



Public Liability

Do I Need It?

Although not compulsory, this type of insurance is one of the most frequently claimed on policies that we see. A common misconception is that if you don't have premises or you don't work at customer's houses that you don't need this cover, this is not the case. If you visit potential client's office, even if its just to give a pitch or for a quick drop off of product samples, they could potentially make a claim against you for any injury or damage that you cause whilst on their property.

Claims under this type of insurance can increase in value very quickly and dealing with them, if you don't have insurance, can take up a lot of your time. For example, a claim against one of our clients for a slip on their shop floor has been ongoing since 2012 and costs so far are totalling over £75,000!

What Does it Cover?

The cover provided under this policy type is for your Legal Liability for any injury to other people and/or damage to their property.

What Cover Do I Need?

A Public Liability policy will pay out based on the 'Limit of Indemnity' that you choose and this will be the maximum payable for any one claim. Typically, a new venture will go for a £1million limit as this is the minimum available. However it is worth noting that the premium difference between £1million and £2million limits is often very small, if there is a difference at all so it may be worth asking for quotes on both limits – after all more cover for no extra premium is always worth having.

If you will be tendering for Council or other Government Body contracts (such as NHS), they will often require a minimum Public Liability limit of £5million and sometimes even £10million. With these higher limits, sometimes a single insurer cannot accommodate these on one policy, in which case you would need a policy to provide the additional Public Liability cover up to the higher limit. In the insurance industry, we call these Excess of Loss or Excess Layer policies.

If you are a Hairdresser, Beautician or any other profession where you carry out treatments on customers – whether this is mobile, from home or from a salon/surgery – your Public Liability insurance will include a 'Treatment Extension'. This is the section of your Policy that will provide cover for injury or damage resulting from your treatments and so it is very important to ensure that this is included. Different treatment extensions cover different activities, so be sure to check the wording to make sure all of your treatments are covered.

How Do I Get A Quote?

To get a quote for this cover, the insurer will need to know:

- Your Estimated Turnover for the Next or First Year
- How much Work Away you do (in the form of employee numbers or wage rolls, see 'Employers Liability')
- Your Annual Payments to Bona Fide Sub Contractors or the maximum number you will use at any one time

Note – a Bona Fide Sub Contractor is a Contractor who does not work exclusively for you, supplies (most of) their own equipment and materials and can employ a substitute if unable to do the work themselves.



Routen Chaplin, Britannic House, 5 Tamworth Road, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 1JE

Telephone: 0115 973 4437 | Email: insurance@routenchaplin.co.uk | www.routenchaplin.co.uk