

Insurance Law 2024

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Colour Coding Guide

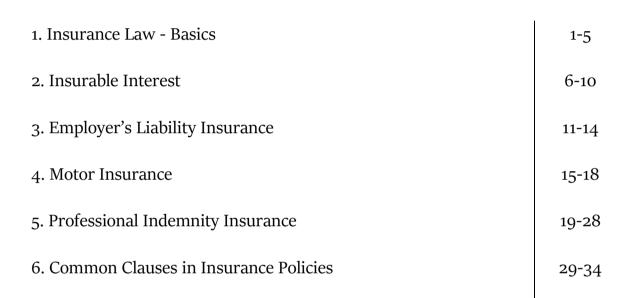
- ♦ Blue Text Reference to statutes and case law.
- ❖ Green Text Reference to textbook¹ paragraphs, workshop tasks² and other notes in this guide.
- ♦ Orange Text CPR and pre-action protocol references.
- ❖ Purple Text Reference to Professional Conduct Rules or Principles.

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¹ Textbook references are to the CLP Legal Practice Guides by CLP Publishing.

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1. Introduction to Insurance Law and Specialist Cases



<u>Insurance Law - Basics</u>

❖ Birds' Modern Insurance Law; Chapter 3

Nature of	❖ In simple terms	, an insurance policy is a contract between an insured (the person	
Insurance	who purchases the insurance) and an insurer.		
Law	who purchases the insurance) and an insurer.		
<u> </u>	However, contra	acts of insurance have a number of distinct legal principles which may	
	arise through statute (such as the <u>Insurance Act 2015</u>), and case law. Whilst every		
	insurance contract is individual, the insurance industry has a tendency to use fairly		
		nents, meaning many of the principles in the case law can be of a	
	general applicat		
Types of	First and third-	❖ Insurance policies may be described as "first party", or "third	
<u>Insurance</u>	party insurance	party".	
		❖ First party insurance is when someone protects <i>themselves</i> , or	
		something <i>they own</i> (for example, they insure their own life,	
		house, factory, or car, etc).	
		❖ Third-party insurance is where someone insures against their	
		potential liability in law to pay compensation to another.	
		Some third-party insurances are compulsory (e.g., motorists	
		must carry at least third-party motor insurance).	
	Life Insurance,	❖ Life insurance is different to other insurances because the	
	and other	fundamental subject matter (death) is certain, whereas other	
	insurances.	insurances are concerned with <u>uncertain</u> risk.	
		Life insurance is concerned with the uncertainty as to <u>when</u>	
		death will occur, and are contracts for contingency insurance,	
		meaning they pay an agreed sum of money when the event	
		insured against occurs.	
		A Non-life in common constructe and gon anally in domanity contracts	
		Non-life insurance contracts are generally indemnity contracts , meaning they pay a sum of money equivalent to the loss	
		suffered if it is <u>actually suffered by the insured.</u>	
		suffered if it is actuary suffered by the insured.	
		❖ Note: life insurance is not covered in detail on the LPC.	
Terminology	Insurance /	* "Insurance" and "assurance" mean the same thing, as do	
<u> </u>	assurance /	"insurance" and "insured".	
	insured /	mounted and mounted.	
	assured	❖ We may also refer to the "insured" as a "policyholder".	
	Insurers	The insurer is the party that underwrites the insurance risk, and	
		undertakes, contractually, to pay a sum in respect of a claim that	
		falls within the policy's terms.	
		❖ Insurers must be:	
		A <u>company</u> ;	
		An industrial and provident society; or	

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		A body corporate established by charter or Act of Parliament.
	Underwriters	An underwriter is a party, usually an employee (or department of employees) within an insurer, that evaluates and assumes another party's risk ; i.e., they decide whether the insurer should write the risk, and the premium that is charged.
	Insurance brokers.	 ❖ Insurance brokers are professional intermediaries. They act (generally) as the agent of the insured in finding them the right policy and assist them in managing and making a claim. ❖ Insurance brokers are regulated by the ECA.
	<u>Insurance</u>	 Insurance brokers are regulated by the FCA. The insurance industry makes considerable use of agents who act
	intermediaries.	as "go-betweens" between an insurer and an insured.
		An insurance broker is an example of a type of insurance intermediary.
	Premium	An insurance premium is the <u>sum of money that an insured</u> <u>pays to the insurer</u> , in return for which the insurer assumes the risk of covering the insured for risks under the policy.
	Lloyd's of London	❖ Lloyd's of London is an insurance and reinsurance marketplace. It is not an insurer itself.
		 It is a society of members; that is, it is the members who actually write the insurance. The Corporation of Lloyd's is responsible for managing the Lloyd's marketplace, providing facilities for the conduct of its member's business, and regulating the market.
		 ❖ It operates its own distinct practices largely due to historical reasons. For instance: ➢ Insurance can only be placed on the Lloyd's market by Lloyd's approved brokers, and written by Lloyd's underwriters.
		 Underwriters write risks as syndicates, i.e., in groups. Risks are presented to underwriters by the brokers on a document known as a "slip", on which the underwriters will signify the percentage of risk that they are willing to take, and on what terms.
	<u>Reinsurance</u>	Reinsurance is the practice of "insuring again" ; i.e., it is where an insurer (the reinsured) agrees with another insurer (the reinsurer) that the reinsurer will cover a particular risk(s) (in whole or in part) that the reinsured has written, in the event of a claim. In other words, it is when an insurer gets insured themselves.

❖ In doing so, the reinsured transfers all or part of the risk to the
reinsurer, and protects itself against the risk of the primary
insurance.

Definition of Insurance

- ❖ It is important to define what is meant by "insurance" for the following reasos:
 - ➤ The business of <u>"insurance" is closely regulated</u>.
 - ➤ Contracts of insurance are **subject to particular rules and doctrines**, such as the doctrine of utmost good faith.
 - Certain **statutory provisions** (such as the <u>Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977</u>, and the <u>Consumer Insurance (Disclosure and Representations) Act 2012</u>) have provisions which apply to "contracts of insurance".
- ❖ An insurance contract is any contract:
 - > Which has as its principal object:
 - One party (the insurer) assuming the risk of an uncertain event;
 - Which is **not within its control**;
 - Happening at a future time;
 - In which event the other party (the insured) has an interest;
 - And under which contract, the insurer is **bound to pay money or provide its equivalent if the uncertain event occurs.**
- Therefore, there must be:

A binding	The insurer must be legally bound to compensate the other	
contract.	party.	
	• Alimatina and a discount for the LD C . It is	
	A discretionary contract is not enough (<u>Medical Defence Union v</u>	
Uncertainty.	Department of Trade [1979] 2 All E.R 421). ❖ In most instances, there must be a possibility (and not a	
Oncertainty.	guarantee) that a future event may or may not occur.	
<u>An insurable</u>	❖ The insured must have <u>some sort of interest in the subject</u>	
interest.	matter of the insurance.	
	 In broad terms, the insured must have an interest which means they gain a benefit from the preservation of the subject matter of the insurance, or suffer a disadvantage should it be lost. See notes on <i>Insurable Interest</i>. 	
An event	❖ The insured event must be outside of the control of the insured.	
<u>insured</u>		
against which	This distinguishes an insurance contract from a guarantee of	
is outside the	performance.	
control of the		
<u>party</u>		

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	assuming the	
	<u>risk.</u>	
	Provision of	❖ An insurance contract can involve a promise of money's worth.
	money, or	A. To be and a second of control
	something of	❖ It is not necessary for the insurer to undertake to pay <i>money</i>
	money's	specifically, if something other than money is enough (<u>Department</u>
	worth.	of Trade and Industry v St Christopher's Motorists' Association Ltd
	There must be	[1974] 1 All E.R. 395). ❖ It may also arguably be necessary for there must be a clearly
	a premium,	stipulated premium and policy (Hampton v Toxteth Co-operative
	and a policy.	Society [1915] 1 Ch. 721).
	and a poncy.	<u> </u>
		❖ However, this requirement is thought to be less necessary in
		modern times (as this suggests that a contract with less formality
		(i.e., no premium, and no policy, would ensure the contract
		escapes regulatory oversight).
Consumer vs	Consumer inst	rance is generally subject to stricter regulation than non-consumer
Non-		virtue of, in particular:
Consumer		
<u>Insurance</u>	> The Ins	surance Conduct of Business Sourcebook (ICOBS): this sets down
	statuto	ry duties on insurers and insurance intermediaries, and generally sets
	stricte	conditions for consumer contracts (for instance, an insurer who enters
	into a contract with a consumer must ensure that any written term of contract	
	is transparent, expressed in plain and intelligible language, and legible).	
	The Consumer Insurance (Disclosure and Representations) Act 2012 and the	
		nce Act 2015.
<u>The</u>		Ombudsman Service (FOS) provides a free complaints settlement
<u>Financial</u>	-	ng disputes between consumers and financial institutions within its
<u>Ombudsman</u>	jurisdiction.	
<u>Service</u>	• El E001 "	
		compulsory jurisdiction" for complaints relating to insurance contacts,
		nplaint must be dealt with under the FOS scheme, providing certain
	conditions app	ny.
	Eligible comple	ainants include:
	➤ Individ	
		pusinesses;
	> Chariti	·
	Some t	
		s for whose benefit an insurance contract was taken out;
		on on whom the legal right to benefit from a claim has been devolved
	=	potentially includes persons who obtain an insured's rights as against
		nsurer when the insured becomes insolvent under the <u>Third Parties</u>
		s Against Insurers) Acts 1930, or 2010).
	<u> </u>	
	The FOS inves	tigates complaints based on what is "fair and reasonable in all the
	circumstances	of the case", considering relevant law, regulations, codes, guidance,
	and industry	practice.

- ❖ Where the FOS determines a complaint, the FOS can make a compensatory award up to an upper limit of £390,000, though the FOS can "recommend" that the respondent pay more if they consider that fair compensation requires this.
- ❖ Complainants have the **choice to accept the award, or reject it,** in which case the complainant will have to **bring a civil claim** for damages should they wish to recover.
- ❖ The FOS can also award **costs** that are reasonably incurred by the complainant.

Insurable Interest

❖ Birds' Modern Insurance Law; Chapter 3

What is an insurable interest?

Insurance

Law: 3-01

Birds' Modern

- For a contract of insurance to be valid, the insured must have an "insurable interest".
- ❖ In other words, the insured must have **some sort of interest** (such as a legal interest, beneficial interest, or right to use and enjoyment) **in the subject matter** of the insurance policy.
- ❖ In general, an insured will have an insurable interest if they either:
 - Gain a benefit from the preservation of the subject matter of the insurance; or
 - Suffer a disadvantage should it be lost.

What happens if the insured does not have an insurable interest?

Birds' Modern Insurance Law; 3-02

- ❖ If the insured **does not have an insurable interest**, the contract may be:
 - ➤ **Illegal** (this is the position with regards to life policies and policies providing for the payment of fixed sums in the event of personal injury (<u>Life Assurance Act</u> 1774).
 - ➤ **Void** (this is the position with regards to marine policies (<u>s4, Marine Insurance Act 1906</u>); or
 - <u>Unenforceable</u>;
- ❖ Which of these options applies depends on the type of insurance, however the practical effect is the same: insured <u>will not be able to claim</u> under the policy.
- ❖ For policies on goods, there is no statutory requirement of insurable interest (s4 <u>Life Assurance Act 1774</u> explicitly excludes these). However, an insurable interest is still normally <u>implied into all contracts of indemnity</u>.

Implied term.

- ❖ A requirement for an insurable interest <u>will normally be implied</u> as a term of all indemnity insurance contracts as a result of the "principle of indemnity".
- This provides that the insurance contract will only compensate the insured for any damage, loss or injury caused up <u>to the extent of the</u> <u>loss incurred</u>.
- This means that the insured cannot profit from the policy, and **cannot claim a loss in which they have no interest.** The effect of this is that all indemnity policies, arguably, have an implied **contractual term** that the insurer will only be liable **to the extent of any insurable interest** that the insured has.

Insurable Interests and Specific Types of Insurance

<u>Overview</u>

❖ When an insured <u>will have an insurable interest</u> varies depending on the type of insurance policy in question.

Life insurance policies in business relationships.

Life insurance policies may be taken out in the context of a business relationship. This may occur, for instance:

- Where **creditors** insure the lives of their **debtors**;
- Where **employers** insure the lives of their **employees**; or
- ➤ Where **partners** insure the lives of **other partners**.

Birds' Modern Insurance Law; 3-08

- ❖ In such circumstances, the **amount of the insurable interest** is limited to **the pecuniary interest of the insured** at the time the policy is taken out.
- ❖ In other words, it is limited to the extent of the insured's <u>financial interest at the time the policy is entered into</u>. It will <u>not</u> cover the loss of, for instance, <u>purely gratuitous promises</u> or payments.

<u>Hebdon v</u> <u>West (1863) 3</u> <u>B. & S. 579</u>

- \clubsuit Hebdon was a bank clerk. He had an employment contract, for seven years, which paid a salary of £600 per annum. The bank also lent him £4,700. The managing partner, Pedder, promised Hebdon that that debt need not be repaid during Pedder's lifetime.
- Hebdon insured Pedder's life through two insurance companies (the idea being that, in the event that Pedder died, Hebdon would receive a payment to cover his salary for the remainder of the contract, as well as a payment to cover the debt that would become due).
- ❖ When Pedder died, Hebdon received £5,000 from the first policy, but the second insurer refused the claim on the basis that Hebdon's pecuniary interest in Pedder's life had already been met. Hebdon sued the second insurer.
- The second insurer argued that Hebdon's insurable interest in the life of his employer was limited £4,200, because Hebdon stood to lose this amount (£600 x 7 years) when the employer died. The agreement not to enforce the loan during Pedder's lifetime was, the second insurer argued, not a binding contract and could not create an insurable interest.
- The Court agreed. The court held that Pedder's promise not to call
 in the debt was gratuitous and non-enforceable. Hebdon's insurable interest was limited to the pecuniary interest in the life
 of Pedder at the time he effected the policy, which had already
 <a href="been satisfied by the pay-out under first policy. Hebdon therefore lacked the required insurable interest to enforce the second policy.

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- ❖ The court's interpretation of <u>s3 Life Assurance Act 1774</u> treated a life insurance policy as a <u>contract of indemnity</u>, but with the extent of the insurable interest being calculated <u>at the time the policy was created</u>, <u>rather than at the time of the loss</u>.
- ❖ In modern times, a strict valuation of the insured interest based on the terms of the employment contract, particularly when considering consequential losses related to the death of an employee, is unlikely. However, the requirement remains that the insured must have an interest in the life insured, and the extent of their recovery will be limited to the value of that interest.

Property Insurance

The insured must normally have an insurable interest in property at <u>both</u>:

- The date of the contract; and
- The date of loss.

Birds' Modern Insurance Law; 3-13

- To have an insurable interest, the insured must have:
 - A proprietary right;
 - That is, a right either in the property (a legal or equitable interest), or derivable out of a contract about the property);
 - Which is lost in the event that a contingency affects the insured's possession or enjoyment of the property.
 - Lucena v Craufurd (1806) 2 B. & P.N.R. 269
- ❖ In the context of *Lucena*, captured enemy ships were insured whilst they were still at sea. A number of the ships were lost before reaching British ports. The House of Lords held that the British Commissioners who insured the ships were only empowered to take charge of them when they had reached British ports. This meant that, at the time the ships were lost, the Commissioners had no proprietary right to the ships, and hence no insurable interest.

A mere	❖ It is not sufficient for the insured to have had an expectation of
<u>"expectation"</u>	<u>loss</u> arising from the circumstances surrounding a particular
<u>is not</u>	event. They <u>must</u> have a <u>proprietary right</u> to the property in
enough.	question.
Trust	❖ <i>A remainderman</i> <u>will</u> have an insurable interest providing <u>their</u>
Property	interest is vested.
	❖ In other words, a beneficiary who is entitled to the capital after another beneficiary, who is entitled to the income, ceases to be so entitled, will have an insurable interest <u>providing they do not</u> <u>have to meet any conditions for the interest to take effect.</u>
	❖ If the beneficiary has only a <u>contingent</u> interest (that is, they must satisfy some condition before they become entitled to the trust property, for example, reaching the age of 25), they will <u>not have</u> an insurable interest.

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		Similarly, a <u>beneficiary of property under a will</u> does <u>not</u> have an insurable interest whilst the testator is still alive.
	_	
	<u>Company</u>	❖ A shareholder has no insurable interest in a company's
	property.	property ; the company is a separate legal person and therefore the
		proprietary interest belongs to the company (<u>Macaura v Northern</u>
		Assurance Co Ltd [1925] A.C. 619).
		7155drance Co Dia [1925] 71.0. 019).
		.
		❖ However, a shareholder can insure <i>their shares</i> against loss of
		value due to a company's failure
		❖ A creditor does not have an insurable interest in property where
		there is no proprietary security interest (such as a mortgage, or
		charge). However, a creditor may <u>insure against their debtor's</u>
		<u>insolvency.</u>
	<u>Possession</u>	❖ Mere <u>possession</u> of property is <u>not enough to establish insurable</u>
	alone is not	<u>interest.</u>
	enough.	
	o o	❖ If property is standing on the insured's land , this alone is not
		sufficient to give the insured an insurable interest if they do not
		have a right of enjoyment (beneficial interest) or legal liability in
		respect of it.
		❖ However, <i>possession with legal liability</i> for a specific purpose
		does give rise to an insurable interest. Therefore a "bailiee",
		(someone to whom goods belonging to another are delivered for a
		specific purpose, such as repair), may have an insurable interest.
	<u>Co-habitants</u>	❖ A <u>non-owner</u> of property will only have an insurable interest if
		they have <u>shared possession or use</u> of the property.
		So, for example, a husband will not have insurable interest in his
		wife's jewellery if he does not have ownership or possession of
		it.
	Limited	 The following interests in property are sufficient to support an
	interests in	insurable interest:
	property that	Mortgagor and mortgagee;
	give rise to an	Vendor and purchaser;
	<u>insurable</u>	Landlord and tenant;
	interest.	Trustee and beneficiary.
		❖ The extent of the insurable interest depends on the value of the
		insured's interest at the time of the loss. The insured can only
		-
		recover sufficient value to indemnify themselves. So:
		A weekly tenant with no obligation to insure or repair
		will be limited to recovering up to four weeks' rent for a
		dwelling house.
		A tenant with a <i>fixed-term lease</i> who is liable to pay full
		rent regardless of property destruction: will be limited
		to recovering the extent of their obligation to pay the rent.

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	➤ <u>A tenant with obligation to insure or repair</u> : will be limited to recovering the full value of the property.
	A landlord (reversioner): will be limited to recovering full value of the property, even when the tenant is liable for repair, due to the risk of tenant non-compliance.
	➤ <u>A mortgagee:</u> will be limited to recovering the value of the outstanding debt.
	A vendor of land: a vendor may recover nothing if they can still enforce the contract of sale against their purchaser.
	An insured with an expectancy based on proprietary interest (e.g., expected profits): consequential losses must be insured separately, as typical property indemnity policies do not cover these.
<u>Insurable</u>	❖ The concept of an insurable interest is largely irrelevant to <i>liability insurances</i> .
Interests in	

Insurable Interests in Liability Insurances

❖ These are policies which insure the **insured's potential legal liability** to a third party, whether in contract or tort.

Birds' Modern Insurance Law; 3-13 ❖ This is because *anyone* will have an **insurable interest in their own potential legal liability.**

Waiver of Insurable Interest

❖ Birds' Modern Insurance Law; 3-23

Can the	❖ In principle, the requirement of an insurable interest <u>can be waived</u> .
requirement	
that the	❖ This is because, for indemnity insurances, the requirement arises as an <i>implied</i>
insured must	contractual term which does not have a statutory basis. There is nothing to stop
have an	this requirement from being waived by the insurer.
<u>insurable</u>	
<u>interest be</u>	❖ This means that if the insurer provides a contractual undertaking to pay a
waived?	particular loss, this may become payable notwithstanding the fact that the Insured
	does not have an insurable interest in it (<u>Prudential Staff Union v Hall [1947] K.B.</u>
	<u>685</u>).

Employer's Liability Insurance

❖ Birds' Modern Insurance Law, Chapter 22

What is Employer's Liability Insurance? Birds' Modern Insurance Law, 22-02 Compulsory insurance Birds' Modern Insurance Law,	their legal liabidisease as a residuate their legal liabidisease as a residuate the liabidisea	pility insurance protects employers from financial losses arising from lity to pay compensation to employees who suffer bodily injury or esult of their employment. The protects employer is liability insurance (\$1(1)\$ The bility (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969 (ELCI 1969)). The include liability for: Injury or disease;
22-02		 ★ The employer must insure against disease caused during the period of the policy, even if the disease manifests later (BAI (Run-Off) Ltd v Durham [2012] UKSC 14). ★ An "employee" is defined by \$2 ELCI 1969 as anyone who works: Under a contract of service or apprenticeship; Whether express or implied, written or oral. ★ Thus, this excludes any obligation to insure against liability to the self-employed, who work under a contract for services. ★ The accident must arise "in the course of employment". ★ That is, it must arise when the employee is "doing what a man so employed may reasonably do within a time during which he is employed, and at a place where he may reasonably be during that time to do that thing" (Moore v Manchester Liners Ltd [1910] A.C. 498). ★ Traveling to and from work is not "in the course of employment" unless it is required by the terms of employment (Vandyke v Fender [1970] 2 Q.B. 292). ★ Travelling for work purposes, whilst at work, may be done in the course of employment (Paterson v Costain & Press (Overseas) Ltd [1979] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 204).

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		 ❖ The location of the accident is not conclusive; if an employee is at work but conducting matters which are merely reasonably incidental to the employment (such as playing football for a work team at the employer's sports' ground), this will not necessarily be covered (R. v National Insurance Commissioner Exp. Michael [1977] 1 W.L.R. 109). ❖ An insurer's liability is not limited to the start and end time of the employee's shift; they are likely to be liable for accidents which occur within a reasonable time period before and after work (R. v National Insurance Commissioner Exp. East [1976] I.E. 206)
		npulsory for the employer to insure against property belonging to which is lost or damaged by the employer's negligence.
Exceptions Birds' Modern Insurance Law, 22-07	 Certain loca 	l government councils, nationalised industries, and public bodies, are m the requirement to insure (s3 ELCI 1969).
Minimum Amount of Cover Birds' Modern Insurance Law, 22-06	• This means	must be insured for a minimum of £5 million in the aggregate for any ence, including costs and expenses. that one claim can exhaust the policy limit and any further claims may be be be adequately.
Scope of Cover in Mesothelioma Cases	period of ex for the who However, th	elioma case, if an employer did not have insurance throughout the entire posure to asbestos, any insurer covering part of the period will be liable le damages awarded. ey can claim contribution from other insurers or the employer for nout coverage (Zurich Insurance Plc v International Energy Group Ltd C 33).
Prohibited Conditions Birds' Modern	❖ The insuran ELCI 1969).	ce must be under an " <u>approved policy</u> " with an authorised insurer (<u>s1(1)</u>). This means that the policy must not be "subject to any conditions or <u>prohibited</u> for these purposes by regulations" (<u>s1(3)</u>).
Insurance Law, 22-05	The conditions.	There are four "prohibited conditions" specified by Regulation 2 of the ELCI Regulations: Any condition which allows the insurer to reject the claim
		 Any condition which allows the insurer to reject the claim because some specified thing is done or not done <u>after the</u> <u>happening of the event giving rise to a claim.</u> This prohibits, for example, the insurer rejecting a claim due to the insured failing to comply with

¹ Reg 3(1), Employers' Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Regulations 1998 (SI 1998/2573) (ELCI Regulations).

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obligations relating to the **notification and handling of claims.**

- Any condition allowing the insurer to reject the claim where the policyholder <u>does not take reasonable care to protect</u> <u>their employees against the risk of bodily injury</u> or disease in the course of their employment.
 - To allow an insurer to exclude such liability would render the whole purpose of employers' liability insurance pointless.
- Any condition allowing the insurer to reject the claim where the policyholder fails to comply with the requirements of any enactment for the protection of employees against the risk of bodily injury or disease in the course of their employment.
- Any condition specifying that the insurer may reject the claim where the policyholder <u>does not keep specified records</u> or <u>fails to provide the insurer</u> with or make available to him information from such records.
- The purpose of these prohibited conditions is to ensure that an <u>employee</u> is not deprived of an indemnity simply because of the <u>employer's</u> failure to comply with the relevant policy terms.
- ❖ If an employer fails to comply with any of the above conditions, the insurer will not be entitled to reject the claim. However, the insurer may recoup the amount paid to the employee from the insured employer (Regulation 2(3), ELCI Regulations)².
- Note that there are <u>no</u> restrictions on an insurer being able to <u>avoid liability</u> for a breach of the duty of fair presentation, or breach of warranty.

Subrogated Recoveries

- Employer's liability insurers take the general view that where an employee's negligence is covered by insurance, the court is likely to hold that it would be inequitable for the employer to seek recovery from the employee who is responsible for the accident.
- This general view arises from the case of <u>Morris v Ford Motor Co [1973] Q.B. 792</u>. See notes on <u>Subrogated Recoveries</u> for more detail on this.
- As such, members of the British Insurance Association and Lloyd's have agreed to generally **not pursue a negligent employee** for a recovery in an employer's liability claim.

² Relevant to Workshop 3, Workshop Task 3

An insurer who provides employers' liability insurance must **issue a certificate in a Displaying** proof of **prescribed form**, no later than 30 days after the day on which the insurance insurance. commences or is renewed (<u>\$4(1)</u>, <u>ELCI 1969</u> and <u>Sch 1 and Reg 4(2)</u>, <u>ELCI</u> Regulations). Birds' Modern *Insurance Law,* The insured employer must display and make available for inspection easily legible copies of this certificate at each place of business. 22-08 ❖ The certificate must be kept **on display until the date of expiry**, or until termination of the relevant policy ($\frac{\text{reg }5(3)}{3}$). These certificates <u>may be subject to inspection by inspectors authorised by the</u> Secretary of State. ❖ If an employer <u>fails to display an insurance certificate</u>, it may be liable to pay a fine of up to £1,000 ($\underline{$4(3)$}$ ELCI 1969 and $\underline{$37$}$ Criminal Justice Act 1982). ❖ It is a **<u>criminal offence</u>** for an employer to not hold the required compulsory **What** happens if an insurance, for which they may be fined up to £2,500 (\$5 ELCI 1969). employer does not have ❖ However, the courts have <u>rejected</u> the argument that, in addition to criminal penalties, an **employer should also be liable for the loss** that the employee has suffered as a compulsory insurance as result of the employers' failure to insure (namely, the inability to recover damages required? from the employer). ❖ The directors of the company are NOT personally liable in tort for breach of statutory Birds' Modern Insurance Law, duty (Campbell v Gordon [2016] UKSC 38). 22-08 **Criticisms** ❖ The criticisms of employer's liability insurance are that: and Lack of There is **no mechanism** whereby the injured employee can recover **directly** Protection from the insurer. Birds' Modern There are **no restrictions** on the right of the insurer to avoid liability, or the policy for breach of the duty of fair presentation or breach of warranty. Insurance Law, 22-08 The directors of a company that has failed to insure are **not personally liable** in tort for breach of statutory duty. If an employer is not insured, or not effectively insured, there is **no equivalent** of the Motor Insurers' Bureau, which operates a compensation scheme for drivers who are involved in an accident caused by an uninsured driver.

<u>Overview</u>

Motor Insurance

❖ Birds' Modern Insurance Law; 21-01

	❖ Its main use is to ensure that funds are available to third party victims of physical damage or bodily injury which result from a road traffic collision.	
	❖ Additionally, motor insurance may offer the policyholder protection against damage or	
	theft to their own vehicle or person.	
Compulsory	❖ The law requires anyone who:	
Insurance	 Uses, or causes or permits another to use a motor vehicle; 	
msurance	 On a road or other public place; 	
Birds'	To be insured against liability to pay damages for:	
Modern	Death or bodily injury; or	
<u>Insurance</u>	Property damage;	
<u>Law; 21-01</u>	Caused by or arising out of the use of the vehicle.	
<u>Edv., 21 01</u>	caused by of arising out of the use of the ventere.	
	❖ This is commonly referred to as "third-party" insurance; that is, the insurance covers	
	the cost of damage to someone else's property or person.	
Features of	❖ Motor policies are conventionally sold under labels such as:	
Motor	 "Comprehensive": this covers first-party property damage, injury, and personal 	
Insurance	effects (i.e., damage to the <i>insured's</i> person, property, etc.).	
Policies Policies	carrotte (area, amenage of and area persons, property).	
	"Third-party, fire and theft": this covers third-party liability and vehicle losses	
Birds'	caused by fire or theft.	
Modern		
<u>Insurance</u>	❖ These categories do not, however, have any legal significance by themselves. They are	
Law; 21-01	merely labels which describe the scope of cover.	
	❖ Policies may cover:	
	Named others or anyone driving the car with the insured's permission;	
	The insured driving other vehicles ;	
	Different <u>categories of use</u> , such as "social, domestic and pleasure purposes" and "business purposes", which places <u>limits on the use that the vehicle can be put to whilst remaining covered.</u>	

Motor insurance is **insurance for a road vehicle**.

Common Terms and Exceptions

Birds'
Modern
Insurance
Law; 21-08

Standard Extensions

Birds'

Modern

<u>Insurance</u>

Law: 21-09

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- Motor policies often insure people other than the insured or policyholder.
- **...** The policy may insure, for instance:
 - ➤ The policyholder's **spouse**;

***** Motor policies will **commonly include the following terms and exceptions**:

Named drivers, or a drivers identified by a class; or

© LPC Buddy	➤ Anyone driving the vehicle with the insured's permission.
	7 Imyone univing the venicle with the moureu o permission.
	* Where a policy names a third party, that third party can enforce the
	contract directly, on the basis of either:
	➤ <u>s148(7) Road Traffic Act 1988</u> : this provides that "a person issuing a policy of insurance under section 145 of this Act shall be <u>liable to indemnify the persons or classes of persons</u> <u>specified in the policy</u> in respect of any liability which the policy purports to cover in the case of those persons or classes of person.
	Or, the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.
Permitted Drivers	As stated above, it is common for motor insurance policies to allow the insured to give permission to a third party to drive the car.
Birds' Modern Insurance Law; 21-10	❖ It is likely that a permitted driver cannot themselves give permission to another without the insured's direct consent (Sands v O'Connell [1981] R.T.R. 42).
	❖ If the <u>insured</u> is injured by the negligence of the permitted driver, the <u>insured can become a third party and recover on their own policy</u> . The insurers will be liable to indemnify <u>the driver</u> in respect of their liability <u>to the insured</u> (<u>Digby v General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corp [1943] A.C. 212</u>).
	❖ Permission may be <u>expressly or impliedly limited to a specific class</u> <u>of use</u> (for example, if the permitted driver is given consent to use the car for <u>social use</u> , but they use the car for a <u>business purpose</u> , the insurer may not cover them) (<u>Singh v Ratour [1988] 2 All E.R. 16</u>).
	❖ Once given, permission can be <u>revoked</u> ; however, in the absence of revocation, permission continues <u>even</u> if the <u>insured dies</u> (<u>Kelly v</u> <u>Cornhill Insurance Co [1964] 1 All E.R. 321</u>). The suggestion from this case is that revocation is only effective when <u>communicated</u> from the insured, to the person given permission.
	❖ Note that a car purchaser cannot drive with the former owner's permission unless insurers expressly consent .
Limitation	
on Use	
on Use Birds' Modern Insurance	 This can include, for instance: Social, domestic, pleasure purposes;

 \blacktriangleright Use by the insured in person, or by others, *in connection with*

<u>a business.</u>

- The distinctions between these categories can be difficult to apply. The courts will attempt to identify the "essential character" or "primary purpose" of the journey, however the courts also acknowledge that there will be cases in which the insured's use falls either side of the line, and it is impossible to state any firm principle under which it can be predicted on which side of the line a particular case will fall (Seddon v Binions [1978] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 381).
- ❖ Where a car is used for a <u>mixed-purpose</u>, the policy will <u>not apply if</u> <u>one of the uses is an unauthorised purpose</u> (<u>Seddon v Binions</u> [1978] <u>1 Lloyd's Rep. 381</u>).
- ❖ Insurers may also exclude driving for motor trade purposes; which may present issues where the car is being driven for the purposes of a repair. Insurers may qualify such an exception to provide that cover is provided where the vehicle is in the custody of a motor trader for repair purposes.

Terms
Regarding
the
Condition
of the
Insured
Vehicle

- ❖ Motor policies generally state that the insurer will not be liable if:
 - The insured vehicle is <u>driven in an "unsafe or unroadworthy</u> <u>condition"</u>; or
 - The insured fails to maintain the vehicle in an "efficient or roadworthy condition".

Birds'
Modern
Insurance
Law; 21-12 -

- ★ The question of whether or not a car is in a "roadworthy" condition is not limited to the car being roadworthy only at the commencement of a voyage. It is a question of whether or not the car is in a "roadworthy" state. The knowledge of the insured is also irrelevant (Trickett v Queensland Insurance Co [1936] A.C. 159).
- ❖ The question is also <u>not limited</u> to consideration of the <u>mechanical</u> <u>condition of the vehicle</u>. It can include, for instance, a situation where the car is in an unroadworthy state because it is <u>overloaded with</u> <u>passengers</u> (<u>Clarke v National Insurance Corp [1963] 2 All E.R. 375</u>).

Condition or Warranty?

- Terms regarding the <u>condition of the vehicle</u> may be included as either:
 - An **exception to the risk** that is insured; or
 - As a **condition or warranty** that the insured will "maintain the vehicle in a roadworthy or efficient condition".
- Inclusion of this term as a condition or warranty is arguably <u>narrower</u>, because breach requires a "failure to maintain" on the part of the insured.

This suggests that the insured must <i>know or be in</i> a position to know that something is wrong, rather than the insurer having to merely show that the car was in an unroadworthy condition.
Regardless of how the term is worded, insurers will not be able to rely on these exceptions in respect of a breach against an injured third party.
 ✦ However, in such circumstances, the Insurer will have: ✦ A statutory right to recover their outlay under s148(4) Road Traffic Act 1988.
➤ If the provisions are included as conditions or warranties , arguably a right

to recover their outlay under common law as *damages for breach of condition*.