

# **CONSUMER DUTY - AT A GLANCE**

# Principle 12 – 'A firm must act to deliver good outcomes for retail customers'

Act in good faith - a standard of conduct characterised by honesty, fair and open dealing.

Avoid causing foreseeable harm - taking proactive and reactive steps to avoid causing harm that is foreseeable to customers through a firms' acts or omissions, either through direct relationships or through their role in the distribution chain.

Enable and support retail customers to pursue their financial objectives - through the design of products with customers at the heart, ensuring communications are understandable, and customers do not face unreasonable barriers during the handling of their claim or when trying or cancel or make a complaint.

Outcomes to be delivered

Cross Cutting Rules

### **Products and Services**

The design of products and services meet the needs, characteristics and objectives of the identified target market, are appropriately distributed, and regularly reviewed.

### **Price and Value**

The price the customer pays is reasonable compared to the overall benefits (the nature, quality and benefits the customer will experience considering all these factors).

### **Consumer Understanding**

Customers are equipped to make properly informed decisions, and are given the information they need, at the right time, and presented in a way they can understand.

## **Consumer Support**

Customers receive an appropriate standard of support, including those with characteristics of vulnerability, and do not face any unreasonable barriers (inc. unreasonable costs)



Firms must assess, test, understand and be able to evidence the outcomes their customers are receiving, taking action to address poor outcomes where necessary.

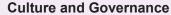
Monitor

Review and enhancement to existing product governance and management practices.

- Review of communications in line with design principles and standards.
- Consumer testing approach and capability

Enhancements to customer journeys and oversight processes

Review of management information to ensure it is sufficient to monitor customer outcomes.



Embedding the spirit of the Duty across our business through strategy, leadership, governance, people, and focus by risk control functions.

# THE ROLE WE PLAY IN CONSUMER DUTY

# **Open Market**

# **Product and Service**

# **Price and Value**

# Understanding

# **Support**

# Ageas (Manufacturer)

- Product design and approval
- Target Market Statement
- Information on distributing the product
- Product review

Fair value assessment at product design stage, and annually thereafter.

Production and changes to policy literature i.e. policy wording, IPID, statement of fact. In addition, ensuring claims communications are understandable.

Ensuring the standard of support as part of the claims journey meets the needs of customers, and avoids causing foreseeable harm.

# Broker (Distributor)

Responsible for implementation and review of distribution arrangements aligned to the target market Obtaining sufficient information from Ageas to ensure its distribution arrangements support fair value, and reviewed annually.

Ensuring communications are understandable to the target market through its sales and service activities.

Ensuring the standard of support as part of sales and service journeys meets the needs of customers, and avoids causing foreseeable harm.

**Outcome Monitoring** – In line with the activities you are responsible for, there must be sufficient governance and information in place to assess, test, understand and evidence the outcomes customers are experiencing, and take action where poor outcomes have been identified.

# THE ROLE WE PLAY IN CONSUMER DUTY

# **Co-Manufactured**

# **Product and Service**

# Price and Value

# Understanding

# Support

# Ageas (Manufacturer)

**Broker** 

(Distributor)

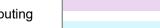
Product design and approval

- Target Market Statement
- Information on distributing the product
- Product review

Fair value assessment at product design stage, and annually thereafter.

Shared responsibility with broker co-manufacturer for the production and changes to policy literature. In addition, ensuring claims communications are understandable (where in-house)

Ensuring the standard of support as part of the claims journey meets the needs of customers, and avoids causing foreseeable harm. If delegated, the extent of responsibilities may differ according to the contract.



Obtaining sufficient information from Ageas to ensure its distribution arrangements support fair value, and reviewed annually.

Ensuring communications are understandable to the target market through its sales and service activities.

Ensuring the standard of support as part of sales and service journeys meets the needs of customers, and avoids causing foreseeable harm.

**Outcome Monitoring** – In line with the activities you are responsible for, there must be sufficient governance and information in place to assess, test, understand and evidence the outcomes customers are experiencing, and take action where poor outcomes have been identified.

Please refer to your contract for details of your responsibilities associated with Ageas, or contact your Ageas Account Manager.

# **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

The FCA's expectations in relation to firms' implementation of the Consumer Duty's requirements:

Milestones	Deadline
Board approval of firms' implementation plan	October 2022
Review of open and existing products and services and where necessary, sharing information with the distribution chain	April 2023
Completion of the work required to be substantively compliant with the Consumer Duty	July 2023
Review of closed products and all remedial actions completed	July 2024
Completion of the first annual governing body assessment	July 2024

# THANK YOU

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