



Complaints Policy

As an Independent Financial Services firm authorised with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) the regulator has set out its rules in relation to handling clients complaints. In order to meet these rules we have put the following procedures in place.

How do I complain?

In the event that you ever feel the need to complain to **Harrold Financial Planning Ltd**, you should contact:

Robyn Lovatt
Harrold Financial Planning Ltd, 3 Dereham Road
Hingham, Norwich
NR9 4HU

Do I have to make the complaint in writing?

No. You can telephone us on **01953 851151**. You should make it clear that you are registering a complaint and make a note of the name of the person you spoke to and the date on which you rang. Alternatively you can email robyn@hfp.co.uk.

What happens next?

- a) On receipt of your complaint we will record receipt of the complaint and write to acknowledge receipt within 5 working days, unless it can be resolved within 3 business days. Within the acknowledgement letter we will provide you with a copy of these complaint procedures.
- b) We will endeavour to communicate with you in a clear and fair manner at all times whilst investigating your complaint.
- c) If your complaint was made verbally, then within our acknowledgement letter we will confirm our understanding of your complaint.
- d) Your complaint will then be investigated by our Compliance Officer, Robyn Lovatt, who will gather all documentation required in order to thoroughly and objectively conduct the investigation. This may require some additional information from you and therefore an authority letter may be required so we can approach any 3rd party necessary.
- e) After we investigate your complaint, we will write to you explaining the outcome of the investigation.

How long will the investigation take?

- a) During the above process we will keep you informed of progress to date and whether there is any further information we require from you. We will aim to deal with your complaint as quickly as possible. If your complaint is not resolved, you will receive a progress letter after 4 weeks.
- b) If we have not resolved your complaint within 8 weeks from date of receipt, we will write to you again with our reasons for delay. We will send you the leaflet "Your Complaint and the Ombudsmen" informing you of your rights to take action further to the Financial Ombudsman if you are unhappy with the progress. We will confirm when we expect our final response to be made.

What happens at the end of the investigation?

Within our final response letter we will set out our understanding of your complaint, the issues raised, the investigation we conducted and the outcome from the investigation. We will also detail any redress we believe appropriate or the reasons for declining redress.

What if I am not satisfied with your decision?

If you are not satisfied with our final response, you have the right to refer your complaint to the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS), free of charge.

The Ombudsman might not be able to consider your complaint if:

- What you're complaining about happened more than six years ago, and
- You are complaining more than three years after you realised (or should have realised) that there was a problem.

We will tell you if we think that your complaint is made outside of these time limits but this is a matter for the Ombudsman to decide. If the Ombudsman agrees with us, they will not have our permission to consider your complaint and so will only be able to do so in very limited circumstances.

If you do decide to refer your complaint to the Ombudsman you must do so within six months of our final response letter. If you do not refer your complaint to the Ombudsman within six months of the date of this letter, the Ombudsman will not have our permission to consider your complaint and so will only be able to do so in very limited circumstances.

You can contact FOS using these contact details:

- <http://www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk/>
- complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk
- **The Financial Ombudsman Service, Exchange Tower
London E14 9SR**
- **0800 0234567**