

# Financial services guide

## AXA Financial Planning

Version 10.0 October 2008

### Financial services guide

This guide contains information about:

- AXA Financial Planning
- Your financial adviser
- The financial planning services and products your financial adviser can provide
- How AXA Financial Planning, your financial adviser and other related parties are paid for the financial planning services provided to you
- Any associations or relationships that could create potential conflicts of interest
- Details of who to contact should you have a complaint

Please retain this document for your reference and any future dealings with AXA Financial Planning.

### Who is AXA Financial Planning?

AXA Financial Planning is wholly owned by the National Mutual Life Association of Australasia Ltd (NMLA) and is a member of the global AXA group (an international financial services organisation).

AXA Financial Planning is one of Australia's leading financial planning organisations and has been operating since 1996. AXA Financial Planning holds an Australian Financial Service Licence for providing both personal and general advice and can offer a range of financial services that are listed within this FSG.

AXA Financial Planning is a principal member of the Financial Planning Association (FPA) and as such, AXA Financial Planning and their financial advisers have adopted the FPA's Code of Ethics and rules of professional conduct.

AXA Financial Planning has approved the distribution of this FSG.

### Who is Daniel Brown?

Your financial adviser is Daniel Brown, who is an authorised representative of AXA Financial Planning.

Daniel has been granted an Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) number of 236239 and can offer a range of financial services that are listed within this financial services guide.

### Contact details

First Floor 187 Union St THE JUNCTION NSW 2291

Postal address: PO Box 15 THE JUNCTION NSW 2291

Telephone: 02 49695008

Facsimile: 02 49611495

Email address: [info@nfps.com.au](mailto:info@nfps.com.au)

Web page: [www.nfps.com.au](http://www.nfps.com.au)

### Education and qualifications

Diploma of Financial Services, Advanced Diploma of Financial Services, Authorised Representative of AXA Financial Planning, Justice of the Peace

### Experience

10 years financial services industry experience, 5 years associate of **Newcastle Financial Planning Services established since 1979**

### Certified quality advice practice



Newcastle Financial Planning Services is one of a select number of businesses that has been awarded Certified Quality Advice Practice status by AXA Financial Planning. This programme sets an industry benchmark for providing high-



quality financial advice. The certification is supported by industry qualification, demonstrated best practise business operations and proven success in meeting the financial planning needs of clients.

## What kinds of financial services and products are available?

We can offer a range of insurance, investment, superannuation and retirement strategies and products and AXA owned platforms (Summit, Generations, AXcess and North).

AXA Financial Planning maintains an approved product list, containing financial products that have been researched by a number of external research houses. A copy of the approved product list can be supplied to you upon request.

## What advice can Daniel Brown offer?

Daniel can provide you with advice on the following:

### Strategies

- Guidance on budgeting and goal setting
- Savings and wealth creation strategies
- Investment planning
- Superannuation planning
- Pre-retirement planning
- Retirement planning
- Estate planning considerations
- Centrelink planning
- Business succession planning
- Risk and insurance analysis
- Salary packaging advice
- Gearing strategy

### Products

- Cash management trusts
- Retirement income streams
- Direct fixed interest
- Retail & wholesale managed investment schemes
- Socially responsible investments
- Hedge funds
- Master trust products
- Superannuation products

- Personal and group insurance
- Business succession insurance
- Self managed super funds
- Geared products
- Direct shares

## What initial services are provided?

- Identification of your financial goals and objectives.
- Collection and analysis of your existing personal and financial situation.
- Investigation and consideration of possible financial planning strategies and products that will assist you to meet your goals and objectives.
- Presentation of a written recommendation, referred to as a 'statement of advice'.
- Implementation of your strategy.

## What ongoing services are provided?

- Revision of your personal and financial situation at suitable intervals.
- Discussion of whether our recommendations remain appropriate should your personal circumstances or the legislative environment change.
- Implementation of any recommendations made as part of our ongoing service to you.

## What do these services cost?

### All fees are payable to AXA Financial Planning.

Prior to the commencement of any of the above services, a service agreement will be provided which will outline the services you have requested and the payment method agreed upon. The available payment options are outlined below and may be paid with your own funds or deducted from your investment.

### Fee for Service

A Fee for Service may be payable for the provision of the following services:

- The collection and analysis of your personal and financial situation
- The consideration and investigation of financial planning strategies and financial products

Our findings will be detailed in a Statement of Position and Scope of Advice document that assists us to ensure the final Statement of Advice meets with your requirements.

We apply a fixed fee for this service depending upon the complexity of the matter as follows:

Single Matter	\$550
Detailed Matter	\$1,100
Comprehensive Matter	\$1,650 to \$2,750

A signed Service Agreement confirming the cost basis will be required before preparation.

A Fee for Service may also be payable for the provision of the following services:

- The preparation and construction of a Statement of Advice
- The implementation of the recommendations made in the Statement of Advice

The Fee for Service is calculated based on the greater of time spent on the preparation and implementation of the Statement of Advice you receive (Time Cost) or the amount of investment funds on which the advice is based (Asset Based). The hourly Rate (Time Cost) scale is as follows:

**Time Cost Fee**

Each team member has an applicable hourly rate as follows:

<i>Team Member</i>	<i>Hourly Rate</i>
Practice Principal/Financial Strategies	\$286
Certified Financial Planner	\$198
Authorised Representative/Paraplanner	\$132
Paraplanner Support Staff	\$ 99
Secretarial/File Management Services	\$ 66

**Asset Based Fee**

The Asset Based Fee is calculated using the following sliding scale and is based on a percentage of the size of the investment portfolio on which the advice is being given.

- 4.40% of the investment portfolio up to \$50,000
- 3.30% of the next \$50,000
- 2.75% of the next \$150,000
- 1.65% of the next \$500,000
- Above \$750,000 negotiable

**Review Fee**

A Review Fee may be payable to ensure the financial strategies and products remain appropriate to your needs. The Review Fee can be payable as a commission (a maximum of 1.65%) or as a fee for service based on the following scales, the greater to apply:

**Asset Based**

- 1.10% p.a of the first \$200,000

0.55% of the balance

**Time Cost Fee**

<i>Team Member</i>	<i>Hourly Rate</i>
Practice Principal/Financial Strategies	\$286
Certified Financial Planner	\$198
Authorised Representative/Paraplanner	\$132
Paraplanner Support Staff	\$ 99
Secretarial/File Management Services	\$ 66

Prior to the commencement of any review services, you will be provided with a Review Service Agreement, outlining the review services you have requested and the payment method agreed upon.

All fees and/or commissions charged will be fully detailed in the Statement of Advice you receive. All fees disclosed are inclusive of Goods and Services Tax.

**Commissions**

Initial and ongoing commissions may be paid by fund managers and life companies in association with product recommendations. These commissions may be as follows:

- Insurance commissions are factored into the premium costs and range between 11% and 125% of the initial premium, and between 0% and 40% per annum of the renewal premium.
- Ongoing commission is factored into the product costs for superannuation and investments and ranges between 0% and 0.80% per annum. It is generally calculated and paid based on the monthly investment balance.

**All applicable fees, commissions and/or brokerage will also be fully detailed in the statement of advice you receive. All fees disclosed are inclusive of Goods and Services Tax.**

**How will you pay for the services provided?**

AXA Financial Planning and your financial adviser can be paid by various methods.

Your financial adviser will discuss and agree upon the method of payment with you before any financial services are provided. In addition, where you receive personal advice, your statement of advice will outline all remuneration and other benefits associated with the advice provided.

**How is Daniel Brown paid?**

AXA Financial Planning will retain 0% to 3% of the gross revenue received for the recommended financial services and/or products. AXA Financial Planning will pay Daniel Brown 97% to 100% of the gross revenue received.

Daniel Brown is paid a salary and may also receive bonuses and other benefits.

## Other benefits

Some product providers may give AXA Financial Planning or your financial adviser non-commission benefits such as entertainment or sponsorship. Both AXA Financial Planning and your financial adviser maintain a register in line with industry standards to document any alternative forms of payment received. This register is publicly available and must be provided within 7 days of the request date.

Daniel Brown may receive the following benefits. These benefits are payable by AXA Financial Planning and are not an additional charge to you.

- Funding the cost of business equipment and training where net practice earnings exceed \$50,000 per annum. One point is earned per \$1.25 (inc GST) over \$50,000. For example, \$100,000 of net practice earnings equates to \$50,000 of qualifying earnings, which is divided by \$1.25 to produce 40,000 points. These points are multiplied by 0.008 cents to produce a benefit of \$320.
- AXA Financial Planning rewards Daniel Brown for operating a top 25 practice (based on revenue and their retention of the 'Certified Quality Advice Practice' status) by covering the cost of attending the national conference and provides financial planning software (total value of approximately \$15,000).
- We may recommend AXA products where appropriate, which helps to streamline the services that we provide to you. As a result, we are able to participate in the Value Participation Scheme (VPS), which provides us with a cash payment based on total AXA product funds under management.
- We may be entitled to receive a payment called a Preserved Value Payment of approximately \$2718 per fortnight. The qualifying criteria for the benefit is based on funds under management, the value of the total new funds invested and/or insurance premiums paid into AXA products.
- We may participate in short term incentive programmes. For example, a product provider may offer additional commissions for a specified period. Due to the temporary nature of these arrangements they have not been included in this document. Details of any short term incentives will be outlined in the fee disclosure section of your statement of advice.
- You may be referred to an external service provider to assist you in specialist areas. We may receive a referral fee or commission for introducing you to the service provider. These fees will be disclosed in your statement of advice.

## Payments to other professionals

If a third party referred you to us we may forward referral payments or commissions to the third party. These amounts do not involve additional costs and will be disclosed in your statement of advice.

## Does AXA Financial Planning have any relationships or associations with financial product issuers?

Your financial adviser can provide advice on products from a wide range of financial product providers, some of which are part of the global AXA group and as such are affiliated with AXA Financial Planning, including:

- The National Mutual Life Association of Australasia Ltd (AXA & AC&L)
- National Mutual Funds Management Limited
- NMMT Ltd - (Summit, Generations & AXcess)
- N.M. Superannuation Pty Limited (Summit, Generations & North)
- Alliance Capital Management Australia Limited
- ipac asset management limited
- AllianceBernstein Australia Limited
- AXA Rosenberg Investment Management Asia Pacific Limited

## What information should you provide to receive personalised advice?

Your financial adviser will complete a client questionnaire with you, which will record your personal objectives, lifestyle goals, details of your current financial situation and any relevant information. The information obtained will be assessed by your financial adviser to assist them in providing appropriate advice.

You have the right to withhold personal information, but this may compromise the effectiveness of the advice you receive.

You should read any warnings contained in the client questionnaire and statement of advice carefully before making any decision relating to a financial strategy or product.

## How can you give instructions to your financial adviser about your financial products?

You can contact your financial adviser directly with any instructions relating to your financial products.

## What information is maintained in your file and can you examine the client file?

Your financial adviser will maintain a record of your personal information including details of your objectives and financial situation. Your financial adviser will also maintain a record of any recommendations made to you. If you wish to examine your file please ask your financial adviser and they will make arrangements for you to do so.

## Who may access the information you provide?

AXA Financial Planning and your financial adviser are committed to implementing and promoting a privacy policy, which will ensure the privacy and security of your personal information. Please ask your financial adviser if you wish to obtain a copy of the privacy policy.

It is important to note that in order to best meet your needs and provide you with financial services and advice, your financial adviser may need to disclose your personal information to other parties. Typically these parties may include fund managers, life companies, related entities and other licensees. Similarly your financial adviser may bring to your attention products and services or other information which may be relevant to your situation. You will be given the opportunity to choose whether you wish to receive such information.

AXA Financial Planning reserves the right to appoint another financial adviser to ensure your ongoing needs are met. In these circumstances AXA Financial Planning will write to you advising you of the change.

## What other documents might you receive?

You may also receive the following documents, designed to help you make an informed decision on any financial strategy or recommended product.

### Statement of advice (SoA)

All personal advice provided to you will be outlined in an SoA. The SoA will contain personal advice, the basis on which it is given, details of fees, commissions and information on relevant associations. The SoA is used for initial advice and any subsequent advice may be provided in the form of a record of advice, a statement of additional advice or another form of advice documentation.

### Product Disclosure Statement (PDS)

You will receive a PDS if your financial adviser has provided advice on a particular product. A PDS will contain the key features of the financial product, significant risks and benefits, and fees associated with the financial product.

## Professional indemnity insurance

AXA Financial Planning and your financial adviser maintain professional indemnity (PI) insurance policies. These insurances cover advice, actions and recommendations which have been authorised by AXA Financial Planning to be provided by your adviser. These arrangements satisfy the requirements imposed by the Corporations Act 2001 and financial services regulations.

## What should you do if you have a complaint?

If you have any complaints about the services provided to you, or personal information held, you should take the following steps:

1. Contact your financial adviser and tell them about your complaint.
2. If your complaint is not satisfactorily resolved within 3 days, please contact the AXA Financial Planning office on 137 292 or put your complaint in writing and send it to:

AXA Financial Planning  
Attention: Advice and Licensing  
Level 9, 750 Collins Street  
DOCKLANDS VIC 3008

AXA Financial Planning will try to resolve your complaint quickly and fairly.

3. If your complaint has not been resolved by AXA Financial Planning, you may escalate your complaint to one of the External Complaints Schemes listed in the following table, of which AXA Financial Planning is a member.

Type of complaint	External complaints service
Financial advice, investments, superannuation or insurance matters	Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) on 1300 780 808
Personal information held	The Privacy Commissioner on 1300 363 992
The Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) may be contacted on 1300 300 630 to find out which body may best assist you in settling your complaint.	