Santander Home emergency cover Policy booklet



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Santander Home emergency cover

This cover only applies when shown on your schedule.

This is **your** Home emergency cover policy booklet. It refers to the additional cover **you** have purchased to supplement **your** Santander Home Insurance policy. It explains what **your** additional cover protects **you** for and must be read in conjunction with **your** Santander Home Insurance policy booklet. Unless specified in this policy booklet, the terms of the Santander Home Insurance policy booklet will also govern **your** additional cover.

Home emergency cover provides **you** with assistance in the event of an **emergency** at **your property**.

We describe an **emergency** as an unforeseen and sudden incident which (i) causes a loss of **essential services** or damage to **your property**; or (ii) exposes a risk to **your** health; or (iii) makes **your property** uninhabitable, and which is set out in any of the 'What is covered?' sections.

How to get help

HomeServe claims service number:



0345 030 7769

This is the telephone number to call if **you** want to make a claim for an **emergency**, which is covered under this policy.

Lines are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Once **you** have called to make a claim **our** advisors will arrange to get an **engineer** to the **property** as soon as possible.

Santander customer services number:



0345 030 7767

This is the telephone number to call when **you** have any questions about this cover.

Lines are open 8am-9pm Monday to Friday, 8am-4pm Saturdays and closed Sundays.

Telephone call charges and recording

Calls to 0800 numbers from UK landlines and mobiles are free. Calls to 03 prefixed numbers are charged at national call rates (charges may vary dependent on your network provider) and are usually included in inclusive minute plans from landlines and mobiles. For our joint protection telephone calls may be recorded and/or monitored.

Useful information regarding your cover

Smell gas; think you have a leak?

If you think you have a gas leak you MUST immediately call the National Gas Emergency Service on:



0800 111 999

The National Gas Emergency Service will need to visit your property and isolate the leak before we can provide any assistance.

Boiler servicing & carbon monoxide leak

When the gas that fuels your boiler isn't burnt correctly, carbon monoxide is produced. Carbon monoxide cannot be seen or smelt but can cause headaches, nausea, drowsiness and can cause death as well. So it is vital to get your boiler and gas appliances inspected and serviced regularly. This will ensure they are working as safely and efficiently as possible.

Creating access

On arriving at **your property**, the **engineer** will aim to locate the source of the incident. If direct access is not available (for instance if there are floor tiles or floorboards, or any of **your** possessions (such as storage boxes or furniture) in the way) the **engineer** will need to create access. If **you** want the **engineer** to do this, **you** will be asked to confirm this in writing while the **engineer** is at **your property**. Unless stated in any of the 'What is covered?' sections, **we** will not cover **you** for any damage that may be caused to the **property**, its contents, fixtures, fittings, floorings or sanitary ware (unless the damage is caused by **our engineer's** negligence). If **you** do not want the **engineer** to create access, **we** will be unable to do the work until **you** have arranged access.

Reinstatement

We will reinstate any floor covering or surface to make it safe, within the claims limit. However, **we** are not responsible for reinstating floor coverings, fixtures or fittings to their original standards.

Contract of Insurance - please refer to **your** Santander Home Insurance policy booklet.

Explaining the parties involved in this cover

Home emergency cover is underwritten by Aviva Insurance Limited. Claims are handled by HomeServe Membership Limited.

HomeServe Membership Limited (HomeServe) is registered in England with No. 2770612, registered office at Cable Drive, Walsall, West Midlands WS2 7BN.Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, registration number 312518.

You can check the above registration details on the Financial Services Register by visiting the website www.fca.org.uk/register or by contacting the Financial Conduct Authority on 0800 111 6768.

Important information about your home emergency cover

Choice of law - please refer to your Santander Home Insurance policy booklet.

Use of language - please refer to your Santander Home Insurance policy booklet.

Customers with disabilities - please refer to **your** Santander Home Insurance policy booklet.

Your cancellation rights

You have a statutory right to cancel this cover within 14 days from the day of purchase or the day on which **you** receive **your** Home emergency cover policy booklet, whichever is the later. For **your** cancellation rights outside the statutory cooling off period, please refer to **your** Santander Home Insurance policy booklet for full details of **your** right to cancel.

Our rights

We will be entitled (at **our** cost but in **your** name) to defend any legal action or to start or take over any legal action to recover any payments **we** have made to any other person or organisation, in connection with this cover. **We** will have complete control of any such legal action, including any decision to settle.

You agree to give **us** all the relevant information, documents and assistance **we** require to enable any claim to be validated for **us** to achieve a settlement or pursue a recovery.

Complaints procedure

Our promise of service

Our goal is to give excellent service to all our customers but we recognise that things do go wrong occasionally. We take all complaints we receive seriously and aim to resolve all our customer problems promptly. To ensure that we provide the kind of service you expect we welcome your feedback. We will record and analyse your comments to make sure we continually improve the service we offer.

What will happen if you complain

- We will acknowledge your complaint promptly.
- We aim to resolve all complaints as quickly as possible.

Most of our customers' concerns can be resolved quickly but occasionally more detailed enquiries are needed. If this is likely, we will contact you with an update within 20 working days of receipt and give you an expected date of response.

What to do if you are unhappy

If your complaint is about how the policy was sold, you can visit any of our branches across the country or can call:



0800 171 2171



+44 1908 375039

Text Relay:



18001 0800 171 2171

Or you can write to:

Complaints Santander UK plc PO Box 1125 Bradford BD1 9PG

If your complaint is about:

- the terms and conditions of your policy, or
- the decision made on your claim, or
- the settlement amount of your claim, or
- the way your claim was dealt with

you can call HomeServe on:



0345 030 7769

Or you can write to HomeServe at:

MomeServe Membership Limited Cable Drive Walsall WS2 7BN

If you are unhappy with the outcome of your complaint you may refer the matter to the Financial Ombudsman Service at:

The Financial Ombudsman Service **Exchange Tower** London E14 9SR

Telephone:



Or simply visit their website at:



www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk

Whilst we are legally bound by the decision of the Financial Ombudsman Service, you are not. Following the complaints procedure does not affect your right to take legal action.

If your complaint is about your Santander Home Insurance policy, please refer to your Santander Home Insurance policy booklet for details on how to make a

Financial Services Compensation Scheme

We and HomeServe are members of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). You may be entitled to compensation from this scheme if we or HomeServe cannot meet our obligations, depending on the type of insurance and the circumstances of **your** claim.

Further information about the scheme is available from the FSCS website:



or write to:

Financial Services Compensation Scheme 10th Floor, Beaufort House 15 St. Botolph Street London EC3A 7QU

Definitions

Wherever the following words appear in bold in this section, they will have the meanings as set out below:

Emergency

A sudden and unforeseen incident at the property which is set out in any of the 'What is covered?' sections and which:

- exposes **you** or a third party to a health risk, or
- causes a loss of essential services or damage to the property, or
- makes the **property** uninhabitable

Engineer

A person employed or authorised (or both) by HomeServe to assist with your emergency.

Essential services

Any of the following services:

- mains drainage, up to the boundary of the property, or
- water, electricity and gas supply to and within the **property**, or
- the main source of heating of the **property**.

Property

The total area of the land and buildings at the address set out in the **schedule** including the house, flat or apartment and any attached outbuilding (for example, a garage or lean-to shed), but excluding:

- any communal or service duct areas, and
- detached garages, sheds, greenhouses and non-permanent structures.

The document that gives details of your Santander Home Insurance policy, your Home emergency cover and the insured limits.

We/Us/Our

Aviva Insurance Limited

You/Your

The owner of the **property** who is named on the **schedule** and any person authorised to be in the property at the time of the emergency.

Cover

- In the event of an **emergency we** will cover the costs of labour, parts and materials (including VAT) up to an amount of £1,000 per claim.
- There is no limit to the number of claims **you** can make.
- In the unlikely event that your property becomes uninhabitable as a result of an emergency, we will reimburse you for your hotel costs (room and transport to the hotel only) up to an amount of £1,000 per claim. This is in addition to the labour, parts and materials (including VAT) limit.
- All permanent repairs carried out by the engineers, within the limits of this policy, will be guaranteed for 12 months.
- We will not cover anything which is specifically excluded in any of the 'What is not covered?' sections

Repair of your main heating system

We will cover your main heating system as follows:

- A. Breakdown of Gas central heating system.
- Breakdown of Oil-fired central heating system.
- C. Breakdown of Electric heater(s).

Exclusions that apply to all main heating systems A, B and C

We will not cover the following:

- Routine maintenance, cleaning, and servicing,
- LPG (Liquid Petroleum Gas) boilers.
- Dual-purpose boilers (e.g. Agas and Rayburns used for cooking and central
- Warm air and solar heating systems.
- Sludge, scale or rust in the primary heating system, or damage caused by a harmful chemical in the water.
- Repair or replacement of convector heaters, water tanks and hot water cylinders.
- Separate heaters providing hot water.
- Adjustment of timing and temperature controls.
- Resetting of circuit breakers that **you** can reset, if resetting falls outside the permanent repair work we do.
- Underfloor heating

- Other appliances such as cookers and fires.
- Radiators or radiator valves
- Boilers which are still working, but you suspect may be about to break down (e.g. where a noise has developed).

Useful information regarding the cover for your main heating system

Main heating systems that are beyond economical repair

On assessment of **your** main heating system, **our engineer** may declare it to be 'beyond economical repair'; this means:

- the cost of parts (including VAT) to repair the main heating system is greater than 85% of the manufacturer's current retail price of a replacement or a similar model, or
- we are unable to obtain the required manufacturer's spare parts from our suppliers to complete the repair, within 28 days.

Temporary heating

If a part needs to be ordered and it will take over 72 hours to arrive from the **engineer's** first visit, **we** will deliver two electrical heaters to **your property**. The heaters will be yours to keep.

Contribution towards a new boiler or electric heater

In the unlikely event that **your** main heating system is declared beyond economical repair, **we** will advise **you** to replace it and will contribute £500 towards the cost of a new boiler or electric heater. **You** are responsible for arranging for a replacement.

You will then have the choice to continue with the cover and **your** new boiler or heater(s) will be covered as long as it is not excluded under the 'What is not covered?' sections or the 'Home emergency general exclusions' section of this policy booklet.

Boilers and electric heaters under manufacturer's warranty or quarantee

If **your** boiler or electric heater is under a manufacturer's warranty or guarantee, any repair work undertaken under this **policy** may invalidate that warranty/guarantee. **We** strongly advise that **you** check the warranty/guarantee terms and conditions before making a claim as **we** will not be liable in the event that **our** repair work invalidates any warranty or guarantee.

Please read the relevant section (A, B or C) for an explanation of the cover that applies to **your property**.

A. Breakdown of gas central heating system What is covered?

You are covered for the failure of **your** gas boiler and/or central heating system. Work will be done by a Gas Safe registered **engineer** who will repair or replace the relevant part(s).

Examples of what we will cover:

- No hot water
- No heating
- Draining down and isolation of a leaking water tank, radiators or water cylinders or both.

What is not covered?

(See also the 'Home emergency general exclusions')

We will not cover the following:

- Immersion heaters, combination cylinders, Elson tanks, thermal storage units, (e.g. Gledhill Boilermate), unvented hot water cylinders (e.g. Range Powermax) or their controls.
- Separate gas heaters providing hot water.
- Fan convector heating.
- Combined heat and power systems.
- Cosmetic damage.
- Other gas appliances except gas fires forming part of a back boiler.

B. Breakdown of Oil-fired central heating system

What is covered?

You are covered for the failure of **your** oil boiler and/or central heating system. Work will be done by an oil specialist **engineer** who will repair or replace the relevant part(s).

Examples of what we will cover:

- No hot water.
- No heating
- Draining down and isolation of a leaking water tank, radiators or water cylinders or both.

What is not covered?

(See also the 'Home emergency general exclusions')

We will not cover the following:

- Breakdown, fault, damage or destruction caused by the system being allowed to run out of oil or by the use of unsuitable fuel.
- Losses caused by delays by **our** suppliers or their agents getting spare parts that are not immediately available.
- Defect or failing arising from the original design of the boiler or system or both.
- Replacing the expansion tank.
- Plastic or metal oil tanks and their associated pipework and contents.
- Repair or replacement of the water jacket or heat exchanger.
- Flues, except balanced flues that are integral to the boiler.
- Items not forming part of the boiler or system or both, e.g. water pumps installed separately.
- Cosmetic damage.

C. Electric heater(s) breakdown

What is covered?

You are covered for the failure of **your** electrical heater(s). Work will be done by an approved registered **engineer** who will repair or replace the relevant part(s).

Examples of what we will cover:

- Failure of electric storage or panel heater(s).
- Repair or replacement of the permanent wiring to the electrical heater(s).

What is not covered?

(See also the 'Home emergency general exclusions')

We will not cover the following:

- Electric water heaters.
- Any portable and fixed heating not permanently wired in, energy management systems, warm air heating systems, Electrotech and Smartheat systems, wet systems and underfloor heating.
- Heated towel rails, infrared heaters, electric fires, skirting or kickspace floor heaters
- Air conditioning units.
- Immersion heaters.
- Cosmetic damage to the casing of domestic electrical heaters or timer switches
- Failure or breakdown of timers for domestic electrical heaters where there is a manual override facility.

Internal plumbing and drainage

What is covered?

You are covered for emergencies relating to **your** internal plumbing or drainage or both, which results in total loss of water to **your property** or loss of water to **your** kitchen taps, blocked drainage, leaks or loss of toilet facilities in **your property**.

If the **property** is a flat or apartment, cover is limited to the inside of the flat or apartment that **you** solely own.

Examples of what we will cover:

- Blocked toilet.
- Leaking pipe.
- Leaking soil vent pipe.
- Blocked waste pipe.
- Leaking toilet.
- Leaking internal stop-tap.
- Emergencies that require the draining down and isolation of a leaking cold water tank or hot water cylinder.
- A complete drain blockage that results in all sinks being blocked.

What is not covered?

(See also the 'Home emergency general exclusions')

We will not cover the following:

- Domestic appliances and their inlet or outlet pipes, e.g. washing machines or dishwashers.
- Dripping taps that need repair
- Replacement of water tanks or radiators, thermostatic radiator valves, hot water cylinders and sanitary ware (e.g. basins and toilet bowls).
- Showers including the shower unit, controls, outlet or shower head.
- Frozen pipes that have not caused a permanent blockage.
- Smells and noises from pipework or drains
- Leaking overflow pipes.
- Repairs to **your** water supply pipe.

External drainage

What is covered?

You are covered for a blockage to the underground drainage pipes that are not beneath or inside any building or outbuilding and serve **your property** only (i.e. are not shared) and that are within **your property** boundary. If the drainage pipe is not **your** responsibility, **you** will need to contact **your** local water supply company.

The **engineer** will leave **your** drain running clear by unblocking the drain or repairing or replacing damaged sections of waste pipe. This includes leaving the ground level after refilling any hole the **engineer** has to dig.

Examples of what we will cover

- Blocked external drain.
- Collapsed external drain.

What is not covered?

(See also the 'Home emergency general exclusions')

We will not provide any cover under this external drainage section if the **property** is a flat or apartment.

We will not cover the following:

- Drains (sewers) for which you do not have responsibility, including the lateral or shared drains and drains that are outside your property boundary.
- b) Frozen pipes that have not caused permanent blockage.
- c) External guttering, rainwater downpipes, rainwater drains and soakaways.
- d) Drain clearance where **we** have previously advised **you** to install access points (e.g. rodding eye, manhole) and **you** have not done so.
- e) Like-for-like reinstatement of decorative items such as hard or soft landscaping, drives, pathways, walls, flower beds or lawns.

Internal gas supply pipe

What is covered?

You are covered for a leak on **your** internal gas supply pipe. After the National Gas Emergency Service has visited **your property** and isolated **your** gas supply, work will be done by a Gas Safe registered **engineer**, who will repair or replace the damaged section of internal gas supply pipe. **Our engineer** will also turn **your** gas supply back on.

Examples of what we will cover

- Leaking internal gas supply pipe.
- Leaking gas supply hose connecting to a gas cooker.

What is not covered?

(See also the 'Home emergency general exclusions')

We will not cover the following:

- External gas supply pipe (it is the responsibility of the National Grid).
- Appliances connected to your internal gas supply pipe.
- Sections of the internal gas supply pipe that are outside the property or inside any outbuilding on the property.

Electrical emergency and breakdown

What is covered?

You are covered for electrical emergency and breakdown of the domestic electrical wiring, including permanent damage caused by a power cut to **your property** alone.

Examples of what we will cover

- Breakdown of fuse box.
- Lost power to circuit.
- Permanent damage to the domestic electrical wiring caused by a power cut.

What is not covered?

(See also the 'Home emergency general exclusions')

We will not cover the following:

- A power cut that affects more than just your property.
- Non-permanent wiring or electrics, e.g. kettles, fairy lights and other appliances with plugs.
- Repairs or replacements of wall sockets, switches and light bulb sockets.
- Routine electrical maintenance tasks e.g. replacing light bulbs and adjusting the timer.
- Permanent wiring to the following appliances and any wiring or electrics connected to them: satellite dishes, radio or television aerials and their fittings or masts, burglar alarms and smoke detectors, telephones and their associated wiring, doorbells and electrical gate or garage door systems, air conditioning units.
- The shower unit or immersion heater unit.
- Portable or fixed electrical heating systems or energy efficiency management systems.
- Repairing or replacing wiring encased in rubber or lead.
- Any part of the electrical wiring where completing a repair would result in a breach of the current electrical wiring regulations and electrical safety standard BS7671.

Security and roofing

What is covered?

You are covered for damage to roofing, external windows and doors, broken locks and loss of keys.

If a security or roofing incident happens, **we** will protect **your property** from further damage or make sure the **property** is secure (or both).

Examples of what we will cover

- Use of tarpaulin to protect the **property** if roofing tiles are blown off during bad weather.
- Boarding up of broken glazing to make the **property** secure.
- Repair of broken locks for external windows and doors if the property is insecure.
- In the event **your** keys are lost/stolen and there is no other set available to access the main house on **your property**, **we** will provide an **engineer** to assess the most efficient way to gain access. This is usually by replacing the locks and keys; however in some circumstances it may be more practical to find an alternative solution to suit both parties.

- Making the property secure after loss of external-door keys that are your responsibility.
- Repair of garage door to make the property secure.

What is not covered?

(See also the 'Home emergency general exclusions')

We will not provide cover for any roofing **emergency** if the main home on the **property** is a flat or apartment.

We will not cover the following:

- Loss of keys for any building on the property that is not the main house, including detached outbuildings, garages, greenhouses, sheds or communal or shared areas.
- Loss of keys to the main house on the property if you have access to another set of keys.
- Replacement of an attached garage door, or repair or replacement of the electrical unit powering a garage door.
- Doors and windows that do not secure the property, such as internal porch doors, internal doors and internal conservatory doors.
- Claims for keys, locks and glazing in shared communal areas if your property is a flat or apartment.

Pest infestation

What is covered?

You are covered for the removal of an infestation of the following:

- Brown or black rats or house or field mice in the main house, flat or apartment on your property.
- Wasps' or hornets' nests anywhere on your property.

What is not covered?

(See also the 'Home emergency general exclusions')

If **your property** is a flat or apartment, cover is limited to the inside of the flat or apartment that **you** own.

We will not cover the following:

- Ants, cockroaches, bedbugs, fleas, spiders, flies, birds, squirrels, bees or any other pest that may require specialist removal.
- Rats or mice outside the main house on the property e.g. in detached garages, the garden and other detached outbuildings.
- Wasps' or hornets' nests in detached garages and other outbuildings.
- Pest infestations where you have not followed our previous recommendations on how to avoid such problems.
- Problems where **you** cannot tell **us** the type of pest concerned.
- Damage caused by pests to your property and contents (e.g. if a rat chewed through your sofa), unless otherwise stated in any 'What is covered?' section in this policy booklet.

Home emergency general exclusions

The following are excluded from this policy so we will not be liable for:

- a) Any costs or activities above the claims limit or any other limit specified in any 'What is covered?' section. You are responsible for agreeing and settling any such costs directly with the engineer.
- b) Any losses caused by any delays in getting spare parts.
- Any associated expenses or losses you incur which relate to an emergency but are not directly covered by this policy.
- d) Systems, equipment or appliances that have not been installed according to appropriate regulatory standards in place for the UK manufacturer's instructions or both; or that are subject to a manufacturer's recall.
- Instances where a repair or replacement is needed only because of changes in legislation or health and safety guidelines.

- f) Any defect, damage or breakdown caused by malicious or deliberate action, negligence, misuse or third-party interference, including any attempted repair or modification to the elements covered by this policy, which does not comply with British Standards.
- g) The costs of any work carried out by **you** or people not authorised by **us** in advance.
- h) Any parts not supplied and chosen by **us**. Subject to any applicable regulations, **our engineer** can fit an alternative part (that complies with British Standards) supplied by **you** at the time of the visit (e.g. a switch or tap). However this part will not be guaranteed. **Our engineer** will not fit alternative parts supplied by **you** where the claim relates to the gas supply or the central heating system.
- Situations where because of health and safety and with your prior agreement, another engineer has to be brought in who we do not employ, e.g. to handle asbestos.
- Loss caused by damage occurring while the property has remained unoccupied for 60 or more consecutive days.
- k) Loss arising from subsidence, heave of the site or landslip caused by:
 - i. Bedding down of new structures.
 - ii. Demolition or structural repairs or alterations to the **property**.
 - iii. Faulty workmanship or the use of defective materials.
 - iv. River or coastal erosion.
- Loss, damage or indirect costs arising as a result of disconnection from or interruption to the gas, electricity or water mains services to the **property**, for example a power cut to **your** neighbourhood.
- m) Investigative work where the incident that caused **you** to claim has already been resolved.
- n) Claims to do with mobile homes and bedsits please see the definition of **property** in the 'Definitions' section.
- o) Loss, damage related to:
 - Pumps including sewerage pumps, drainage pumps, shower pumps, any associated electrics or valves.
 - ii. Water softeners
 - iii. Waste disposal units and macerators.
 - iv. Air conditioning units.
 - v. Unvented hot water cylinders or their controls.
 - vi. Cesspits, septic tanks and any outflow pipes.
 - vii. Vacuum drainage systems.
 - viii. Swimming pools or decorative features including ponds, fountains and any associated pipes, valves or pumps.
 - ix. Ground, air and water source heat pump systems.
 - x. Power generation systems and their associated pipework, pumps, panels and controls including solar panels or wind turbines or both; combined heat and power systems (systems that generate electricity and heat at the same time).

Home emergency general conditions

a) Your duty to prevent an emergency

You must take all reasonable precautions to prevent an **emergency**. **You** must ensure that the normal day-to-day maintenance of **your property** is undertaken and that the **property** is in good condition.

- b) **Fraud** please refer to the 'General conditions' section of **your** Santander Home Insurance policy booklet.
- c) **Monthly premiums** please refer to the 'General conditions' section of **your** Santander Home Insurance policy booklet.
- d) **Cancelling this policy** please refer to the 'General conditions' section of **your** Santander Home Insurance policy booklet.

