

Privacy Policy

1. Overview

Protecting the privacy of our clients is very important to us. We have established and implemented this Privacy Policy as part of our ongoing commitment to protecting the safety of our clients' confidential and private information, and to ensure we comply with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) (**the Privacy Act**) and its amendments introduced on 21 December 2001.

The Privacy Act requires that we handle your personal information in accordance with a set of national principles, known as the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs), which regulate the collection, use, correction, disclosure, and transfer of personal information about individuals by organisations like us in the private sector. This Policy explains our policies and practices with respect to the collection, use, and management of your personal information and our approach to the APPs.

2. Roles, Responsibilities & Policy Governance

Members of our Group

In this document, “**We**”, “**Our**”, “**Us**”, and “**BIFA Licence**” refers to BIFA Licence Pty Ltd (ABN 526 814 348 28) that holds an Australian Financial Services Licence #563505.

In this document, the **BIFA Group** includes:

- BIFA Licence Pty Ltd (ABN 526 814 348 28) that holds an Australian Financial Services Licence #563505 and provides financial planning advice to retail and wholesale clients, and
- Our Corporate Authorised Representatives and Authorised Representatives. Specifically:
 - Brisbane Independent Financial Advisory Pty Ltd (ABN 92 681 436 180) as Corporate Authorised Representative of BIFA Licence Pty Ltd.
 - Rebecca Scarrabelotti as Authorised Representatives of BIFA Licence Pty Ltd.

Members of the group that have collected personal information are permitted by the Privacy Act to disclose personal information to other members of the group. We only share information where this is relevant to the purpose.

Authorised Representatives may change from time to time. Details of our current authorised entities and representatives are available at www.asic.gov.au.

All third parties (including clients, suppliers, agents, or sub-contractors) that access or use personal information collected and held by BIFA Group must abide by this Privacy Policy.

Privacy Officer

You can contact our Privacy Officer by:

Phone: +61 7 3521 8044

Mail: PO Box 72, Red Hill QLD 4059

Email: operations@brisbaneindependent.com.au

3. General Obligations

What information do we collect?

We will collect and hold your personal information for the purposes of:

- Providing advice, products and services to you
- Managing and administering your products and services
- Verifying your identity
- Letting you know about our other products and services

The type of information collected from you includes information that is necessary to operate your account or for us to provide advice to you. We may ask you to provide personal information such as your:

- Contact details including name and e-mail address, residential and/or postal address and phone number
- Personal details including date of birth, financial goals and standing plus medical history
- Estate planning details
- Occupation and employment arrangements
- Residency status and tax file number (TFN)

This information is primarily collected from forms you have completed, or through ongoing communications with you or persons you authorise to communicate with us on your behalf such as your adviser.

We will inform you of any legal requirements for us to ask for information about you and the consequences of not giving us that requested information. For example, in addition to the personal information we will obtain from you, whenever you acquire a new product or service from us, we may require documents evidencing your identity. Such evidence may include a certified copy of your driver's licence, passport or birth certificate.

We will only solicit personal information about you where you have knowingly provided that information to us, we believe you have authorised a third party to provide that information to us, or we are obligated by law to obtain such information. Third parties that we may need to collect information from include your financial adviser, product issuer, employer, accountant or solicitor. To verify your identity for Know Your Customer (KYC) purposes, we may also solicit personal information about you from reliable identity verification service providers.

There are specific circumstances in which we will ask for your consent to provide sensitive information such as:

- Health information to apply for insurance or from medical practitioners when you make a claim
- Income information to apply for insurance protection or salary continuance insurance
- Details of your dependents

What if you do not give us the information we request?

You are not obligated to give us the information that we request. However, if you do not give us the information that we ask for, or the information you give is not complete or accurate, this may:

- Prevent us being able to provide you with financial services and/or advice
- Prevent our services from meeting your needs or may cause you to suffer unforeseen financial consequences
- Prevent or delay the processing of your applications or insurance claims
- Affect your eligibility for specified insurance cover
- Impact the taxation treatment of your account
- Prevent us from contacting you

For example, if you elect not to provide us with your personal information as and when requested, we may not be able to provide you with financial advice due to inability to meet requirements under the Corporations Act 2001 or the Financial Adviser Standards and Ethics Authority.

4. Use Of Information

How do we use the information that we collect from you?

We use your personal information for the purpose for which it has been obtained and for related purposes. For example, we collect your personal information so that we can act on your request to:

- Provide financial advice to you
- Provide assistance with ancillary services such as Centrelink

- Establish your investment and superannuation accounts
- Set-up and administer a self-managed super fund
- Implement your investment instructions
- Establish and maintain insurance protection
- Report the investment performance of your account
- Keep you up to date on other products and services that may be of interest to you

We will not adopt as our own any identifiers that you may provide to us such as TFNs, Medicare numbers, or MyGov details, etc. They may be held on file if you have provided consent.

5. Disclosure

Who do we give your information to?

For the purpose of providing services to you (or a related purpose), we may provide your information to other companies within the BIFA Group or external parties. Where personal information is disclosed, there are strict controls in place to ensure information is held, used and disclosed in accordance with the APPs.

The types of external organisations to which we may disclose your personal information include:

- Your financial adviser
- Organisations involved in providing, managing or administering our products or services such as paraplanning services, advice software vendors, external dispute resolution services, insurers, investment managers, product issuers, superannuation trustees or mail houses
- Medical practitioners and other relevant professionals, where you have applied for insurance cover or made a claim for disablement benefit
- Your personal representative, or any other person who may be entitled to receive your death benefit, or any person contacted to assist us to process that benefit
- Other Australian Financial Services Licensees or financial advisers or their agents for due diligence purposes in the event of business sales
- Financial institutions that hold accounts for you
- Professional advisers appointed by us such as auditors to ensure the integrity of our operations
- Professional advisers appointed by you (including your accountant, solicitor, executor, administrator, trustee, guardian or attorney)
- Businesses that may have referred you to us (for example your Accountant or Lawyer)

Like other financial services companies, there are situations where we may also disclose your personal information where it is:

- Required by law (such as to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, Australian Taxation Office or pursuant to a court order)
- Authorised by law (such as where we are obliged to disclose information in the public interest or to protect our interests)
- Necessary to discharge obligations (such as to foreign governments for the purposes of foreign taxation)
- Required to assist in law enforcement (such as to a police force)

We may also disclose your information if you give your consent.

Will my information be disclosed overseas?

It is generally unlikely that we will disclose your personal information overseas. However, we may use third-party service providers or outsourcing services that include offshore operations to provide services to you. Depending on the circumstances, the relevant countries will vary such that it is not practicable to list them here.

Any overseas disclosure does not affect our commitment to safeguarding your personal information and we will take reasonable steps to ensure any overseas recipient complies with the APPs.

Where we may transfer your personal information overseas, we will ensure that appropriate contractual measures are in place requiring the overseas entity to protect your personal information in accordance with our obligations under Australian privacy law.

6. Access and Correction of Information

Can I access my information and what if it is incorrect?

You may request access to the personal information we hold about you. We may charge a reasonable fee to cover our costs.

There may be circumstances where we are unable to give you access to the information that you have requested. If this is the case, we will inform you and explain the reasons why.

We will take reasonable steps to ensure that the personal information we collect, hold, use or disclose is accurate, complete, up to date, relevant and not misleading.

You have a right to ask us to correct any information we hold about you if you believe it is inaccurate, incomplete, out of date, irrelevant or is misleading. If we do not agree with the corrections you have supplied and refuse to correct the personal information, we are required to give you a written notice to that effect and a statement if requested.

If you wish to access or correct your personal information, contact your adviser in the first instance. You may then contact us through our offices or by writing to the Privacy Officer.

7. Protection of the Personal and Sensitive Information We Hold

How do we protect the security of your information?

We have security systems, practices and Procedures in place to safeguard your privacy. We also train our authorised representatives and staff as to their obligations about your personal information.

We may use cloud storage or third-party servers to store the personal information we hold about you. These services are subject to regular audit and the people who handle your personal information have the training, knowledge, skills and commitment to protect it from unauthorised access, disclosure, or misuse.

If you use secure sections of our websites, we will verify your identity by your username and password. Once verified, you will have access to secured content. You are responsible for maintaining the secrecy of your login details.

Our authorised representatives protect information in several ways including providing secure storage for physical records, restricting access to their office to authorised persons, and ensuring client data is regularly backed up offsite.

Risks of using the Internet

There are inherent security risks in transmitting information through the internet. You should assess these potential risks when deciding whether to use online services. If you do not wish to transmit information through electronic means, there are other ways in which you can provide information to us.

Our websites may use cookies and/or other analytics tools which may enable us to identify you, your browser or other information about you while you are using our site. These cookies may be permanently stored or temporary session cookies. They are used for a variety of purposes, including security and personalisation of services. They are frequently used on websites and you can choose if and how a cookie will be accepted by configuring your preferences and options in your browser.

All browsers allow you to be notified when you receive a cookie and you may elect to either accept it or not. If you wish not to accept a cookie, this may impact the effectiveness of the website.

Where you choose to communicate with us by email, we may store your email, name and address with any other contact or personal details you have provided on our databases.

Retention of your personal information

We are required by law to retain certain records of information for varying lengths of time and, in certain circumstances, permanently. Where your personal information is not required to be retained under law and is no longer required for the purpose for which it was collected, we will take reasonable steps to destroy or de-identify it.

8. European Union General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

If you reside in a country that is a member of the European Economic Area (the EU and Norway, Lichtenstein and Iceland), in addition to the protection you receive under the Privacy Act, you are entitled to other protections provided by the GDPR, including, in certain circumstances, the right to:

- Have Your Personal Information Erased
- Access your personal information in an electronic and portable format
- Restrict or object to the processing of your personal information

9. Complaints And Breaches

If you believe that we have breached the APPs by mishandling your information, you may lodge a complaint with the Privacy Officer.

- The Privacy Officer will respond to your complaint within 30 days
- If you are not satisfied with the outcome, you may lodge a complaint with the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC). Further information is available at www.oaic.gov.au

If you have a complaint about a breach of the GDPR, you may contact the local regulator in your European Economic Area.

We are committed to helping you have control of your personal information and so it is our practice to take reasonable steps to notify you if we are aware that we have breached your privacy.

In accordance with the Notifiable Data Breaches Scheme, if your personal information is involved in a data breach that is likely to result in serious harm to you, we will notify you and the Australian Information Commissioner.