

Financial Services Guide

Issued 4 February 2025

About this guide

This Financial Services Guide (FSG) explains the financial services provided by RI Advice Group and your adviser (who is authorised through RI Advice Group). It is designed to help you make a fully informed decision about whether you want to use our services.

Please take the time to read this guide carefully. Sound financial advice is based on open communication. Understanding our services and our fees is the cornerstone of this communication.

It's also important that you know who authorises your adviser, the nature of their associations and relationships and what to do if you have a complaint.

If you have further questions, or if there is anything that isn't clear, please talk to your adviser or contact us.

This guide must be accompanied by an Adviser Profile which outlines your adviser's skills, qualifications and the services they are authorised to provide.

Not independent

We provide services in relation to products on our Approved Product List, which doesn't include all possible products available in the market. In addition, we may receive commission on life insurance products as explained in this FSG under the heading 'How we are paid'. For these reasons, we do not refer to ourselves or our advice as independent, impartial or unbiased.



About us

Helping you make the most of life

At its heart, good financial advice is all about making the most of life – helping you to decide what you want to achieve and setting the financial strategies to help you do it. Everyone has different goals in life, but for most of us, finances play an important role in reaching them.

That's where we can help. Since 1979 advisers with RI Advice Group (formerly RetireInvest) have helped thousands of Australians to create, grow and protect their wealth.

Your adviser provides professional advice to help you achieve what you want out of life. RI Advice practices are locally owned, employing highly qualified financial advisers. Each adviser has a legal obligation and an ethical duty to act with integrity and in the best interests of their clients. Your adviser is a self-employed practice owner or employed by the practice. The Adviser Profile provided with this guide has specific information about your adviser.

Your adviser, or the practice they work for, has chosen to partner with RI Advice Group, who provides your adviser with research, training, compliance, technical and operational support. RI Advice Group is responsible for any financial service your adviser provides on its behalf.

RI Advice is a wholly owned subsidiary of Rhombus Advisory Pty Limited (**Rhombus Advisory**). Rhombus Advisory provides various services and support to RI Advice to enable it to operate its business and support its clients.

RI Advice Group Pty Ltd
ABN 23 001 774 125 | AFSL 238429

Suite 3, Level 8, 309 Kent St
Sydney NSW 2000

Phone: 02 9127 7699
Email: enquiries@rhombusadvisory.com.au
Website: www.riadvice.com.au



Products and services we provide

Our network of advisers provide a range of financial services including investing, superannuation, retirement and insurance. Specific information about the services your adviser is authorised to provide and their qualifications are contained in the attached Adviser Profile.

Important documents you can expect to receive

When your adviser provides personal financial advice for the first time, you will generally be given a Statement of Advice (SoA). The SoA sets out your personal advice, the basis on which it is given, the cost of the advice, and information about any associations or relationships that could influence the advice.

If you require further advice at a later time, providing your circumstances have not changed significantly since your previous SoA, your adviser may be able to provide the further advice verbally or via a shorter Record of Advice (RoA). If you are given verbal advice, your adviser will document the discussion and a copy of this record can be made available to you on request. If you are given further advice and your circumstances have changed significantly since your previous SoA, you will generally be given another SoA.

To help you make an informed decision about a financial product, you will generally be given a Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) which outlines the product features and costs in detail. In certain circumstances, there is no requirement to provide a PDS (including, for example, where you already have one).

If you ask your adviser to undertake a transaction without receiving advice from that adviser, you may be given a letter confirming your instructions and disclosing any costs payable by you in relation to that transaction.

Our Approved Products List

Our Approved Products List (APL) is a list of what we consider to be sound quality, fully researched products, but doesn't include all possible products available in the market. Only products and services that have been examined by our experienced research team are placed on our APL.

When selecting products for you, your adviser is generally limited to the range of investment products and a selection of 12 insurance providers on the APL.

Your adviser will first source from the APL before providing any recommendations. They will only recommend a product or service after considering its appropriateness in relation to your individual objectives, financial situation, needs and best interests. Where your strategy requires products and services other than those on the APL to act in your best interests, our research team will be consulted and we will seek to find an alternative solution.

Related Party Disclosure

RI Advice Group is part of the Rhombus Advisory Pty Ltd group of companies, which includes Rhombus Advisory Investment Solutions Pty Ltd (RAIS). RAIS provides professional investment research and investment management services including constructing and managing portfolios and/or investment strategies for model portfolios, managed accounts/ separately managed accounts and/or managed discretionary accounts.

When providing financial advice, your financial adviser may recommend acquiring or maintaining a financial product for which RAIS is paid a fee. This fee may be included as part of, or in addition to, the indirect costs of the portfolio. The amount of any fee payable to RAIS will be disclosed and set out in the PDS and disclosure documents provided.

Your financial adviser will not receive any portion of this fee.

Your financial adviser may be a direct or beneficial shareholder in Rhombus Advisory Pty Ltd. Shareholders in Rhombus Advisory may be entitled to receive dividend payments.

Important relationships and other benefits

You should also be aware of the following relationships and benefits that we may receive. Any payments noted below are not an additional cost to you and will only be made to the extent permitted by law. Any other arrangements you need to be aware of will be set out in the Adviser Profile attached to this document. Arrangements that are relevant to the advice being provided to you will also be disclosed in your written advice.

Product and service provider benefits

RI Advice Group may receive sponsorship payments from product and service providers to fund technical and professional development training for our advisers. Our practice owners or advisers may also apply for and may qualify to receive commercial terms on a range of banking products and services such as interest rates and limited recourse terms.

Advisory fees

Product providers may pay advisory fees to RI Advice Group or an investment management entity associated with RI Advice Group. This fee is for the provision of portfolio management advisory services where RI Advice Group model portfolios are utilised via managed accounts or separately managed accounts. In the event of this occurring, the fee is calculated as a percentage, likely to be up to 0.15% of the managed account or separately managed account portfolio balance. Your adviser will not receive any of this fee.

Referral partners

Your adviser may have referral relationships with third parties. These third parties may include accountants, mortgage brokers, general insurance brokers, solicitors, real estate agents and other third parties who specialise in a specific field. Any referral arrangements you need to be aware of and specific details of any referral payments we may receive will be set out in the 'Important relationships' section of the Adviser Profile attached to this document. Referral arrangements that are relevant to any advice being provided to you will also be disclosed in your written advice. Where you are referred to a third party (including to other financial advisers) by your adviser, neither your adviser nor RI Advice Group approve or endorse their advice and won't be liable for the provision of advice and services provided by the third party. You must assess the merits of their advice in the light of your own circumstances and objectives.

Referrals to a third party

Where you are referred to a third party (including to other financial advisers) by your adviser, your adviser does not receive any payment for that referral. We also do not approve or endorse their advice. You must assess the merits of their advice in the light of your own circumstances and objectives.

Associated businesses

Your adviser may have associations with other related businesses, such as an accountancy firm.

Other payments

We keep a full register of any benefits received by advisers of between \$100 to \$300. By law, your adviser is not permitted to receive benefits in excess of \$300 per year from a product issuer. In addition, RI Advice Group keeps a register of any other non-monetary benefits your adviser may receive in relation to education, training, technology support or software that is relevant to the provision of financial advice. If you would like a copy of either register, please ask your adviser and one will be made available to you.

How we are paid

We receive remuneration from:

- Advice and service fees paid by you (fee for service)
- Commissions from insurance providers
- Other payments and benefits as outlined above under the heading 'Important relationships and other benefits'

As the licensee, RI Advice Group collects all fees and commissions which are paid on to your adviser's practice. The Adviser Profile explains how your adviser is paid. RI Advice Group receives a licensee fee from your adviser's practice of up to \$165,000 per annum, which is in part based on remuneration paid to your adviser's practice.

Advice and service fees paid by you

Before providing personal advice, your adviser will agree the fees and payment options with you. These fees will be based on your individual circumstances, the complexity of your situation and the time it takes to prepare your personal financial advice. Fees and commissions that are relevant to the advice being provided will also be disclosed in the written advice provided to you.

The types of fees you may be asked to pay can include:

- Statement of Advice (SoA) fee – a fee to gather information, analyse your situation and prepare your SoA.
- Implementation fee – a fee to implement the recommendations contained in your SoA.
- Review service fee – a fee for the provision of review services if you enter into a service agreement with your adviser.

Your adviser may also charge other fees for the ad hoc provision of advice or services, including if you instruct your adviser to complete a transaction on your behalf such as buying or selling specific financial products.

If you have a complaint

If you have a complaint about financial services provided to you, your complaint can be directed to your adviser in the first instance. You can also raise your complaint at any time by contacting us at:

Email: advicecomplaints@rhombusadvisory.com.au

In writing to: Dispute Resolution Team
Suite 3, Level 8, 309 Kent Street,
Sydney NSW 2000

Phone: 02 9127 7699

We will investigate and endeavour to resolve your complaint promptly and fairly. If your complaint has not been resolved to your satisfaction within 30 days, you can lodge a complaint with the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA).

AFCA is an external dispute resolution scheme which provides fair and independent financial services complaint resolution that is free to consumers.

AFCA's contact details are:

Email: info@afca.org.au

Website: www.afca.org.au

In writing to: Australian Financial
Complaints Authority
GPO Box 3, Melbourne VIC 3001

Phone: 1800 931 678

The Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) has an information line 1300 300 630 which you may use to obtain information about your rights, and to make a complaint.

For more information, please visit their website: www.asic.gov.au

Professional indemnity insurance

RI Advice Group is covered by professional indemnity insurance satisfying the requirements under the Corporations Act for compensation arrangements.

Our insurance arrangements cover claims made against us as the licensee and both our current and former authorised representatives.

Our privacy policy

We are committed to maintaining the privacy and security of your personal information.

Any personal information collected by RI Advice Group will be handled in accordance with its Privacy Policy (<https://riadvice.com.au/privacy-policy>)

The way in which your adviser handles your personal information is outlined in their Adviser Profile.

Want more information?

If you have any questions about the information in this guide or about our services, talk to your adviser or contact RI Advice Group directly.

Call 02 9127 7699

Email enquiries@rhombusadvisory.com.au

Website www.riadvice.com.au



Retirement Advice Specialists

RI Advice Group Pty Ltd | ABN 23 001 774 125 AFSL 238429 | Suite 3, Level 8, 309 Kent St, Sydney NSW 2000

RI Advice has authorised the distribution of the FSG by its authorised representatives. RI Advice Group acts on your behalf when providing services to you or when financial services are provided to you on its behalf.

4 February 2025 | RI/FSG/PartA

Part 2 Adviser Profile

Jacob Francis Siddle

This adviser profile forms an essential part of the Financial Service Guide (FSG). The FSG is not complete without it.

Introducing your financial adviser

Jacob Francis Siddle is an Authorised Representative of RI Advice Group Pty Ltd AFSL 238429. Jake is a director of Midcoast Financial Planning Group Pty Ltd t/as Midcoast Financial Planning Group which is a Corporate Authorised Representative of RI Advice Group Pty Ltd.

Authorised Representative Number: 1003964
Corporate Authorised Representative Number: 1281376
Adviser profile issue date: 1 July 2024

About Jake

Jake has been providing advice to individuals and small to medium businesses since 2002 and has extensive experience in helping people plan for and enjoy their retirement.

Outside of work, Jake is a loving husband to Karen and the father of 3 young boys. He is a keen martial artist with a passion for Brazilian Jiu Jitsu.

Qualifications and memberships

- Certified Financial Planner® Practitioner
- Diploma of Financial Planning
- Justice of the Peace
- Aged Care Steps Accredited adviser
- Direct Equities and ETFs Program
- Self Managed Super Fund
- Member of the Financial Advice Association Australia (FAAA)
- Member of the Tax Practitioners Board - Individual tax (financial) adviser

Financial products and services

I am authorised to provide you with general and personal financial advice on the following class and types of products.

- Deposit and payment products
- Life investment or life risk products
- Interests in managed investment schemes, including investor directed portfolio services (IDPS)
- Retirement savings accounts
- Securities
- Superannuation

Services offered

- Personal Insurance
- Superannuation
- Budget and cashflow management
- Debt management
- Investments, including savings plans
- Retirement planning
- Centrelink/DVA
- Estate planning
- Ownership and structures (eg discretionary and family trusts)
- Portfolio review
- Ongoing advisory services
- Referrals to specialists (eg accountants, solicitors)
- Self Managed Superannuation
- ASX listed investments managed under a model portfolio
- Approved ASX listed investments within the ASX 200
- Aged Care

How I am paid

As the licensee, RI Advice collects all advice fees and commissions. RI Advice then pays the fees and commissions to my Practice as detailed in the FSG under the heading 'How we are paid'. My Practice pays me out of these fees and commissions based on a number of factors such as:

- **Salary** – based on my experience and qualifications.
- **Bonus** – I may be eligible to receive a bonus, based on a combination of revenue and meeting pre-determined annual performance-based criteria.
- **Profits** – I may be eligible to receive a percentage of profits from the Practice.
- **Commissions** – as outlined in the FSG under 'How we are paid', the Practice may receive commissions from a product provider when implementing certain product/s for you.

Client fee and payment options

Before providing advice, we will agree the fees and payment options with you. The fee you pay will depend on the complexity of your circumstances and the services you require. Your options to pay for our services can include fee for service, commission, or a combination of both.

Fee for service: Fee for service is based on the service we provide. This fee can be determined by:

- An hourly rate.
- A fixed dollar amount.
- A percentage of funds invested (excluding borrowed funds).
- A combination of these methods.

We can invoice you directly for our fee for service. Alternatively, some products allow an adviser service fee to be deducted from the balance of your investment.

Commissions: Some product providers pay commissions to RI Advice. The amount of commissions received will depend upon the type of product and the premium paid.

Important relationships

In addition to the arrangements already disclosed in the FSG under 'Important relationships and other payments', Midcoast Financial Planning Group No 2 Pty Ltd also has the following arrangements:

Referrals from a third party

At present we do not have any referral arrangement in place to pay a third party referrer a referral fee, commission or other benefit. If this changes, we will make you aware of this prior to providing advice, or further advice, to you.

Referrals to a third party

At present we do not have any referral arrangement in place to provide referrals to third parties in return for payment or other benefit. If this changes, we will make you aware of this prior to providing advice, or further advice, to you.

Privacy Notification

Your personal information will be handled in accordance with our privacy policy, which is located on our website. We will generally collect personal information directly from you. We may collect personal information about you from a third party if we believe you have authorised that third party to provide the information to us.

The main reason we collect, use and/or disclose your personal information, is to provide you with the services that you request. In addition, as a financial service provider, we are obligated to verify your identity and the source of any funds.

We provide financial services under the Australian Financial Services License of RI Advice Group Pty Ltd. RI Advice Group Pty Ltd monitors our compliance with the law and provides us with a range of support services, including the financial planning software we use. As a consequence, RI Advice Group Pty Ltd has access to your personal information and may use that information to facilitate the provision of financial services to you and to ensure we are complying with our obligations.

We may also disclose your information to external parties such as your accountant, banks, insurers, and product providers.

In order to keep our costs competitive, our Practice uses specialist business support resources that are located in the following countries: India, Sri Lanka.

The organisation/s we have contracted to support our business have confirmed to us they will adhere to the Australian Privacy Principles when dealing with your personal information. They will not contact you or share your information with any other party unless they have your express approval.

Please refer to our Privacy Policy for more information about how we will handle your personal information, including how to access or correct your personal information and how to make a privacy related complaint.

My contact details

A: Level 1, Suite 12, Tuncurry Business Centre,
60 Manning Street, Tuncurry NSW 2428
P: 02 6555 9492
E: jake@midcoastfpg.com.au
W: midcoastfpg.com.au

Part 2 Adviser Profile

Melissa Sinclair

This adviser profile forms an essential part of the Financial Service Guide (FSG). The FSG is not complete without it.

Introducing your financial adviser

Melissa Sinclair is an Authorised Representative of RI Advice Group Pty Ltd AFSL 238429. Melissa is an employee of Midcoast Financial Planning Group No 2 Pty Ltd t/as Midcoast Financial Planning Group which is a Corporate Authorised Representative of RI Advice Group Pty Ltd.

Authorised Representative Number: 1004084
Corporate Authorised Representative Number: 1296145
Adviser profile issue date: 1 July 2024

About Melissa

Melissa has been working in the financial planning industry since 2007 and has extensive experience in helping people plan for and enjoy their retirement.

Melissa and her husband Jade are raising their three young children on a small six-acre property in Bulahdelah. With a love for soccer, they are both active committee members with the local Bulahdelah Bullets soccer club and love spending quiet weekends at home with their family and their border collies.

Qualifications and memberships

- Diploma of Financial Planning
- Member of Financial Advice Association Australia (FAAA)
- Justice of the Peace

Financial products and services

I am authorised to provide you with general and personal financial advice on the following class and types of products.

- Deposit and payment products
- Life investment or life risk products
- Interests in managed investment schemes, including investor directed portfolio services (IDPS)
- Retirement savings accounts
- Securities
- Superannuation

Services offered

- Personal Insurance
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- Budget and cashflow management
- Debt management
- Investments, including savings plans
- Retirement planning
- Centrelink/DVA
- Estate planning
- Ownership and structures (eg discretionary and family trusts)
- Portfolio review
- Ongoing advisory services
- Referrals to specialists (eg accountants, solicitors)

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My contact details

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