# **COMPLAINTS HANDLING PROCEDURE**

### 1. **Definitions and Interpretation**

1.1 In this Complaints Handling Procedure the following expressions have the following meanings:

"Appeal" means a request from a Customer to escalate a

Complaint to Level Three following an

unsatisfactory outcome at Level Two;

"Appeal Handler" means an employee of Kaybridge Residential

working at level 1 who will liaise between the Customer and level 3 Director with respect to

Level Three Complaints;

"Business Day" means, any day (other than Saturday or Sunday)

on which ordinary banks are open for their full range of normal business in 23 Stoneleigh

Broadway, Epsom KT17 2JE;

"Complaint" means a complaint about [services] sold by

Kaybridge Residential, about our customer service, or about our employees [agents]

[subcontractors];

["Complaints Form"] [means our standard complaints form for use by

Customers, available from our websites.:1

"Complaints Policy" means our customer complaints policy,

available from 23 Stoneleigh Broadway,

Epsom KT17 2JE;

"Complaint Reference" means a unique code assigned to a Complaint

that will be used to track that Complaint;

"Customer" means a customer of Kaybridge Residential and

includes potential customers (no purchase

necessary);

"Decision Letter" means a letter sent by a Complaint Handler or

Appeal Handler to a Customer informing that Customer of the outcome of their Complaint;

["External Resolution"] [means the referral of a Complaint to an external

body or organisation for resolution by a Customer if that Customer is not satisfied with

the outcome at Level Three;]

"Investigation Report" means the report detailing the investigation and

assessment of a Complaint;

"Level One" means the first stage in this Complaints Handling

Procedure under which Complaints will be

handled by a Level One Complaint Handler;

"Level One Complaint

Handler"

means an employee of Kaybridge Residential working at level one who will handle Level One

Complaints;

"Level Two"

means the second stage in this Complaints Handling Procedure under which a Customer may appeal the outcome of a Level One Complaint and under which Complaints will be handled by a Level Two Complaint Handler;

"Level Two Complaint

Handler"

means an employee of Kaybridge Residential working at level two who will handle Level Two

Complaints;

"Level Three" me

means the third stage in this Complaints Handling Procedure under which a Customer may appeal the outcome of a Level Two Complaint and under which Complaints will be handled by an Appeal Handler and level three

Director;

["Recommendation"]

Imeans the recommended resolution to a

Complaint; and]

"Resolution Action"

means the available actions to be taken in response to a Complaint as detailed in Section 9.

# 2. What this Complaints Handling Procedure Covers

- 2.1 This Complaints Handling Procedure applies to Complaints pertaining to [the provision of services] by Kaybridge Residential, to our customer service and to our employees [agents] [subcontractors].
- 2.2 For the purposes of this Complaints Handling Procedure, any reference to Kaybridge Residential also includes our employees [agents] [subcontractors].
- 2.3 Complaints may relate to any of our activities and may include (but not be limited to):
  - 2.3.1 The quality of our customer service;
  - 2.3.2 The behaviour and/or professional competence of our employees [agents] [subcontractors];
  - 2.3.3 [Delays, or other problems associated with the provision of services;]
- 2.4 The following do not constitute Complaints. Customers raising such questions or matters should be directed to the appropriate [person] **OR** [department]:
  - 2.4.1 General questions about our [services];
  - 2.4.2 Matters concerning contractual or other legal disputes;
  - 2.4.3 Formal requests for the disclosure of information including, but not limited to, those made under the applicable legislation;

# 3. Receipt and Recording of Complaints

- 3.1 Customers may make Complaints to Kaybridge Residential using any of the following methods:
  - 3.1.1 [In writing, addressed to Kevin Barzegar, Director, 23 Stoneleigh Broadway, KT17 2JE;]
  - 3.1.2 [By email, addressed to Kevin Barzegar Director at kevin@kbridge.co.uk;]
  - 3.1.3 [Using our Complaints Form, following the instructions included with the form;]
  - 3.1.4 [By contacting us by telephone on 0208 0040 474 [and choosing option one when prompted.]]
- 3.2 Upon receipt of Complaints, the following steps should be taken within 14 Business Days
  - 3.2.1 [If a written Complaint is received by post, Kevin Barzegar, Director we will acknowledge your complaint and will be Listen to the complaint. Thank the customer for bringing the matter to our attention. ...
  - 3.2.2 Record details of the complaint. ...
  - 3.2.3 Get all the facts. ...
  - 3.2.4 Discuss options for fixing the problem. ...
  - 3.2.5 Act quickly. ...
  - 3.2.6 Keep your promises. ...
  - 3.2.7 Follow up.
  - 3.2.8 [If a written Complaint is received by email, Kevin Barzegar, Director must Listen to the complaint. Thank the customer for bringing the matter to your attention. ...
  - 3.2.9 Record details of the complaint. ...
  - 3.2.10 Get all the facts. ...
  - 3.2.11 Discuss options for fixing the problem. ...
  - 3.2.12 Act quickly. ...
  - 3.2.13 Keep your promises. ...
  - 3.2.14 Follow up.
  - 3.2.15 [If a Complaints Form is received, Kevin Barzegar Director must; Listen to the complaint. Thank the customer for bringing the matter to your attention. ...
  - 3.2.16 Record details of the complaint. ...
  - 3.2.17 Get all the facts. ...
  - 3.2.18 Discuss options for fixing the problem. ...
  - 3.2.19 Act quickly. ...
  - 3.2.20 Keep your promises. ...
  - 3.2.21 Follow up.

- 3.2.22 [If a Complaint is made by telephone, Kevin Barzegar, Director must . Listen to the complaint. Thank the customer for bringing the matter to your attention. ...
- 3.2.23 Record details of the complaint. ...
- 3.2.24 Get all the facts. ...
- 3.2.25 Discuss options for fixing the problem. ...
- 3.2.26 Act quickly. ...
- 3.2.27 Keep your promises. ...
- 3.2.28 Follow up.
- 3.3 All Complaints must be given a Complaint Reference and forwarded to an appropriate Level One Complaint Handler, selected in accordance with Section 6.1 within 14 Business Days.
- 3.4 All Complaints must be acknowledged in writing within five working days of receipt by Kevin Barzegar. The acknowledgement should inform the Customer of their Complaint Reference, their assigned Level One Complaint Handler and should include copies of Kaybridge Residential's Customer Complaint Policy [and this Complaints Handling Procedure].

## 4. Complaint Information

- 4.1 Customers are advised in our Complaints Policy that the following information should be provided in as much detail as is reasonably possible when making a Complaint:
  - 4.1.1 The Customer's name, address, telephone number and email address, indicating any preferred method of communication;
  - 4.1.2 If the Customer is being represented by a third party, the information set out in Section 4.1.1 should be provided in reference to both parties;
  - 4.1.3 If the Complaint relates to a particular transaction, the <<insert reference, e.g. order number, invoice number etc.>>;
  - 4.1.4 If the Complaint relates to a particular employee [agent] [subcontractor], the name and, where appropriate, position of that employee [agent] [subcontractor];
  - 4.1.5 Further details of the Complaint including, as appropriate, all times, dates, events, and people involved;
  - 4.1.6 Details of any documents or other evidence on which the Customer wishes to rely in support of the Complaint;
  - 4.1.7 Details of how the Customer would like Kaybridge Residential to resolve the Complaint. Whilst we undertake to make all reasonable efforts to accommodate such requests, however, we are not bound to take any action beyond that which we may be contractually or otherwise legally obliged to take.
- 4.2 If the information detailed in Section 4.1 is missing, insufficiently detailed, or incomplete, [Kevin Barzegar, Director should contact the Customer within Five Business Days of receipt of the Complaint to request further information.

# 5. Complaint Levels

- 5.1 Kaybridge Residential operates a three-stage complaints handling procedure. Upon receipt, all new Complaints should be handled in accordance with the Level One procedure set out in Section 6 below. It is our policy to use all reasonable endeavours to resolve all Complaints to Customers' satisfaction at Level One.
- 5.2 If a Customer is not satisfied with the resolution of their Complaint at Level One, he/she may request that the Complaint is escalated to Level Two at which point the Complaint should be handled in accordance with the Level Two procedure set out in Section 7 below.
- 5.3 If a Customer is not satisfied with the resolution of their Complaint at Level Two, he/she may request that the Complaint is escalated to Level Three in the form of an Appeal at which point the Complaint should be handled in accordance with the Level Three procedure set out in Section 8 below.
- 5.4 [If a Customer is not satisfied with the resolution of their Complaint at Level Three, he/she has the option of referring the matter to Kaybridge Residential for External Resolution as detailed in Section 10 below.]

## 6. Level One Complaints

- [The following staff members are qualified and eligible Level One Complaint Handlers for Level One Complaints:
  - 6.1.1 Complaints pertaining to customer service may be referred to:

Nick Marciano, Branch Manager, nick@kbridge.co.uk;

Richard Sutton, Branch Manager, Richard@kbridge.co.uk;

6.1.2 Complaints pertaining to the behaviour and/or professional competence of our employees [agents] [subcontractors] may be referred to:

Kevin Barzegar, Director, kevin@kbridge.co.uk;

Jason Hanley, Area Manager, Jason@kbridge.co.uk;

6.1.3 [Complaints pertaining to services may be referred

Jason Hanley, Area Manager, jason@kbridge.co.uk;

Kevin Barzegar, director, kevin@kbridge.co.uk;

- 6.2 If the Level One Complaint Handler requires additional information or evidence in support of the Complaint, the Level One Complaint Handler shall contact the Customer using the Customer's preferred method of communication, stating clearly what information or evidence is required. Customers should be respectfully reminded that any delay in their response to such a request may delay the resolution of their Complaint, as per Section 5.2.4 of our Complaints Policy.
- 6.3 If a Customer is unable or unwilling to provide information or evidence requested under Section 6.5, the Level One Complaint Handler must nevertheless use all reasonable endeavours to resolve the Complaint. If,

however, the Level One Complaint Handler considers that it is not possible to uphold the Complaint in the absence of the requested information or evidence, he or she may close the Complaint and inform the Customer of the outcome in accordance with Sections 6.9 to 6.12.

- 6.4 The Level One Complaint Handler shall examine and evaluate the Complaint, taking full account of all relevant statements, information, evidence and circumstances and shall maintain full objectivity and fairness at all times.
- 6.5 [Subject to the exceptions in Section 6.8.1,] During the investigation of the Complaint, the Level One Complaint Handler shall have access to all records, information, employees [agents] [subcontractors] that may be necessary to enable him/her to carry out an impartial and thorough investigation.
- 6.6 Following his/her examination of the Complaint, the Level One Complaint Handler shall reach a decision within the time period set out in Section 6.3 (subject to the exceptions noted therein). Resolution Actions that may be chosen are set out in Section 9.
- 6.7 [Upon reaching a decision, the Complaint Handler shall send an Investigation Report and Recommendation for review and authorisation by Kevin Barzegar, Director who shall be required to respond within 21 Business Days.
- In the event that Kevin Barzegar Director does not agree with the Level One Complaint Handler's decision and/or Recommendation under Section 6.10 he/she must give reasons for such disagreement and the Level One Complaint Handler shall have a further 21 Business Days to revise his/her decision and/or Recommendation and resubmit it to Kevin Barzegar, Director for review and authorisation. If, following resubmission, Kevin Barzegar, Director for still does not agree with the decision of [Kevin Barzegar, Director Recommendation shall be final].
- [Upon reaching a decision under Section 6.9] **OR** [Upon receiving approval or a final decision under Section 6.10 or 6.11, as applicable], the Level One Complaint Handler shall send an Investigation Report and Decision Letter to the Customer by first class post or by email, as appropriate. Decision Letters shall set out the decision, the Resolution Action(s), and shall remind the Customer of their right to escalate the Complaint to Level Two. two copy/copies of the Investigation Report and Decision Letter should be<describe steps for distribution to other staff, file storage, logging, recording etc.>>.
- 6.10 If a delay either occurs or is considered likely to occur at any stage of the Level One procedure, the Level One Complaint Handler shall inform the Customer using the Customer's preferred communication method. The Customer should be informed of the length or likely length of the delay and the reasons therefor.
- 6.11 The Customer shall have a time limit of 5 Business Days within which to request that the Complaint be escalated to Level Two.

#### 7. Level Two Complaints

7.1 [The following staff members are qualified and eligible Level Two Complaint Handlers for Level Two Complaints:

Kevin Barzegar, Director, kecin@kbridge.co.uk;

Jason Hanley, Area Manager, jason@kbridge.co.uk;

- 7.2 Upon receipt of an escalation request, the Level Two Complaint Handler shall consider the Complaint and make a decision within 21 Business Days whether to:
  - 7.2.1 Investigate the Complaint fully if it is considered to be valid, in which case the procedure should resume from Section 7.3; or
  - 7.2.2 Dismiss the Complaint if it is considered to be invalid, in which case the Level Two Complaint Handler should inform the Customer of his/her decision in writing within 21 Business Days. If the Complaint is so dismissed, the Complaint may be dismissed in its entirety, or the Resolution Action(s) from Level One may stand.
- 7.3 Subject to delays arising from circumstances beyond his/her reasonable control (including, but not limited to, delays in other persons responding to communications), the Level Two Complaint Handler shall have a period of 21 Business Days in which to fully investigate the Complaint and to decide upon appropriate Resolution Action(s).
- 7.4 If the Complaint relates to (a) particular Complainee(s), the Level Two Complaint Handler shall inform the Complainee(s) in question of the Appeal and arrange [meetings] AND/OR [telephone calls] as required to discuss the Complaint. In such cases, the Complainee(s) should not, under any circumstances, contact the Customer directly regarding the Complaint. If the Customer contacts the Complainee(s) directly regarding the Complaint (which they are requested not to do in our Complaints Policy), the Complainee(s) should respectfully refuse to discuss the matter, referring the Customer to Section 5.3.3 of our Complaints Policy. Any such contact should be reported to the Level Two Complaint Handler.
- 7.5 If the Level Two Complaint Handler requires additional information or evidence in support of the Complaint, the Level Two Complaint Handler shall contact the Customer using the Customer's preferred method of communication, stating clearly what information or evidence is required. Customers should be respectfully reminded that any delay in their response to such a request may delay the resolution of their Complaint, as per Section 5.3.4 of our Complaints Policy.
- 7.6 If a Customer is unable or unwilling to provide information or evidence requested under Section 7.5, the Level Two Complaint Handler must nevertheless use all reasonable endeavours to resolve the Complaint. If, however, the Level Two Complaint Handler considers that it is not possible to uphold the Complaint in the absence of the requested information or evidence, he or she may close the Complaint and inform the Customer of the outcome in accordance with Sections 7.9 to 7.12.
- 7.7 The Level Two Complaint Handler shall examine and evaluate the Complaint, taking full account of all relevant statements, information, evidence and circumstances and shall maintain full objectivity and fairness at all times.
- 7.8 [Subject to the exceptions in 7.8.1,] During the investigation of the Complaint, the Level Two Complaint Handler shall have access to all records, information, employees [agents] [subcontractors] that may be necessary to enable him/her to carry out an impartial and thorough investigation.
- 7.9 Following his/her examination of the Complaint, the Level Two Complaint Handler shall reach a decision within the time period set out in Section 7.3 (subject to the exceptions noted therein). Resolution Actions that may be

- chosen that may be chosen are set out in Section 9.
- 7.10 [Upon reaching a decision, the Level Two Complaint Handler shall send an Investigation Report and Recommendation for review and authorisation by Kevin Barzegar, Director who shall be required to respond within 21 Business Days.
- 7.11 If a delay either occurs or is considered likely to occur at any stage of the Level Two procedure, the Level Two Complaint Handler shall inform the Customer using the Customer's preferred communication method. The Customer should be informed of the length or likely length of the delay and the reasons therefor.
- 7.12 The Customer shall have a time limit of 5 Business Days within which to make an Appeal if he/she wishes to escalate the Complaint to Level Three.
- 7.13 All Appeals must be forwarded to an appropriate Appeal Handler, who shall liaise with level 3 Director, selected in accordance with Section 8.1 within 5 Business Days.

## 8. Level Three Complaints

- 8.1 [The following staff members are qualified and eligible Appeal Handlers for Level Three Complaints:
  - 8.1.1 Appeals pertaining to customer service may be referred to:

Kevin barzegar, director, kevin@kbridge.co.uk

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- 8.1.2 Appeals pertaining to the behaviour and/or professional competence of our employees [agents] [subcontractors] may be referred to:
- 8.1.3 Kevin barzegar, director, kevin@kbridge.co.uk,
- 8.1.4 [Appeals pertaining to services may be referred to:

Kevin barzegar, director, kevin@kbridge.co.u

Upon receipt of an Appeal, the Appeal Handler shall forward the Complaint and all accompanying information, evidence and documentation (including, but not limited to, Investigation Reports) to the level 3 Director, who shall consider the Appeal and make a decision within 21 Business Days whether to:

- 8.1.5 Investigate the Complaint fully if it is considered to be valid, in which case the procedure should resume from Section 8.3; or
- 8.1.6 Dismiss the Complaint if it is considered to be invalid, in which case the Appeal Handler should inform the Customer of the level 3 director decision in writing within 21 Business Days. If the Complaint is so dismissed, the Complaint may be dismissed in its entirety, or the Resolution Action from Level Two may stand.
- 8.2 Subject to delays arising from circumstances beyond their reasonable control (including, but not limited to, delays in other persons responding to communications), the level 3 director shall have a period of 21 Business Days in which to fully investigate the Complaint and to decide upon an appropriate Resolution Action.
- 8.3 If the Complaint relates to (a) particular Complainee(s), the Appeal Handler shall inform the Complainee(s) in question of the Appeal and arrange [meetings] AND/OR [telephone calls] between the Complainee(s) and the

level 3 director as required to discuss the Complaint. In such cases, the Complainee(s) should not, under any circumstances, contact the Customer directly regarding the Complaint. If the Customer contacts the Complainee(s) directly regarding the Complaint (which they are requested not to do in our Complaints Policy), the Complainee(s) should respectfully refuse to discuss the matter, referring the Customer to Section 5.4.3 of our Complaints Policy. Any such contact should be reported to the Appeal Handler.

- 8.4 If the level 3 director requires additional information or evidence in support of the Complaint, the Appeal Handler shall contact the Customer using the Customer's preferred method of communication, stating clearly what information or evidence is required. Customers should be respectfully reminded that any delay in their response to such a request may delay the resolution of their Complaint, as per Section 5.4.4 of our Complaints Policy.
- 8.5 If a Customer is unable or unwilling to provide information or evidence requested under Section 8.5, the level 3 director must nevertheless use all reasonable endeavours to resolve the Complaint. If, however, the level 3 director considers that it is not possible to uphold the Complaint in the absence of the requested information or evidence, the Complaint may be closed and the Appeal Handler shall inform the Customer of the outcome in accordance with Section 8.10.
- 8.6 The level 3 director shall examine and evaluate the Complaint, taking full account of all relevant statements, information, evidence and circumstances and shall maintain full objectivity and fairness at all times.
- 8.7 [Subject to the exceptions in 8.8.1,] During the investigation of the Complaint, the level 3 director shall have access to all records, information, employees [agents] [subcontractors] that may be necessary to enable them to carry out an impartial and thorough investigation.
- 8.8 Following their examination of the Complaint, the level 3 director shall reach a decision, by himself, within the time period set out in Section 8.3 (subject to the exceptions noted therein). Resolution Actions that may be chosen that may be chosen are set out in Section 9. The decision of the level 3 director shall be final [, subject to the Customer's right to seek External Resolution of their complaint].
- 8.9 Once the level 3 director have reached their decision under Section 8.10, the Appeal Handler shall send an Investigation Report and Decision Letter to the Customer by first class post or by email, as appropriate. Decision Letters shall set out the decision and the Resolution Action(s). [The Customer shall also be reminded of their right to seek External Resolution of their Complaint.]
- 8.10 If a delay either occurs or is considered likely to occur at any stage of the Level Three procedure, the Appeal Handler shall inform the Customer using the Customer's preferred communication method. The Customer should be informed of the length or likely length of the delay and the reasons therefor.
- 8.11 two copy/copies of the Investigation Report and decision should be <<describe steps for distribution to other staff, file storage, logging, recording etc.>>.

#### 9. Resolution Actions

When handling Complaints, Level One and Two Complaint Handlers and the level 3 director may select from the following Resolution Actions, as appropriate to the facts

and circumstances of a Complaint:

### 10. [External Resolution

- 10.1 As Kaybridge Residential is a member of **ANAEA AND** MEMBER of The Property Ombudsman, Customers have the right to seek External Resolution of Complaints from that organisation if they are not satisfied with the outcome resulting from this Complaints Handling Procedure.
- 10.2 The Property Ombusdsman handles any and all such referrals in accordance with any complaint Membership number T02360. The appropriate representative(s) of The Property Ombusdsman may require contact with employees [agents] [subcontractors] of Kaybridge Residential and may require access to documents and information pertaining to a Complaint in the event that a Customer refers their Complaint for External Resolution. Any and all such interactions between The Property Ombusdsman and Kaybridge Residential shall take place via (unless otherwise authorised by Kevin Barzegar director):
- 10.3 Any and all requests made by The Property Ombusdsman for evidence or information, whether written or oral, shall be answered without undue delay, subject to the approval and authorisation of Kevin Barzegar director, who shall ensure that said request is reasonable and pertinent given the nature of the Complaint.

### 11. Implementation of Resolution Actions

Upon the conclusion of a Complaint, whether at Level One, Two or Three [or by External Resolution] the Resolution Action(s) settled upon shall require implementation in a timely manner. Responsibility for the implementation of Resolution Actions ultimately lies with the following [and may be delegated thereby, as appropriate]:

- 11.1 [Resolution Action pertaining to customer service shall be the responsibility of:
  - Kevin Barzegar director
- 11.2 Resolution Action pertaining to the behaviour and/or professional competence of our employees [agents] [subcontractors] shall be the responsibility of:
  - Kevin Barzegar director

#### 12. Confidentiality and Data Protection

- 12.1 All Complaints, Appeals, evidence and other information gathered, held and processed under this Complaints Handling Procedure shall be treated with the utmost confidence at all times. Such information may be shared with employees [agents] [subcontractors] of Kaybridge Residential only to the extent required to resolve the Complaint in question in accordance with this Complaints Handling Procedure.
- 12.2 In the event that the details of a Complaint are to be used for training or quality improvement purposes, in which case they will be shared with other employees [agents] [subcontractors] of Kaybridge Residential beyond the scope of this Complaints Handling Procedure, the relevant Customer's express permission must first be sought using that Customer's preferred contact method. Personal details (that is, anything that may be used to identify the Customer) shall be removed from all information so used. Such permission may be revoked at any time in accordance with the Customer's

- right to do so under Section 6.2 of our Customer Complaints Policy.
- 12.3 All personal information collected by Kaybridge Residential (including, but not limited to, Customers' names and contact details) shall only be collected, used and held in accordance with the provisions of UK data protection law (including but not limited to the UK GDPR, the Data Protection Act 2018, and the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2003) and Customers' rights thereunder, as set out in our Privacy Notice available from our website.

# 13. Procedure Review and Responsibility

- 13.1 Overall responsibility for this Complaints Handling Procedure and the implementation thereof lies with Kevin Barzegar director.
- 13.2 This Complaints Handling Procedure shall be reviewed regularly and shall be updated as required.