Privacy

Introduction

Granite Finance Limited ("Granite Finance") respects your privacy and is committed to protecting your personal data. This privacy notice tells you how we look after your personal data and tells you about your privacy rights and how the law protects you.

1 Important information

• Purpose

This privacy notice aims to give you information about how Granite Finance collects and processes your personal data as a customer, and through your use of this website, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the United Kingdom General Data Protection Regulation.

It is important that you read this privacy notice together with any other privacy notice or fair processing notice we may provide on specific occasions when we are collecting or processing personal data about you so that you are fully aware of how and why we are using your data. This privacy notice supplements the other notices and is not intended to override them.

Controller

Granite Finance Limited, authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, is the Data Controller registered with the Information Commissioner's Officer (ICO) with registration number Z1260748. We are responsible for your personal data (collectively referred to as "we", "us" or "our" in this privacy notice).

We have appointed a Data Protection Officer (DPO) who is responsible for overseeing questions in relation to privacy for us and for other companies in our group, including Acorn Insurance and Financial Services Limited. If you have any questions about this privacy notice, including any requests to exercise any of the legal rights detailed in section 10, please contact our Data Protection team using the details set out below.

• Contact details

Granite Finance Limited 98 Liverpool Road, Formby, Liverpool, L37 6BS dataprotection@acorninsure.com

• Third-party links

This website may include links to third-party websites, plug-ins and applications. Clicking on those links or enabling those connections may allow third parties to collect or share data about you. We do not control these third-party websites and are not responsible for their privacy statements. When you leave our website, we encourage you to read the privacy notice of every website you visit.

2 The data we collect and process about you

• What this means

Personal data, or personal information, means any information about an individual from which that person can be identified. It does not include data where the identity has been removed (anonymous data).

We may collect, use, store and transfer different kinds of personal data about you which we have grouped together follows:

- a) Identity Data includes first name, maiden name, last name, username or similar identifier, marital status, title, date of birth.
- b) Contact Data includes billing address, delivery address, email address and telephone numbers.
- c) Financial Data includes bank account and payment card details.
- d) Transaction Data includes details about payments to and from you and other details of products and services you have purchased from us.
- e) Technical Data includes internet protocol (IP) address, your login data, browser type and version, time zone setting and location, browser plug-in types and versions, operating system and platform and other technology on the devices you use to access this website.
- f) Profile Data includes your username and password, purchases or orders made by you, your interests, preferences, feedback and survey responses.
- g) Usage Data includes information about how you use our website, products and services.
- h) Marketing and Communications Data includes your preferences in receiving marketing from us and our third parties and your communication preferences.
- i) Policy Data includes information on your current finance agreement as well as lapsed and cancelled finance agreements you might have had with us.

We also collect, use and share Aggregated Data such as statistical or demographic data for any purpose. Aggregated Data may be derived from your personal data but is not considered personal data in law as this data does not directly or indirectly reveal your identity. For example, we may aggregate your Usage Data to calculate the percentage of users accessing a specific website feature. However, if we combine or connect Aggregated Data with your personal data so that it can directly or indirectly identify you, we treat the combined data as personal data which will be used in accordance with this privacy notice.

We do not intentionally collect the following Special Categories of Personal Data about you: details about your race or ethnicity, religious or philosophical beliefs, health, sexual orientation, political opinions, trade union membership and information about genetic and biometric data. However, we may be able to infer from information that you provide to us (such as photographic evidence, relationship details and geolocation), certain special types of personal data.

• Children's personal data

Our website and services are not intended for children and we do not knowingly collect or process personal data relating to children.

• If you fail to provide personal data

Where we need to collect personal data by law, or under the terms of a contract we have with you and you fail to provide that data when requested, we may not be able to perform the contract we have or are trying to enter into with you (for example, to provide you with goods or services). In this case, we may have to cancel a product or service you have with us but we will notify you if this is the case at the time.

3 How is your personal data collected?

We use different methods to collect data from and about you including through:

- **Direct interactions.** You may give us your Identity, Contact and Financial Data by filling in forms or by corresponding with us by post, phone, email or otherwise. This includes personal data you provide when you:
 - ✓ apply for our products;
 - ✓ create an account on our website;
 - ✓ request marketing to be sent to you; or
 - ✓ give us some feedback or submit messages to us.
- Automated technologies or interactions. As you interact with our website, we may automatically collect Technical Data about your equipment, browsing actions and patterns. We collect this personal data by using cookies, server logs and other similar technologies.
- **Third parties or publicly available sources**. We may receive personal data about you from various third parties and public sources as set out below:
 - a) Insurance Brokers/Financial advisers
 - b) Card associations
 - c) Credit reference agencies
 - d) Insurers
 - e) Comparison websites
 - f) Social networks
 - g) Fraud prevention agencies
 - h) Payroll service providers

- i) Land agents
- j) Public information sources such as Companies House
- k) Agents working on our behalf
- I) Government and law enforcement agencies.

We will only use your personal data when the law allows us to. Most commonly, we will use your personal data in the following circumstances:

 \checkmark Where we need to perform the contract we are about to enter into or have entered into with you.

 \checkmark Where it is necessary for our legitimate interests (or those of a third party) and your interests and fundamental rights do not override those interests.

✓ Where we need to comply with a legal or regulatory obligation.

Generally, we do not rely on consent as a legal basis for processing your personal data however if we do, you have the right to withdraw consent at any time by contacting us.

4 Purposes for which we will use your personal data

We have set out below, in a table format, a description of all the ways we plan to use your personal data, and which of the legal bases we rely on to do so. We have also identified what our legitimate interests are where appropriate.

Note that we may process your personal data for more than one lawful ground depending on the specific purpose for which we are using your data. Please contact us if you need details about the specific legal ground we are relying on to process your personal data where more than one ground has been set out in the table below.

Purpose/Activity	Type of data	Lawful basis for processing including basis of legitimate interest
To register you as a new customer and/or to process your finance quote and/or agreement	(a) Identity (b) Contact (i) Policy	(a) Performance of a contract with you
To process and deliver your order including: (a) Manage payments, fees and charges (b) Collect and recover money owed to us	 (a) Identity (b) Contact (c) Financial (d) Transaction (h) Marketing and 	(a) Performance of a contract with you(b) Necessary for our legitimate interests(to recover debts due to us)
(c) Credit checks and fraud prevention	Communications	

To manage and administer our relationship with you which will include: (a) Notifying you about changes to our terms or privacy	(a) Identity(b) Contact(f) Profile(h) Marketing and	 (a) Performance of a contract with you (b) Necessary to comply with a legal obligation (c) Necessary for our legitimate interests (to keep our records updated and to study
policy (b) Asking you to leave a review or take a survey	Communications	how customers use our products)
To administer and protect our business and this website (including troubleshooting, data analysis, testing, system maintenance, support, reporting and hosting of data)	(a) Identity (b) Contact (e) Technical	 (a) Necessary for our legitimate interests (for running our business, provision of administration and IT services, network security, to prevent fraud and in the context of a business reorganisation or group restructuring exercise) (b) Necessary to comply with a legal obligation
To deliver relevant website content and advertisements to you and measure or understand the effectiveness of the advertising we serve to you	 (a) Identity (b) Contact (e) Technical (f) Profile (g) Usage (h) Marketing and Communications 	Necessary for our legitimate interests (to study how customers use our products, to develop them, to grow our business and to inform our marketing strategy)
To use data analytics to improve our website, products/services, marketing, customer relationships and experiences	(e) Technical (g) Usage	Necessary for our legitimate interests (to define types of customers for our products and services, to keep our website updated and relevant, to develop our business and to inform our marketing strategy)
To market to you and make suggestions and recommendations to you about goods or services that may be of interest to you	 (a) Identity (b) Contact (e) Technical (f) Profile (g) Usage 	Necessary for our legitimate interests (to develop our products and grow our business)

• Fraud Prevention

Before and during the provision of services or goods to you, we undertake checks for the purposes of preventing fraud and money laundering, and to verify your identity. We and fraud prevention agencies may also enable law enforcement agencies to access and use your personal data to detect, investigate and prevent crime. We process your personal data on the basis that we have a legitimate interest in preventing fraud and money laundering, and to verify identity, in order to protect our business and to comply with laws that apply to us. Such processing is also a contractual requirement of the services you have requested.

If we, or a fraud prevention agency, determine that you pose a fraud or money laundering risk, we may refuse to provide the services you have requested, or we may stop providing existing services to you. A record of any fraud or money laundering risk will be retained by the fraud prevention agencies, and may result in others refusing to provide services, financing or employment to you.

• Telephone Calls

We may record telephone calls for training and monitoring purposes, to comply with regulatory obligations, to demonstrate services levels are being achieved or identify improvements, and to assist with the resolution of enquiries and complaints. Wherever possible, on our main telephone numbers, an automated message will notify you that calls are being recorded however please note it may not always be possible to notify you.

• How we use your information to make automated decisions

We sometimes use systems to make automated decisions based on personal data we have – or can collect from others – about you or your business. This helps us to make sure our decisions are quick, fair, efficient, and correct, based on what we know. These automated decisions can affect the products, services or features we may offer you now or in the future, or the price that we charge you for them.

Here are the types of automated decision we make:

Pricing

We may decide what to charge for some products and services based on what we know.

Detecting fraud

We use your personal data to help decide if your insurance policy may be being used for fraud or money-laundering. We may detect that a policy is being used in ways that fraudsters work. Or we may notice that a policy is being used in a way that is unusual for you. If we think there is a risk of fraud, we may stop activity on your policy or cancel them.

Approving credit

If you apply for credit with us, we will use a system to decide whether to lend money to you - this is called credit scoring. The system uses past data to assess how you are likely to act when paying back any money you borrow. This includes data about similar accounts you may have had before.

Credit scoring uses data from three sources:

- ✓ Your application form
- ✓ Credit reference agencies
- ✓ Data we may already hold.

It gives an overall assessment based on the above. Banks and other lenders use this to help us make responsible lending decisions that are fair and informed. Credit scoring methods are tested regularly to make sure they are fair and unbiased.

When automated decisions are made about you, you have the right to:

- ✓ ask that we do not make our decision based on the automated score alone; and
- ✓ object to an automated decision and ask for it to be reviewed.

If you want to know more about these rights, please contact us.

5 Marketing

We may use your Identity, Contact, Technical, Usage and Profile Data to form a view on what we think you may want or need, or what may be of interest to you. This is how we decide which products, services and offers may be relevant for you (we call this marketing).

• Direct marketing

Where you have contacted us about one or more of our products or services, we, and affiliated companies in our group, may send you further direct marketing communications about similar products and services unless you opt-out. We will contact you by email, text message or by phone based on your marketing preferences. We will ensure that you are given the option to update your marketing preferences when you first contact us and whenever we send marketing communications.

We, and affiliated companies in our group are Acorn Insurance and Financial Services Limited, Rapid Vehicle Management Limited, Flag Insurance Brokers Limited, and Granite Finance Limited.



It is important to note that you have the right to ask us to stop directly marketing to you at any time by contacting our customer services team on <u>admin@acorninsure.com</u> or by telephone.

Cookies

Our website uses cookies to distinguish you from other users of our website. This helps us to provide you with a good experience when you browse our website and allows us to improve our website. For detailed information on the cookies we use and the purposes for which we use them please see paragraph (b) below.

We may use them for:

- a) per-session cookies are used while you are logged on to our website to record temporary data relating to your visit to our Website, to manage the delivery of web pages to you and any registration and ordering processes, and to help us monitor traffic through the Website; and
- b) logon and usage cookies store some data between visits to our Website in order to allow you to log on to your account more easily, and using them we are able to personalise your experience and create a database of your previous choices and preferences, and in situations where those choices or preferences need to be collected again, they can be supplied by us automatically, saving you time and effort. For example, after you purchase a product once, if you need to purchase it again your previous selection of options will be retained and can be re-entered more quickly.

If you do not want to use cookies most internet browser programs will permit you to turn them off. Should you do this you will still be able to access most of our website as normal but some processes that depend on cookies may not work properly. Your computer may be specially configured to reject cookies; please refer to your browser for more information.

6 Disclosures of your personal data

• Purposes of disclosure and recipients

We do not share personal data with any third parties except as provided below or as required by law:

a) Direct Debit and Payment processing

Your personal data will be processed by one of our finance partners in order to administer your finance agreement including direct debits. Those finance partners are Associated Premium Funding Limited and PremFina Limited. We may also transfer your personal data to other third parties who provide payment processing services to us in order to process payments for orders (such as credit and debit card processing companies). If we use third party order processing services, they will collect and send your data to us securely, which will then be incorporated into our databases.

b) Brokers and Insurers

We will share information about the status of your finance agreement with your insurance broker and your insurer including information about repayments.

c) Third party debt collectors

Where you fail to pay any amount due to us, we may share your data with our designated third party debt collectors to recover such sums. In such circumstances, we will notify you in writing that your data will be shared.

d) Third party service providers

In addition to the third parties we have already mentioned in this privacy notice, we may have your personal data processed by other third parties throughout the world who act for or on our behalf; for example, we may use cloud computing or remote database hosting services which may be located anywhere in the world and we may engage contractors anywhere in the world for the purposes of providing support or back-office services to us, including website hosting, order processing, order fulfilment, application and database hosting, data processing services, or that help us market out products and services. These companies will process and hold information about you in order to perform their functions. These companies are not authorised to use the information they process for us for any other purpose than those to which we have notified you under this privacy notice.

e) Group companies

For operational efficiency and to ensure you are provided with the best possible service, certain services and operational activities may be carried out on our behalf by other companies in our Group. We ensure strict measures are in place between the companies in our Group to ensure your personal data is processed in accordance with this privacy notice.

f) Legal requirements and Regulators

We may share or transfer your personal data to a government authority where required to comply with a legal requirement, for the administration of justice, or where reasonably required to protect you, or our company's vital interests.

We may share your personal data with the Financial Ombudsmen Service, if you make a complaint about the service we have provided. We may also share your data with other industry regulators who monitor and enforce our compliance with any applicable regulations.

g) Corporate Transfer

We may transfer your personal data to any company that purchases or otherwise acquires our business in the event of a corporate sale, merger, reorganisation, dissolution or similar event.

h) Statistics

We may use your personal data along with other data to provide statistics on an anonymous basis to our contractors, marketing partners (including banks and other institutions who may promote our products to their customers), and other companies and organisations we deal with, for a range of purposes, including assessing and reporting on the overall performance of our products and website, assessing and reporting on overall product take-up and usage, assessment and reporting on malware and unsafe websites and associated threats and risks in general or for any group of customers.

i) Credit Reference Agencies

We carry out credit and identity checks when you apply for finance or other services from us. We may use Credit Reference Agencies (CRAs) to help us with this.

If you use our services, from time to time we may also search information that the CRAs have, to help us manage those accounts.

We will share your personal data with CRAs, and they will give us information about you. The data we exchange may include:

- ✓ Name, address and date of birth
- ✓ Credit application
- ✓ Details of any shared credit
- ✓ Financial situation and history
- ✓ Public information, from sources such as the electoral register and Companies House.

We'll use this data to:

- ✓ Assess whether you can afford to make repayments
- ✓ Make sure what you've told us is true and correct
- ✓ Help detect and prevent financial crime
- ✓ Manage accounts with us
- ✓ Trace and recover debts
- ✓ Make sure that we tell you about relevant offers.

We will continue sharing your personal data with CRAs for as long as you are a customer. This will include details of your repayments and whether you repay in full and on time. The CRAs may give this information to other organisations that want to check credit status. We will also tell the CRAs when you settle your accounts with us.

When we ask CRAs about you, they will note it on your credit file. This is called a credit search. Other lenders may see this, and we may see credit searches from other lenders.

If you apply for finance with someone else, we will link your records with theirs. We will do the same if you tell us you have a spouse, partner, or civil partner – or that you are in business with other partners or directors. You should tell them about this before you apply for finance or another service. It is important that they know your records will be linked together, and that credit searches may be made on them.

CRAs will also link your records together. These links will stay on your files unless one of you asks the CRAs to break the link. You will normally need to give proof that you no longer have a financial link with each other.

You can find out more about the CRAs on their websites, in the Credit Reference Agency Information Notice (CRAIN). This includes details about:

- ✓ Who they are
- \checkmark Their role as fraud prevention agencies
- \checkmark The data they hold and how they use it
- \checkmark How they share personal data
- ✓ How long they can keep data
- ✓ Your data protection rights.

If you'd like to know about the information the credit-reference agencies hold about you, you should contact them directly – but please note, they may charge you a fee for this service (unless they are prevented from doing so by relevant laws). Not every agency will hold the same information, so you should consider contacting them all. You can contact:

TransUnion International UK Limited CRAIN: <u>www.transunion.co.uk/legal/privacy-centre</u> 0330 024 7574 One Park Lane, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS3 1EP <u>www.transunion.co.uk/contact-us</u>

Equifax Limited CRAIN: <u>www.equifax.co.uk/crain/</u> 0800 014 2955 Customer Service Centre, PO Box 10036, Leicester, LE3 4FS <u>www.equifax.co.uk/Contact-us/Contact_Us_Personal_Solutions.html</u>

Experian Limited CRAIN: <u>www.experian.co.uk/legal/crain/</u> 0344 481 0800 or 0800 013 8888 Experian, PO BOX 9000, Nottingham, NG80 7WP www.experian.co.uk/consumer/contact-us/index.html

• Change of purpose

We will only use your personal data for the purposes for which we collected it, unless we reasonably consider that we need to use it for another reason and that reason is compatible with the original purpose. If you wish to get an explanation as to how the processing for the new purpose is compatible with the original purpose, please contact us.

If we need to use your personal data for an unrelated purpose, we will notify you and we will explain the legal basis which allows us to do so.

Please note that we may process your personal data without your knowledge or consent, in compliance with the above rules, where this is required or permitted by law.

• International Transfers

Where we may transfer personal data outside the European Economic Area (EEA), we will work with our service providers and partners to ensure appropriate safeguards are in place to protect your personal data and your privacy rights.

7 Information security

We have put in place appropriate security measures to prevent your personal data from being accidentally lost, used or accessed in an unauthorised way, altered or disclosed. In addition, we limit access to your personal data to those employees, agents, contractors and other third parties who have a business need to know. They will only process your personal data on our instructions, and they are subject to a duty of confidentiality.

We have put in place procedures to deal with any suspected personal data breach and will notify you and any applicable regulator of a breach where we are legally required to do so.

8 Data retention

We will only retain your personal data for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes we collected it for, including for the purposes of satisfying any legal, accounting, or reporting requirements.

To determine the appropriate retention period for personal data, we consider the amount, nature, and sensitivity of the personal data, the potential risk of harm from unauthorised use or disclosure of your personal data, the purposes for which we process your personal data and whether we can achieve those purposes through other means, and the applicable legal requirements.

By law we are required to keep basic information about our customers (including Contact, Identity, Financial and Transaction Data) for the term of their policy and for a period of seven years after they cease being customers.

In some circumstances you can ask us to delete your data. In some circumstances we may anonymise your personal data (so that it can no longer be associated with you) for research or statistical purposes in which case we may use this information indefinitely without further notice to you.

9 Glossary

Customer means any person (including individuals, firms and companies and other organisations) who is a customer of Acorn Insurance, including person who browse, register on or, otherwise use our website, or who purchase our products.

Legitimate Interest means the interest of our business in conducting and managing our business to enable us to give you the best service/product and the best and most secure experience. We make sure we consider and balance any potential impact on you (both positive and negative) and your rights before we process your personal data for our legitimate interests. We do not use your personal data for activities where our interests are overridden by the impact on you (unless we have your consent or are otherwise required or permitted to

by law). You can obtain further information about how we assess our legitimate interests against any potential impact on you in respect of specific activities by contacting us

Performance of Contract means processing your data where it is necessary for the performance of a contract to which you are a party or to take steps at your request before entering into such a contract.

Comply with a legal or regulatory obligation means processing your personal data where it is necessary for compliance with a legal or regulatory obligation that we are subject to.

10 Your legal rights

You have the right to:

- a) Request access to your personal data (commonly known as a "subject access request"). This enables you to receive a copy of the personal data we hold about you and to check that we are lawfully processing it.
- **b)** Request correction of the personal data that we hold about you. This enables you to have any incomplete or inaccurate data we hold about you corrected, though we may need to verify the accuracy of the new data you provide to us.
- c) Request erasure of your personal data. This enables you to ask us to delete or remove personal data where there is no good reason for us continuing to process it. You also have the right to ask us to delete or remove your personal data where you have successfully exercised your right to object to processing (see below), where we may have processed your information unlawfully or where we are required to erase your personal data to comply with local law. Note, however, that we may not always be able to comply with your request of erasure for specific legal reasons which will be notified to you, if applicable, at the time of your request.
- **d)** Object to processing of your personal data where we are relying on a legitimate interest (or those of a third party) and there is something about your particular situation which makes you want to object to processing on this ground as you feel it impacts on your fundamental rights and freedoms. You also have the right to object where we are processing your personal data for direct marketing purposes. In some cases, we may demonstrate that we have compelling legitimate grounds to process your information which override your rights and freedoms. You also have the absolute right to object to direct marketing.
- e) Request restriction of processing of your personal data. This enables you to ask us to suspend the processing of your personal data in the following scenarios: (a) if you want us to establish the data's accuracy; (b) where our use of the data is unlawful but you do not want us to erase it; (c) where you need us to hold the data even if we no longer require it as you need it to establish, exercise or defend legal claims; or (d) you have objected to our use of your data but we need to verify whether we have overriding legitimate grounds to use it.
- **f) Request the transfer of your personal data** to you or to a third party. We will provide to you, or a third party you have chosen, your personal data in a structured, commonly used, machine-readable format. Note that this right only applies to automated information

which you initially provided consent for us to use or where we used the information to perform a contract with you.

g) Withdraw consent at any time where we are relying on consent to process your personal data. However, this will not affect the lawfulness of any processing carried out before you withdraw your consent. If you withdraw your consent, we may not be able to provide certain products or services to you. We will advise you if this is the case at the time you withdraw your consent.

• No fee usually required

You will not have to pay a fee to access your personal data (or to exercise any of the other rights). However, we may charge a reasonable fee if your request is clearly unfounded, repetitive or excessive. Alternatively, we may refuse to comply with your request in these circumstances.

• What we may need from you

We may need to request specific information from you to help us confirm your identity and ensure your right to access your personal data (or to exercise any of your other rights). This is a security measure to ensure that personal data is not disclosed to any person who has no right to receive it. We may also contact you to ask you for further information in relation to your request to speed up our response.

• Time limit to respond

We try to respond to all legitimate requests within one month. Occasionally it may take us longer than a month if your request is particularly complex or you have made a number of requests. In this case, we will notify you and keep you updated.

You have the right to make a formal complaint about how we handle your personal data at any time to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), the UK supervisory authority for data protection issues (www.ico.org.uk). We would, however, appreciate the chance to deal with your concerns before you approach the ICO so please contact us in the first instance.

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Tel: 03303 123 1113 (local rate) or 01625 545 745 if you prefer to use a national rate number

It is important that the personal data we hold about you is accurate and current. Please keep us informed if your personal data changes during your relationship with us.

We may amend this privacy notice at any time. This privacy notice was last updated in May 2021.