

# Financial Services Guide (FSG)

Date of issue: 11 December 2023

## **Absence of Independence**

We are unable to call ourselves independent. The law prevents most advisers from using such words as independent, unbiased, or impartial. If, for example, an adviser gets paid a commission to help a client arrange insurance or work within a functional restriction such as an Approved Product List, they are prohibited from calling themselves independent. Most advisers who receive insurance commissions charge their clients little (if anything) for the advice and service. Advisers within The Licensee receive these commissions. So, although we always put your interests before ours when giving advice we cannot (by law) call ourselves independent, unbiased, or impartial.



Millennium3 advisers offer professional financial advice strategies to prepare for life's financial ups and downs and help achieve future security.

## **About this guide**

This FSG is issued by: Millennium 3 Financial Services Pty Ltd (AFSL 244252 ABN 61 094 529 987) "The Licensee" which is a wholly owned subsidiary of WT Financial Group Limited (ACN 169 037 058)

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www.millennium3.com.au

This Financial Services Guide (FSG) explains the financial services provided by Millennium3 and your adviser (who is authorised through Millennium3). It is designed to help you make a fully informed decision about whether you want to use our services.

Please take the time to read this guide carefully. Sound financial advice is based on open communication. Understanding our services and our fees is the cornerstone of this communication. It's also important that you know who authorises your adviser, the nature of their associations and relationships and what to do if you have a complaint. If you have further questions, or if there is anything that isn't clear, please talk to your adviser or contact us.

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

### **About us**

Millennium 3 is one of Australia's largest financial planning groups with origins tracing back over 30 years.

Millennium3 has an extensive network of qualified financial advisers across Australia, with head offices located in Sydney, Melbourne, and Perth.

Each Millennium3 practice is locally owned, employing highly qualified financial advisers who have a legal obligation and an ethical duty to act with integrity and in the best interests of their clients. Your adviser is either a self-employed practice owner or employed by the practice as an adviser.

## **Products and services we provide**

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

## Important documents you can expect to receive

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

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

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

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

## Important relationships and other benefits

You should be aware of the following relationships and benefits that we may receive. Any payments noted below are not an additional cost to you and will only be made to the extent permitted by law. Any other arrangements you need to be aware of will be set out in the Adviser

Profile attached to this document. Arrangements that are relevant to the advice being provided to you will also be disclosed in your written advice.

#### **Product and service provider benefits**

Millennium3 may receive sponsorship payments from product and service providers to fund technical and professional development training for our advisers.

Our practice owners or advisers may also apply for and may qualify to receive commercial terms on a range of banking products and services such as interest rates and limited recourse terms.

#### **Distribution fees**

Related companies of Millennium3 may receive fees for acting as the distributor of financial products which your adviser may recommend. Any fee is paid by the product issuer or administrator of the product out of its own funds. Neither your adviser nor Millennium3 receive any of these fees.

#### **Advisory fees**

Product providers may pay advisory fees to Millennium3 or an investment management entity associated with Millennium3.

This fee is for the provision of portfolio management advisory services where Millennium3 model portfolios are utilised via managed accounts or separately managed accounts. In the event of this occurring, the fee is calculated as a percentage, likely to be up to 0.15% of the managed account or separately managed account portfolio balance. Your adviser will not receive any of this fee.

#### **Referral partners**

Your adviser may have referral relationships with third parties. These third parties may include accountants, mortgage brokers, general insurance brokers, solicitors, real estate agents and other third parties who specialise in a specific field. Any referral arrangements you need to be aware of and specific details of any referral payments we may receive will be set out in the 'Important relationships' section of the Adviser Profile attached to this document.

Referral arrangements that are relevant to any advice being provided to you will also be disclosed in your written advice. Where you are referred to a third party (including to other financial advisers) by your adviser, neither your adviser nor Millennium3 approve or endorse their advice and won't be liable for the provision of advice and services provided by the third party. You must assess the merits of their advice in the light of your own circumstances and objectives.

#### Referrals to a third party

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

#### **Associated businesses**

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

#### **Other payments**

We keep a full register of any benefits received by advisers of between \$100 to \$300. By law, your adviser is not permitted to receive benefits in excess of \$300 per year from a product issuer. In addition, Millennium3 keeps a register of any other non-monetary benefits your adviser may receive in relation to education, training, technology support or software that is relevant to the provision of financial advice. If you would like a copy of either register, please ask your adviser and one will be made available to you.

## How we are paid

We receive remuneration from:

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

As the licensee, Millennium3 collects all fees and commissions which are paid on to your adviser's practice. The Adviser Profile explains how your adviser is paid. Millennium3 receives a licensee fee from your adviser's practice of up to \$165,000 per annum, which is in part based on remuneration paid to your adviser's practice.

#### Advice and service fees paid by you

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

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

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

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

## If you have a complaint

If you have a complaint about financial services provided to you, your complaint can be directed to your adviser in the first instance.

You can also raise your complaint at any time by contacting us at:

Email: complaints@wtfglimited.com

In writing to: WT Financial Group Advice

**Dispute Resolution** 

Team

Level 5, 95 Pitt St, Sydney, NSW 2000

Phone: 02 9248 0422

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

AFCA is an external dispute resolution scheme which provides fair and independent financial services complaint resolution that is free to consumers. AFCA's contact details are:

Email: info@afca.org.au
Website: www.afca.org.au
In writing to: Australian Financial

**Complaints Authority** 

GPO Box 3, Melbourne VIC 3001

Phone: 1800 931 678

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

#### www.asic.gov.au

#### **Professional indemnity insurance**

Millennium3 is covered by professional indemnity insurance satisfying the requirements under the Corporations Act for compensation arrangements. Our insurance arrangements cover claims made against us as the licensee and both our current and former authorised representatives.

## **Our privacy policy**

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

Any personal information collected by Millennium3 will be handled in accordance with its Privacy Policy.

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



Millennium3 Financial Services Pty Ltd | ABN 61 094 529 987 AFSL 244252 M3-FSG-11Dec2023

## Part 2 Adviser Profile

### **Lauren Styles**

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

#### Introducing your financial adviser

Lauren Styles is an Authorised Representative of Millennium3 Financial Services Pty Ltd AFSL 244252. Lauren is a Director of The Smart Fox Pty Ltd which is a Corporate Authorised Representative of Millennium3 Financial Services Pty Ltd.

Authorised Representative Number: 1259584 Corporate Authorised Representative Number: 1267500 Adviser profile issue date: 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2024

#### **About Lauren Styles**

Lauren is the founder of The Smart Fox and has more than 20 years of experience in superannuation and life insurance.

Lauren is highly respected for her product and technical knowledge, along with her skills in being able to find appropriate insurance solutions for clients with complicated circumstances. Lauren is also regarded for her ability to procure outcomes for claimants with difficult claims and enjoys providing post claim financial planning strategies to set her clients up for life.

Lauren has guest lectured the Advance Insurance subject at Latrobe University, presented to peers at industry conferences and been published in industry media.

Lauren has been a finalist in the 2020 and 2021 IFA Excellence Awards 'Risk Adviser of the Year'.

#### **Qualifications and memberships**

- Diploma of Financial Advising Securities Institute
- TASACLv1 Commercial Law Kaplan Professional
- DFP5v2 Tax for Financial Advising Kaplan Professional
- Member Association of Independently Owned Finance Professionals

#### **Financial products and services**

I am authorised to provide financial product advice for, and deal in, the following classes of financial products:

- Basic and non-basic deposit products
- Debentures, stocks and or bonds issued or proposed to be issued by a government.
- Life products including investment life insurance products as well as any products issued by a Registered Life Insurance Company
- Interests in managed investment schemes including investor directed portfolio services.
- Retirement savings accounts ("RSA") products (within the meaning of the Retirement Savings Account Act 1997)
- Superannuation
- Securities
- Tax (Financial) Adviser



## Part 2 Adviser Profile continued

#### How I am paid

As the licensee, Millennium3 collects all advice fees and commissions. Millennium3 then pays the fees and commissions to my Practice as detailed in the FSG under the heading 'How we are paid'. My Practice pays me out of these fees and commissions based on a number of factors such as:

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

#### Client fee and payment options

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

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

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

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

**Commissions:** Some product providers pay commissions to Millennium3. The amount of commissions received will depend upon the type of product and the premium paid.

#### Important relationships

In addition to the arrangements already disclosed in the FSG under 'Important relationships and other payments', The Smart Fox Pty Ltd also has the following arrangements:

#### Referrals from a third party

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

#### Referrals to a third party

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

#### **Privacy Notification**

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

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

We provide financial services under the Australian Financial Services License of Millennium3 Financial Services Pty Ltd. Millennium3 Financial Services Pty Ltd monitors our compliance with the law and provides us with a range of support services, including the financial planning software we use. As a consequence Millennium3 Financial Services Pty Ltd has access to your personal information and may use that information to facilitate the provision of financial services to you and to ensure we are complying with our obligations.

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

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

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

#### My contact details

- A: 310 Waterloo Road, Glenroy VIC 3046
- P: 0417 566 357
- E: lauren@thesmartfox.com.au
- W: www.thesmartfox.com.au

