to agree to a request, we can charge a reasonable fee for facilitating that request.

Unless requested by you and agreed by us, we will not exercise any voting rights in respect of any of your investments, nor attend any shareholder or unitholder meetings in respect of the investments held. There may be occasions, such as actions to be undertaken on a distressed investment, where we will communicate that there is an upcoming vote and, following collation of responses, vote accordingly.

It is the responsibility of you/and your adviser to understand and address any voluntary aspects relating to any Corporate Actions communicated to you by us. We will not be responsible or liable for any financial consequences or delays without limitation, for any failure to respond within the required timeframes from you, your Adviser or DIM.

You may receive more or less favourable treatment or options when there is a Corporate Action or other event as you would if the investment (e.g. an Exchange Traded Investment) were held in a separately designated account with a Nominee or Custodian, in a CREST Personal Member's account, or in certificated form. For example, following a share issue or allocation that favours the small investor, your allocation in the pooled account may be less than it otherwise would have been if the investment had been registered in your name.

#### 4.4 Trustee Investment Plans (TIP)

Life Office SIPPs allow access to trustee investment plans (TIPs) offered by the corresponding insurance firm. They must be provided by an FCA regulated insurance company, be designed to be held by the trustees of a registered pension scheme, and invest in the insurance company's pension fund range. Depending on the insurance company providing the trustee investment plan for your SIPP, your assets may, in some instances, be pooled with those of other investors via 'bulk TIPs'.

Where these bulk TIPs are in operation, Nucleus may continue to pay existing commission payments directly to your financial adviser, by disinvesting sufficient assets to cover the payments, as agreed between you and your financial adviser.

#### 4.5 Fixed term deposits and notice accounts

Where you satisfy the eligibility criteria, you can invest in fixed term deposits and notice accounts with selected banking providers via our third-party deposit aggregator. Access to these investment types is subject to the deposit aggregator's terms and conditions, which can be accessed at the point of purchase on the online portal.

The underlying banking providers also have their own summary documents, FSCS protection sheets and supplementary terms and conditions, which you will need to read and agree to be bound by before opening a deposit account with them in your Product. Their terms could include conditions such as early withdrawal restrictions, which can affect the liquidity of your Product.

You will be deemed to have accepted each of the deposit aggregator's terms and conditions and the banking provider's terms and conditions when you place an instruction to invest in a fixed term deposit or notice account. Acceptance of your instruction is at the discretion of both the deposit aggregator and the banking provider. Section 4.1 applies to our transmission of your instructions to the deposit aggregator.

Your instruction will only be placed with and by the deposit aggregator where cleared funds are available in the Product bank account. When your instruction is received by the deposit aggregator, you will have a set timeframe within which you can cancel your account under its terms. However, once it has placed your money in a term deposit account (normally by the end of the Business Day following receipt of an instruction) there is no right to withdraw your money and these cancellation rights will not apply. The execution of instructions by the deposit aggregator is subject to its terms and conditions.

Information regarding how the deposit aggregator will charge you for using its service is included within the deposit aggregator's terms. Our charges for using the deposit aggregator, where applicable, are separate to these, and can be found within your Product's Charges Schedule.

Cash invested in deposit accounts via our deposit aggregator will be held with the relevant banking provider in an account in the name of the deposit aggregator or its nominee. Further information can be found in the deposit aggregator's Terms.

The deposit aggregator will record amounts invested as being held on behalf of the Scheme Trustee for your SIPP.

In the event of the failure or default of an underlying banking provider you may, subject to eligibility and applicable limits, be able to receive compensation from the FSCS. Please note that FSCS limits apply per person per banking licence. This means that the limit on compensation to which you may be eligible applies to your aggregate exposure to a failed bank or deposit taker (or more accurately, to banks which share a banking licence) including any deposits you may hold with that bank or deposit taker outside of Nucleus. Further information is available at [fscs.org.uk](https://www.fscs.org.uk), in Section 5.2 of this document, and in our guide called **How your money and investments are held**, which is available from our Website.

If you hold more than the FSCS limit or are not eligible for FSCS protection and the banking provider is unable to satisfy all claims against it, you may have to bear a proportionate share of any shortfall with other depositors. We will not be liable to you for any shortfall you suffer.

#### 4.6 Asset registration

Any costs associated with transferring investments into your Product are payable by you.

You are not permitted to use any Assets as collateral or as security or a pledge. You undertake that any Assets transferred into your Product will be free of all third-party interests.

We, the relevant Nominee or the SIPP Scheme Trustee, can give the issuer of your investments details such as your name and address, and the size of your holdings. Other parties holding your investments can also do this. Where investments are held on a pooled basis, additional benefits can arise that would not otherwise have occurred had your investment been registered in your own name. In such circumstances, you will not receive these additional benefits. By holding investments in this manner you can also lose benefits which you might otherwise have gained, had investments been registered in your own name. We will not be responsible for any such loss of benefits.

In the event of our, the SIPP Scheme Trustee or our Nominee's, insolvency, third parties who hold Assets on your behalf may exercise a right of retention or sale over those Assets. This right will be limited to the recovery by them of properly incurred charges and liabilities arising from the provision of custody services for the Assets they hold.

If your Product holds non-UK investments, the rights applicable to those investments will be subject to the local laws and regulation which may differ from those of the United Kingdom. You should read the Asset manager's documentation carefully for details of how this may impact your rights.

Where Assets are held in an omnibus account (held on a pooled basis), the legal title to such Assets will be in the name of the relevant Nominee or the SIPP Scheme Trustee together with Assets held for other clients. This means that Assets held for your Product will not be separately identifiable within the Nominee or SIPP Scheme Trustee's account, only in our records.

In the event of a default in relation to Assets held in an omnibus account, you may not receive your full entitlement if there is any irreconcilable shortfall in investments, and may share with other clients in the shortfall in proportion to your original share. There may also be a delay in receiving your entitlement to such investments. In the event of a default, you or your SIPP may be entitled to compensation under the FSCS, as detailed in Section 5.2.

If you choose to invest in non-UK Assets, it may not be possible under local laws for a third party Custodian to hold your investments in a way which is separately identifiable from its own assets. In the event of the insolvency of that third party Custodian and a shortfall in investments available to settle claims against it, you may have to share proportionately in any shortfall with the Custodian's other customers and creditors.

We can exercise a right of retention or sale over your investments, but only in respect of properly incurred charges and liabilities arising from administering your Product.

For the avoidance of doubt, we will not be the Custodian of cash or Assets held through the service provided by our chosen deposit aggregator, in accordance with the deposit aggregator's terms, and they will maintain oversight of any such transaction.

#### 4.7 Investment manager accounts

Subject to our agreement, you may open an investment account with an Investment Manager (IM).

The IM must provide us with their full details, be based in the UK, hold the required regulatory permissions, agree to our terms of business, meet our eligibility criteria and agree to our operational requirements.

If at any time your IM ceases to have the required authorisations or permissions, or fails to observe the agreed terms and conditions, we'll request that you appoint another IM and that any assets held by them are transferred to your newly appointed IM. Alternatively, we may require that any assets held by the former IM be sold within a reasonable time, and the account closed.

You must deal directly with your IM and satisfy yourself as to the following: the terms of business between you and your IM; any charges that are payable by you to your IM; the suitability for your needs of any advice and/or investment strategy that you agree with your IM.

Your IM must use its own nominee or custody facilities, and accept responsibility for the registration and safe custody of your investments.

#### 4.8 Commercial property

You may choose to invest in commercial property, which may be purchased or leased through your SIPP. The property and any borrowing must be in the name of James Hay Pension Trustees Limited as the Scheme Trustee.

We will appoint a solicitor from our panel to act in respect of any property transaction or property-related litigation. We're also entitled to unilaterally appoint an insurer, energy performance assessor, selling or letting agent, auctioneer, our chosen property manager, or other property professional to act on our behalf so that we may to comply with our duties and obligations as a landlord. This provision also applies where you opened your plan before 5 December 2014 and your property is self-managed.

The fees of any instructed panel solicitor, property manager, surveyor, auctioneer, or other property professional (including insurer) together with stamp duty, valuation fees, insurance, EPC costs and any other costs, charges and disbursements will be payable by your SIPP. In accordance with Section 3.3, we may require that a SIPP Pooled Bank Account is used for all transactions, including but not limited to rent collection. If there are insufficient monies available in your SIPP to cover amounts due, you will be personally responsible for making up any shortfall.

In addition, you must provide us, on request, with such property and/or tenant information as we may deem reasonably necessary for the purposes of operating the SIPP and for good governance.

Where an independent valuation of commercial property is required, such as to support a benefit calculation or recalculation review, we will obtain:

- a Red Book Valuation if, since the date your SIPP first invested in the commercial property, no Red Book Valuation has been carried out, or the latest Red Book Valuation on the commercial property is more than 24 months old;
- an independent desktop valuation if the latest Red Book Valuation on the commercial property is between 12-24 months old.

We reserve the right to require a valuation at a different frequency in circumstances where there is reason to believe the value of the property may have materially changed since the last valuation held. Customer valuations will not be accepted.

For SIPPs opened on or after 5 December 2014, we will not allow you to self-manage property within your SIPP.

For SIPPs opened before 5 December 2014, we will generally not allow you to self-manage new property acquired within your SIPP where that property is/is to be VAT opted. We may also decide not to allow a commercial property currently held within your SIPP to continue to be self-managed. We shall give you reasonable notice if we decide not to allow you to continue to manage a property on a self-managed basis, and will generally only do this if any of the following apply:

- Rent has not been, or is not being, collected such that (in our reasonable opinion) there are significant rent arrears.
- Property inspections and valuations have not been undertaken.
- Other sums due, such as insurance, superior lease ground rents and service charges, or mortgage repayments, are outstanding.
- You fail to respond to annual property returns and reasonable ad-hoc requests for property information (such as insurance documentation, occupation details, matters relating to regulatory or statutory compliance).
- We fully withdraw the option to continue to self-manage property; this may be because of changes to policy or the way our business operates as a result of actual or potential increased costs or risk to the business, or for other valid reasons.

In these circumstances, the property shall be managed by a property management agent appointed by us. Charges for the services of a property management agent may be higher than that charged for the self-managed option, and these are set out in your Product's Charges Schedule.

We can decline to purchase any commercial property at our discretion. Where we exercise our discretion, we will give you reasonable notice of our decision.

Please see our Commercial Property Guides on our Website for more information on commercial property purchases, maintenance and sales.

#### 4.8.1 Property insurance

If your SIPP was opened on or after 5 December 2014, all property acquired into your SIPP will be added to our block insurance policy.

If your SIPP was opened before 5 December 2014 and you currently self-manage a property within your SIPP, or intend to acquire a new self-managed property which is not (to be) VAT opted, you may arrange your own property insurance subject to:

- The Insured being James Hay Pension Trustees Limited.
- The insurance meeting our standard coverage requirements in place from time to time; please contact our Property Team for more information on these requirements.
- The prompt provision of a valid certificate of insurance or other insurance details in relation to the property, when requested by us.
- Compliance with the terms of the policy of insurance, including (but not limited to) disclosure of material changes to the property (use, occupancy, condition etc), vacant property requirements, and updating the property reinstatement value (or such other requirements as your chosen insurer may impose from time to time).

In the event you fail to adequately insure the property or fail to respond to insurance information requests, we reserve the right to add the property to our block policy to ensure we are complying with our legal obligations as trustee of your SIPP. In such cases, insurance costs will be charged to your SIPP (or, if appropriate, recharged down to any occupational tenant).

#### 4.9 Automatic disinvestment

You agree to monitor your Product bank account balance, and arrange disinvestments where appropriate, to ensure there is sufficient cash available to meet any payments as and when they become due. This includes any withdrawals, our charges, expenses, third party charges and costs, tax charges, levies, fees and/or other liabilities incurred in relation to your Product.

If a payment becomes due and sufficient cash is not available, our automatic disinvestment process will come into effect. This means that within your Products, certain asset types will be sold by us to allow us to meet these payments without your explicit consent. Eligible asset types include platform funds, model portfolio holdings and DIM accounts.

In addition to this automatic disinvestment, we reserve the right to sell other Assets held within your Product to pay our charges, expenses, third party charges and costs, tax charges, levies, fees and/or other liabilities incurred in relation to your Product. Although we reserve this right, we're under no obligation to exercise it and it remains your responsibility to ensure your Product bank account contains sufficient funds to settle these costs.

We are not responsible, and accept no liability, for any interest, penalty, additional charge or loss you or your Product incurs in respect of any payments due that are not paid on time due to the balance in your Product bank account being insufficient.

Most daily activities will affect your Product's cash balance, and our automatic disinvestment process is not designed to be a substitute for your own disinvestment strategy. Please read our [Auto-Disinvestment Policy](#) on our Website for more information on this process.

#### 4.10 Withdrawals

Section 6 below, and the Product's supporting literature, explain the withdrawal options available for your Life Office SIPP.

All withdrawals from your Product will be paid in accordance with HMRC rules. This means you may incur charges and be liable to pay certain taxes as a result of a withdrawal.

Your Product's bank account must have sufficient cash in it to satisfy a withdrawal request. If there is insufficient cash at the point we attempt to make a payment, causing it to fail, we may make subsequent attempts to pay but are not obliged to do so.

The automatic disinvestment policy in Section 4.9 explains how we try to prevent this. However, you and your Adviser are responsible for ensuring that sufficient cash is available in your SIPP to meet your request, including arranging any disinvestments required.

Payments from your Product are made by us via Faster Payments or CHAPS to a verified bank account that you nominate. You cannot withdraw amounts directly from your Product at a bank.

The value of investments can go down as well as up, and the amount available to withdraw could be less than the amount originally paid in.

#### 4.11 Product closure

You can choose to close your Product at any time by instructing us in writing. Depending on your eligibility to withdraw benefits, this can be achieved either by selling all Assets and paying cash proceeds to you, or by transferring the Assets and/or cash within your Products to another provider. You may incur charges and be liable to pay certain taxes as a result.

Any amounts of £50 or more that we receive on your behalf after the Product has been closed will be paid in accordance with your closure instructions, after the deduction of any outstanding charges. Amounts below this value will be taken as a post-closure charge.

No charges will be refunded in part or in full should you close or transfer out your Product. Charges will continue to become due up until the date your Product is closed, either through withdrawals or the Assets being transferred out.

We reserve the right to close your Product if:

- the value of Assets in your Product falls below £1,000 and is therefore likely to be eroded by ongoing administrative charges.
- there are no Assets or cash remaining in your Product
- we withdraw a Product or service from our business operations.
- we make an alternative product available that provides similar benefits (which we can arrange transfer of your Assets to if instructed by you or your Adviser).
- you no longer meet the eligibility requirements for the Product.
- we receive a court order requiring us to close your Product.
- we are informed or become aware that your Product is being used for illegal purposes.
- we become aware that you are not adhering to these Platform Services Terms and Conditions.
- allowing your Product to continue would breach HMRC or FCA regulations.
- we decide to wind up the SIPP Scheme or it ceases to be a registered pension scheme.
- your behaviour, in our reasonable opinion, is abusive, offensive or threatening or is otherwise inappropriate.

We may also decide to close a product for new business only.

Where possible, we will notify you at least 30 days prior to any closure or partial closure of your Product, except where the reason for closure or part closure is out of our control, in which case we may close or partially close the Product immediately.

#### 4.12 Products on death

If you die, existing instructions relating to your Products will be suspended and new instructions will not be completed until we receive appropriate proof of death and authority to act from your personal representatives.

We require the original death certificate in order to formally record the death, but we do reserve the right to accept other forms of notification.

## 5. Important information

### 5.1 Data protection

We will use your personal information for the purposes of providing our services to you.

The Privacy Notice page of our Website provides information on how we process your personal data, when and why we may disclose your data to other parties, and the steps we take to keep your personal information secure.

You are responsible for ensuring that the personal data you provide to us is accurate and up to date at all times, and to inform us immediately of any changes.

In respect of the use of our online services, we may gather information relating to the identity of the user, the time of use, and the way in which the user has navigated through our Website and our online services.

### 5.2 FSCS cover

Your SIPP with Nucleus is covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). The FSCS is the UK's compensation fund for customers of authorised financial services firms. The FSCS may be able to issue compensation if a firm is unable to pay claims against it. Further information is available at [fscs.org.uk](https://www.fscs.org.uk) and in our guide called 'How your money and investments are held' which is available on our Website or on request.

Where you hold individual investments that hold cash or Assets outside of the UK, your rights may also be different from those that would apply under the laws of England and Wales, and you may not be entitled to compensation under the FSCS or any other compensation scheme.

### 5.3 Conflicts of interest

Our Conflicts of Interest Policy sets out how we identify, manage and prevent any potential conflicts of interest that may arise in relation to the Products and services we provide. A copy is available on our Website or on request.

### 5.4 Court orders

Where required to do so by law, we'll comply with any court orders affecting your Product including, but not limited to, any pension sharing order made in respect of your SIPP on your divorce or dissolution of a civil partnership.

### 5.5 Liability

We do not exclude or limit our liability to you for anything we cannot legally exclude or limit.

However, where legally permissible, we will not be responsible to you, and will not compensate you, for any loss, liability, cost, expense, fee or missed profit suffered as a result of:

- our actions where we have complied with these Platform Service Terms and Conditions and/or the loss you have suffered was not caused by our negligence, fraud or wilful default;
- instructions provided by you, or someone authorised by you, that are not provided in accordance with these Platform Service Terms and Conditions;
- instructions that we have not received for any reason;
- incomplete, unclear or unacceptable instructions that are not clarified to us within a reasonable timeframe;
- us reasonably exercising our discretion to not act upon an instruction or request, in accordance with these Platform Service Terms and Conditions;
- the loss of any documentation, such as share certificates, contract notes or documents of title whilst they are not in our possession;
- your or any third party's action or omission in respect of an investment decision, choice, purchase, retention or sale;
- the actions, omissions, delay or default of any third party associated with your Product, including but not limited to, banking providers (including the banks or deposit takers with which pooled bank accounts are held), third-party Nominees or Custodians, Investment Managers, fund providers, deposit aggregators, transferring platforms or Advisers;
- the performance of any investments of any nature;
- the length of time taken to sell an investment that is not readily realisable, such as investments that trade infrequently or with limited opportunities to sell;
- circumstances covered in the applicable Trust Deed and Rules;
- our delay or failure to provide the services set out in these Platform Service Terms and Conditions where it is caused by events, circumstances or causes beyond our reasonable control. This includes any failure or malfunction of any telecommunications, computer systems, equipment, banking services, utility providers, or any delays or failures arising as a result of any industrial disputes, actions or abnormal weather conditions.

The liability of the Scheme Trustee is at all times limited to the value of the Assets held in your SIPP.

## 5.6 Data accuracy

We endeavour to ensure that all information provided by us is accurate, current and complies with the relevant UK laws at the point of issue. We cannot be held responsible where such information has been prepared by third parties, even where you have received this information from us or our systems.

Should we make an error, we will take appropriate actions to remedy it. We will consider factors such as materiality, commerciality, fairness, and any relevant law or regulation when assessing a resolution.

While reasonable care has been taken, neither Nucleus nor any third party involved in the computing or compiling of the data on our Platform makes any express or implied warranty, representations or guarantees concerning the data. Any reliance upon the data accessed on our websites shall be made at your own risk.

## 5.7 Applicable laws

These Platform Service Terms and Conditions, and any dispute or claim arising out of, or in connection with, them (including non-contractual disputes or claims) shall be governed by, and interpreted in accordance with, the laws of England and Wales. You and we each agree to submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales.

## 5.8 Outsourcing

We can delegate or sub-contract any part of our services to a trusted third party from time to time where this may enhance operational efficiency and/or minimise costs. We will ensure the third party is competent to carry out these functions and responsibilities, and we will maintain appropriate oversight at all times to ensure that the services are delivered in accordance with these Platform Service Terms and Conditions.

## 5.9 Rights

We may transfer our rights and obligations under these Platform Service Terms and Conditions to another authorised Nucleus group company.

Your rights and obligations under these Platform Service Terms and Conditions are not assignable or transferable, unless specifically permitted by us.

Your Product may not be assigned or used as security for a loan.

If you or we breach these Platform Service Terms and Conditions and the relevant counterparty delays taking any action with regard to the breach or takes no action, that counterparty is still entitled to enforce any rights or remedies in respect of that breach and subsequent breach.

Other than Nucleus group companies, a person who is not party to these Platform Service Terms and Conditions shall not have any rights under these terms, including any rights under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 to enforce these Platform Service Terms and Conditions.

## 5.10 Complaints

Should you wish to make a complaint to us in relation to a Product or our services, you should write to:

**The Complaints Manager, Nucleus**  
Dunn's House  
St. Paul's Road  
Salisbury  
Wiltshire  
SP2 7BF

Alternatively, you can call us on **03455 212 414**.

We will provide you with a prompt written acknowledgement upon receipt, and the matter will be investigated by a person of appropriate competence and experience who has not been directly involved with the subject of the complaint. We endeavour to resolve any complaint as soon as possible.

A holding or final response to your complaint will be issued by us within four weeks of receipt. If a holding response is issued, we will contact you again within eight weeks of receipt of the complaint.

Within these eight weeks, we'll send you either a final response, or a response which explains that we're still investigating the complaint. Where appropriate, we will also provide you with a copy of a leaflet from the Financial Ombudsman, and a statement confirming that you can make an approach to the Financial Ombudsman Service if you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your complaint.

The Financial Ombudsman can be contacted via:

**Financial Ombudsman Service**  
Exchange Tower  
London  
E14 9SR.

[complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk](mailto:complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk)  
[financial-ombudsman.org.uk](http://financial-ombudsman.org.uk)

If your complaint is regarding the administration of a SIPP product, it may be more appropriately referred to the Pensions Ombudsman. If this applies, we will provide appropriate referral rights when sending our final response.

The Pensions Ombudsman can be contacted via:

**The Office of the Pensions Ombudsman**  
10 South Colonnade  
Canary Wharf  
London  
E14 4PU

**0800 917 4487**

[enquiries@pensions-ombudsman.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@pensions-ombudsman.org.uk)  
[pensions-ombudsman.org.uk](http://pensions-ombudsman.org.uk)

A complete copy of our Complaints Procedure guide is available on our Website or on request.

Accessing these services will not affect your right to take legal action.

## 5.11 Contact

Nucleus is the provider of your Products and does not provide financial advice. Technical, administrative or access queries can be sent to us via the Platform's secure messaging service, or you can contact us using the details below:

Nucleus  
Dunn's House  
St Paul's Road  
Salisbury  
SP2 7BF

[nucleusfinancial.com](https://nucleusfinancial.com)

03455 212 414

Our lines are open from 8.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday, with the exception of statutory holidays. To help improve our service, we may record or monitor calls.

## 6. Life Office SIPP

Your SIPP is subject to, and is operated in accordance with, the SIPP Scheme's Trust Deed and Rules. If there is any inconsistency, conflict or doubt between the Trust Deed and Rules and these Platform Service Terms and Conditions, the provisions of the Trust Deed and Rules shall prevail. A copy is available on request.

Your SIPP provides benefits on a money purchase basis, which means that the benefits payable on retirement, or death, are based on your accumulated fund value. There are no guarantees of the level of benefits that will ultimately become payable from your SIPP.

### 6.1 Contributions

You, your employer and/or third parties can make contributions into your SIPP at any time, subject to satisfactory identity checks, residence verification, credit and anti-money laundering checks. You are responsible for obtaining any third party contributor's consent for us to carry out such checks.

Payment of contributions can be made by electronic bank transfer, such as CHAPS, BACS and Faster Payments services. Regular contributions can also be made by Direct Debit. Contributions cannot be paid in by cash or cheque.

#### 6.1.1 Personal contributions

Where we are able to, in accordance with the prevailing HMRC legislation, we will claim basic rate tax relief on all new personal contributions made to your SIPP. This will be based on the relief eligibility information that you provide to us when making a contribution. You are responsible for notifying us of any changes to your circumstances that influence your entitlement, and you will be liable to HMRC where you receive tax relief to which you are not entitled.

Any claims for tax relief above the basic rate will need to be applied for directly from HMRC, and not via us.

Contributions made by a third party are treated as personal contributions. Employer payments that represent employee contributions are also eligible for tax relief, but this does not apply to your employer making pension contributions.

All tax relief claimed from HMRC will be credited to your Product bank account alongside your contribution amount.

#### 6.1.2 Employer contributions

Where contributions to your SIPP are paid by your employer, and they do not represent an employee contribution, we shall not claim for, nor apply, any tax relief.

Employer contributions, and any contributions that are deducted directly from your pay, are made in accordance with the agreement between you and your employer. Where agreed, they must pay contributions to your SIPP within the timescales specified in pension legislation.

Where your employer fails to make a payment, we will issue a request for information explaining the non-payment, and ask for the payment to be made. If a satisfactory response is not provided within 30 days, we must report this to The Pensions Regulator. Further information is available on their website [thepensionsregulator.gov.uk](https://www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk).

### 6.1.3 Limits, charges and refunds

You are responsible for ensuring all contributions are within allowable limits set by HMRC. You are also responsible for the settlement of any tax charges that may be applied if such limits are exceeded. If we over-claim tax relief on contributions to your SIPP, the amount to be repaid to HMRC and any interest on that amount will be deducted from your SIPP.

We accept no liability for any tax charges or penalties resulting from contributions made to your SIPP which are not eligible for tax relief or which exceed HMRC limits.

At our discretion, a contribution can be refunded if:

- the contribution was paid in genuine error;
- the refund satisfies the criteria to be a refund of excess contributions lump sum under the Finance Act 2004; or
- the refund is otherwise deemed to be an authorised payment under the Finance Act 2004.

The amount returned may be less than the amount originally paid, due to the deduction of any charges, and/or any decrease in investment value if the money was invested.

### 6.2 Pension transfers

You can transfer all or part of your pension held with another provider into your SIPP. You can also transfer all or part of your SIPP to another registered pension scheme, or a qualifying registered overseas pension scheme, as defined by HMRC. Any transfer is subject to the completion of our pension transfer documentation, compliance with any applicable legal or regulatory requirements, and our requirements set out below.

You are responsible for initiating the transfer instruction. We will also accept pension transfer instructions from your Adviser, or the Receiving/Transferring Scheme where we reasonably believe that the instruction is genuine and has been given with your authority. We are not responsible for any delay in making or receiving a transfer if the delay is caused by a third party or by matters outside our control.

You can request to transfer a pension to/from your SIPP as cash, or In-specie (the transfer of investments) subject to approval from both the Transferring Scheme and the Receiving Scheme. In order to process an In-specie transfer, the Transferring Scheme may need to request that the Fund Manager of the underlying investments carries out a Unit transfer or a conversion of such Units into a share class that is jointly available across the two schemes. Where you instruct us to perform an In-specie transfer as the Transferring Scheme, you authorise us to request this from the relevant Fund Managers.

Upon receipt of an In-specie transfer into your Life Office SIPP, we will convert Units in your investments into Units of a discounted Unit class, should they be available.

We can refuse to accept your instruction to transfer your SIPP where we have reasonable grounds for doing so, for example if we have concerns about the validity or integrity of the Receiving Scheme to which we are instructed to make a transfer.

Charges related to a transfer or partial transfer may become payable, as set out in your Charges Schedule. We reserve the right to insist upon the settlement of all outstanding charges against your SIPP before making any transfer.

If we receive a transfer into your SIPP due to your/your Adviser's error, Assets received may be returned to the Transferring Scheme following the deduction of any applicable charges.

### 6.3 Investments

Investments in your Life Office SIPP will be registered and held in the name of the SIPP Scheme's Scheme Trustee, apart from those held with third parties such as Investment Managers that use their own Nominee or Custodian.

All investments within your SIPP must comply with applicable laws, regulations and any rules, guidance or requirements of the FCA and HMRC. They must also comply with any guides and internal processes produced by us and be permitted investments as set out in your initial Application (subject to any changes that we notify to you).

We recommend that you seek advice from your Adviser before making any investment decisions.

### 6.4 Taking withdrawals from your SIPP

Withdrawals from your SIPP must comply with HMRC rules and legislation, meaning they must be 'authorised payments' for the purposes of Part 4 of the Finance Act 2004. You agree you will only withdraw amounts from your SIPP for the purpose of taking benefits in accordance with these rules and legislation.

You can typically start taking benefits from your SIPP from age 55 (age 57 from 6 April 2028), though HMRC may amend this rule at any time. This may be earlier if you have a protected retirement age under HMRC legislation.

Subject to medical evidence, we may also be able to pay your benefits earlier if you are in 'ill health' or 'serious ill health' and you meet HMRC requirements. The medical evidence presented to us must be from a registered medical practitioner and must confirm that, in their opinion:

- (for ill health early retirement benefits) you are, and will continue to be, incapable of carrying on your occupation because of physical or mental impairment (and you must have left that occupation), or
- (for serious ill health benefits) you are expected to live for less than one year.

If you have pre-6 April 2006 pension benefits with a protected pension age, and you wish to use this protection, you may not be able to take pension benefits in stages.

### 6.5 Evidence of age

We require evidence of your age before you can take benefits from your SIPP. Your Adviser can confirm this to us on your behalf, or you can send us:

- a black and white photocopy of your unexpired passport, or
- your original birth certificate (and marriage certificate if your name has changed on marriage).

Due to Crown Copyright rules, we can only accept originals of birth and marriage certificates as proof of your age. These will be returned to you as soon as possible.

There is no upper age limit by when you must start to take benefits.

### 6.6 Withdrawal options

Your SIPP allows for withdrawals to be made via the following methods:

- Pension Commencement Lump Sum (PCLS)
- Flexi-access Drawdown
- Capped Drawdown (where applicable)
- Uncrystallised funds pension lump sum (UFPLS)
- Annuity purchase (from an annuity provider).

You and your Adviser are responsible for determining the appropriate options, timing, amounts and implications of any pension withdrawals you intend to make. We will only facilitate the instructions you submit to us, in accordance with our own rules and processes.

Flexible payments, as defined by HMRC, from any money purchase pension will trigger the HMRC money purchase annual allowance rules. For the options above this will happen when you first take a Flexi-access Drawdown payment, a UFPLS payment or when you first receive a payment from a flexible annuity (being an annuity that allows actual, or possible, decreases in the amounts of income payable).

#### 6.6.1 Pension Commencement Lump Sum

When you choose to designate funds in your SIPP to provide pension benefits, you can usually take up to 25% of the value of those designated funds as a tax-free Pension Commencement Lump Sum (PCLS). The total amount you can take tax-free is subject to a limit set by law.

If you do not take the full amount of the available PCLS as part of that request when you become entitled to it, you cannot take the remaining amount later.

### 6.6.2 Flexi-access Drawdown

After you have taken PCLS, any further withdrawals from the amount designated for Flexi-access Drawdown are treated as taxable income under PAYE. We deduct tax using the emergency tax code until HMRC inform us of your correct tax code.

You do not have to make any withdrawals. If you do decide to, you can withdraw any amount up to the full value of the designated funds. You can ask us to pay withdrawals on a regular basis or as one-off payments.

### 6.6.3 Capped Drawdown

If you are already in receipt of Capped Drawdown in your SIPP, you can continue to receive Capped Drawdown. You can also designate further funds into Capped Drawdown.

Pensions benefits under Capped Drawdown are subject to withdrawal limits calculated in accordance with Government Actuary's Department rates, which are reviewed on a regular basis.

You do not have to make any withdrawals. If you do decide to, you can withdraw any amount up to the current cap applicable to your Capped Drawdown arrangement (or the remaining value of your SIPP, if less). You can ask us to pay withdrawals on a regular basis or as one-off payments.

You can instruct us to convert your SIPP Capped Drawdown funds to Flexi-access Drawdown funds at any time. You cannot convert back to Capped Drawdown.

### 6.6.4 Uncrystallised Funds Pension Lump Sum (UFPLS)

You can take a UFPLS payment from any part of your SIPP that has not yet been designated for the payment of other benefits.

Any UFPLS payment will be made as a single lump sum amount, typically with 25% of the amount requested paid tax-free, and the remainder taxed as pension income through PAYE.

### 6.6.5 Annuities

Nucleus is not an annuity provider. If you use your SIPP to purchase an annuity, the purchase will be made on the open market from the insurance company you choose.

The terms and benefits of your annuity are a matter between you and your chosen insurance company. Once the annuity has been purchased, Nucleus has no further obligation to you in respect of the funds used to make that purchase.

### 6.7 Lump Sum Allowance (LSA) and Lump Sum and Death Benefit Allowance (LSDBA)

You agree to provide us with all information we reasonably request to allow us to carry out the necessary lump sum allowance tests, including details of any previous tests made against your allowance by other providers and evidence of any enhancement or protections you hold.

If you die before taking your benefits, we will provide details of your allowances used in relation to the payment of death benefits to your personal representatives.

### 6.8 Protection

When you first wish to take benefits from your SIPP, you must provide us with a copy of any protection certificates issued to you by HMRC. These protections may allow you to take a higher PCLS than would otherwise be the case.

### 6.9 Payment

Benefit payments from your SIPP are paid directly to a bank account in your name (including joint accounts).

You cannot withdraw money directly from your SIPP at any bank.

Your Product's bank account must have sufficient cash in it to satisfy a withdrawal request. If there is insufficient cash at the point we attempt to make a payment, causing it to fail, the automatic disinvestment process set out in Section 4.9 (Automatic Disinvestment) will apply. If the automatic disinvestment process realises sufficient cash to make the payment, we will make a subsequent attempt to pay. If the automatic disinvestment process does not realise sufficient cash to make the payment, the payment will not be made.

We can decline to act upon your instruction where any documentation is incomplete, or where any information provided conflicts with that which we hold. We will inform you within a reasonable time if this happens.

### 6.10 Life Office SIPP on death

Our Product Technical Guide and related beneficiary literature provides details on what happens to your SIPP in the event of your death, including the options available to your nominated beneficiaries.

Your SIPP is held within a trust, and therefore lies outside your estate for inheritance tax purposes. This means that when you die, the proceeds from your Life Office SIPP can normally be paid to your beneficiaries free from inheritance tax.

There may still be other tax charges on these proceeds, depending on the amount of your lump sum and death benefit allowance remaining, your age at the date of your death and the options your beneficiaries decide to take. The following death benefits are normally available to your beneficiaries:

- Lump sum cash pay out
- Payment of beneficiary's Flexi-access Drawdown;
- Purchase of an annuity, or
- A combination of the above.

If a beneficiary decides to take beneficiary's Flexi-access Drawdown with us, they must apply for a Beneficiary's SIPP and meet our conditions applicable at the time, including those set out at Section 6.14.

We decide which beneficiaries are to be entitled to benefits from your SIPP and in what proportions. In making this decision we will take into account your wishes as stated in the Expression of Wish nominations that you submit to us. However, we are not bound by your Expression of Wishes and we have ultimate discretion as to whom we make payments.

You can update your Expression of Wishes at any time through your online account. Your nominated beneficiaries can be one or more individuals, trusts or charities as you decide.

If you die after purchasing an annuity, the benefits payable from the annuity will depend on the options selected when it was purchased. This is a matter between you and your annuity provider.

### 6.11 SIPP Closure

In addition to the closure provision in these Platform Service Terms and Conditions, once the full value of your SIPP has been used to provide or secure benefits or has been transferred away, your SIPP will be closed and we will have no further obligations to you in respect of it.

If we notify you that we are closing your SIPP in accordance with the closure provision in these Platform Service Terms and Conditions, we'll ask you to choose an alternative pension arrangement to receive a transfer of the funds from your SIPP. If you don't choose an alternative arrangement and notify us of it within the notice period, we may treat you as having instructed us in writing to transfer the whole of your SIPP (less the amount required to satisfy all costs, charges and liabilities due to us) to such other registered pension scheme as we, in our discretion, may choose, and you authorise us to execute any documentation on your behalf necessary to do so. At our discretion we can make such a transfer either in-specie or by selling the assets in your Life Office SIPP and transferring the cash proceeds.

### 6.12 Winding up the SIPP Scheme

We can close or wind-up the whole or part of the SIPP Scheme. This will be done in accordance with the Trust Deed and Rules. If the SIPP Scheme is wound up, you will no longer be able to remain a member of the SIPP Scheme. In this situation we will give you at least 120 days' written notice of your options. If you do not make a choice in accordance with the options outlined to you, we will secure your benefits in accordance with the provisions of the Trust Deed and Rules.

### 6.13 Unauthorised Payments

If we make any payments, or have to carry out any transactions, in respect of your SIPP that are deemed by HMRC to be unauthorised payments under tax legislation, tax charges may apply. We can deduct from the value of your SIPP an amount to cover any resulting tax charge that

we are, or may become, liable to pay. Where the amount of the tax charge is uncertain, we can either deduct such amount as we reasonably determine will be sufficient to meet the charge or postpone making the payment in question.

If the value of your SIPP is not sufficient to cover the tax charge you, or following your death the relevant beneficiary, will be personally liable to reimburse us for any loss we suffer in respect of the tax charge.

We can refuse to allow any transaction if it is apparent, or we reasonably consider, that the payment could lead to an unauthorised payment charge, an unauthorised payment surcharge, a scheme sanction charge or other punitive tax charge.

### 6.14 Beneficiary's SIPP

Should an eligible beneficiary decide to take beneficiary's Flexi-access Drawdown with us, we may open a different SIPP product to the Life Office SIPP in their name. The Platform Service Terms and Conditions applicable to that product will instead apply, and these will be shared with the beneficiary as part of their application to open a SIPP with us.

If the SIPP product being opened for the beneficiary cannot hold certain assets from the Life Office SIPP, these assets will need to be sold before the new SIPP can be set up.

A Beneficiary's SIPP Product is typically subject to the following:

- No contributions or transfers can be made into a Beneficiary's SIPP;
- All funds in a Beneficiary's SIPP are designated as beneficiary's Flexi-access Drawdown Funds. The beneficiary can choose to withdraw funds through Flexi-access Drawdown or use the funds to purchase an annuity on the open market, subject to HMRC requirements. No other form of benefit can be paid from a Beneficiary's SIPP;
- Payment of beneficiary's Flexi-access Drawdown does not trigger the money purchase annual allowance for the beneficiary; and
- On the death of the beneficiary, any residual funds can be passed on to a subsequent beneficiary of their choosing. The tax treatment of the residual fund is dependent on the age of the initial beneficiary at the time of their death, and not your age.

For literature in alternative formats, such as Braille, large print, audio or E-text, please call us on 03455 212 414, or via the Typetalk service on 18001 03455 212 414.

"Nucleus" is the trading name for Nucleus Financial Platforms Limited (NFPL) (registered in England, number 06033126), Nucleus Group Services Limited (NGSL) (registered in England, number 02538532); James Hay Services Limited (JHS) (registered in Jersey, number 77318); James Hay Administration Company Limited (JHAC) (registered in England, number 04068398); James Hay Pension Trustees Limited (JHPT) (registered in England, number 01435887); James Hay Wrap Managers Limited (JHWM) (registered in England, number 04773695); James Hay Wrap Nominee Company Limited (JHWNC) (registered in England, number 07259308); Nucleus Financial Services Limited (NFS) (registered in England, 05629686). NFPL, NFS, NGSL, JHAC, JHPT, JHWM, JHWNC have their registered office at Dunn's House, St Paul's Road, Salisbury, SP2 7BF. JHS has its registered office at Aztec Group House, IFC6, The Esplanade, St Helier, Jersey, JE4 0QH. JHAC, JHWM and NFS are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. NGSL, NFS, JHWM, JHPT, JHAC and JHS are members of a VAT group with VAT registration number 514 0358 80. All companies are wholly owned subsidiaries of NFPL. Further details of the Nucleus Group can be found at [nucleusfinancial.com](http://nucleusfinancial.com) (5/24)