

# Solicitor Trust Account

## Product Schedule – This product is no longer available for sale.

NB: This **Product Schedule** is specific to the above account and/or any facility made available with the account. Together with the Schedule you will be given our **Bankwest Investment and Transaction Accounts Terms and Conditions**, our **Bankwest Banking Services Rights and Obligations** brochure, our **Bankwest Your Guide to Banking Fees** brochure and our **Bankwest Account Access Conditions of Use**. Together these documents comprise the Bank's **Product Disclosure Statement (PDS)** for the account and/or facility.

As announced on 18 February 2022, Bankwest will be progressively removing from sale business products under the Bankwest brand. In deciding whether to acquire the Solicitor Trust Account, you should consider;

1. That in the near future, Bankwest may commence the closure of Solicitors Trust Accounts
2. Whether the Solicitor Trust Account is appropriate for you on the basis of the information set out in this PDS, including the above statements.

### Important Notice to Bankwest Customers

Bankwest is progressively closing its branches and expects all branches to be closed by the end of 2024. After the closure of branches, customers will no longer be able to access services which were only available at branches. The Solicitor Trust Account Product Schedule is being updated to reflect the progressive closure of Bankwest branches.

You can find the latest information, including proposed branch closure dates, your nearest face to face banking options as well as Frequently Asked Questions by visiting [bankwest.com.au](http://bankwest.com.au) and searching for 'branch info'

**Effective 28 November 2024, Bankwest's Solicitor Trust Account Product Schedule dated 26 February 2024 is amended as set out below:**

- Section 4.2 Paper Based Fees
  - o Delete the words 'a Bankwest-branded Branch or,'
  - o Delete the words '(which is charged as a branch transaction)'

## 1 About the Solicitor Trust Account

The Solicitor Trust Account is an account that allows Solicitors to hold funds in trust.

The Solicitor Trust Account may be opened and operated in the following States, in accordance with the following Acts:

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| - New South Wales              | Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2014 (NSW) |
| - Western Australia            | Legal Profession Act 2008 (WA)                          |
| - Australian Capital Territory | Legal Profession Act 2006 (ACT)                         |
| - Northern Territory           | Legal Profession Act 2006 (NT)                          |
| - Queensland                   | Legal Profession Act 2007 (QLD)                         |
| - South Australia              | Legal Practitioners Act 1981 (SA)                       |
| - Victoria                     | Legal Profession Uniform Law (VIC)                      |
| - Tasmania                     | Legal Profession Act 2007 (TAS)                         |

## 2 Account Restrictions

You must nominate another Bankwest-branded account to which we can debit fees and charges incurred in connection with the Trust Account.

The Trust Account cannot be overdrawn.

The method by which withdrawals may be made from the Trust Account is subject to the requirements of the Act and/or Regulations of the State or Territory in which the Trust Account is opened.

## 3 Features

3.1 The Trust Account offers the following optional facilities:

- Bankwest Online Banking\*\*;
- BPAY® Biller Facility\*\*;
- Cheque Access;
- Direct Debit Facility\*\*
- Online Business Banking\*\*;;(from 18 March 2025, Online Business Banking will no longer be available
- PayTo Service (when advised of service availability);
- Periodical Payments\*\*; and
- Phone Banking\*\*.

3.2 \*\*The availability of these facilities is subject to compliance with the relevant Act and/or Regulations of the State or Territory in which the Trust Account is opened. If you are based in a jurisdiction that does not permit making a withdrawal from the Trust Account using a particular facility listed above, you must not use that facility to make a withdrawal from the Trust Account.

3.3 **Online Business Banking** – From 18 March 2025, Online Business Banking will no longer be available.

As a customer on this account, you may also be entitled to apply for our Online Business Banking service. If you apply for that service, you will be provided with a separate Product Disclosure Statement and your use of the service will be a matter of separate agreement with us. For further information, including on how to apply, please go to [bankwest.com.au](http://bankwest.com.au).

3.4 There is no minimum deposit required to open the Trust Account.

### 3.5 BPAY® Biller Facility

BPAY® Biller Facility provides an efficient and easy payment method 24/7 for your customers to pay directly into your nominated account through the flexibility of paying from their cheque, savings or credit card accounts. Those payments are provided into your account as cleared funds. BPAY Biller Facility cannot be used to make payments from a trust account. Separate fees are applicable for this service. As a customer on this account, you may have the option of applying to become a Participating BPAY® Biller. If you apply for that service, your use of the service will be a matter of separate agreement with us. For further information, including information on how to apply, please email [bpay@bankwest.com.au](mailto:bpay@bankwest.com.au) or alternatively go to [bankwest.com.au](http://bankwest.com.au) for further information.

## 4 Fees and Charges

### 4.1 Maintenance Fee

Each month a \$5.00 Maintenance Fee will be charged regardless of the minimum monthly balance where we are allowed to charge such a fee. This means that if the Trust Account is opened in a jurisdiction which prohibits charging such a fee, we will not charge it.

### 4.2 Paper Based Fees

The Trust Account allows 5 free paper transactions per month.

Each paper transaction over the fee free limit will incur a \$0.60 fee.

A paper transaction is any customer or third party-initiated transaction in form of a deposit or withdrawal including cheque deposit or withdrawal made at a Bankwest-branded Branch or Bank@Post.

For example - A deposit to an account with two cheques will count as three transactions, one for the deposit (which is charged as a branch transaction) and one for each cheque lodged because each item requires individual processing. Additionally, one or more of the paper-based service fees described in our Bankwest Your Guide to Banking Fees brochure will also apply each time a paper-based service described in that brochure is provided. Each such service fee will apply regardless of whether a paper transaction fee described above is payable.

#### **4.3 Electronic Fees**

The Trust Account allows 5 free electronic transactions (where available) per month.

An electronic transaction is any transaction using electronic means that debits or credits the account.

Each electronic transaction over the fee free limit will incur a \$0.25 fee – however, this fee does not apply for an electronic transaction made using Online Business Banking (which is subject to a separate agreement and separate fee regime).

Electronic Fees are charged to the account on the first business day of the following month.

Additionally, one or more of the electronic based service fees described in our Bankwest Your Guide to Banking Fees brochure will also apply each time an electronic based service described in that brochure is provided. Each such service fee will apply regardless of whether an electronic transaction fee described above is payable.

#### **4.4 Rebate**

For each \$1000.00 of the lowest credit balance held in your Trust Account during a month, you will be entitled to receive a rebate of \$1.50 which is set off against maintenance and transactions fees incurred in that month. There is no entitlement to a rebate where the credit balance falls below \$1,000.00 at any time during the month.

Note: The rebate cannot exceed the amount of such fees charged in the month.

#### **4.5 Outward Dishonour Fee**

A \$10.00 Outward Dishonour Fee will be charged where there are insufficient cleared funds in your Trust Account to cover a cheque drawn on your account or an authorised debit request made in respect of your account.

#### **4.6 Inward Dishonour Fee**

A \$10.00 Inward Dishonour Fee will be charged where you deposit a cheque into your Trust Account which is not honoured by the financial institution on which the cheque is drawn.

#### **4.7 Search Fees**

Before opening an account in a business or company name, we will require evidence of the registration of the business or company name. If you can provide us with the appropriate documentation, we will not charge you any Search Fees. If we need to conduct either a Business Name Registration or Company Search, then you will be charged. These Search Fees are listed in our Bankwest Your Guide to Banking Fees brochure.

#### **4.8 Other fees which may be incurred on the Trust Account**

Other fees which the Bank charges for its services, including services not specific to the Trust Account but for which you may be charged are listed in our Bankwest Your Guide to Banking Fees brochure.

### **5 Interest**

Credit interest is calculated on the Trust Account balance and is paid by the Bank to, or as required by, the proper Board or Authority in accordance with:

- the relevant Act and/or Regulations of the State or Territory in which the Trust Account is opened; or
- where applicable, the terms of any agreement entered into by the Bank with that Board or Authority.

### **6 Disclosure of account information**

The Bank may disclose information relating to the Trust Account to the proper Board or Authority if required by any Act and/or Regulation of the State or Territory in which the Trust Account is opened or, where applicable, by any agreement entered into by the Bank with that Board or Authority.

## 7 Financial Claims Scheme

The Financial Claims Scheme, under the Banking Act, covers deposit amounts you hold in a bank in aggregate up to a statutory prescribed limit (please note that for the purposes of calculating this total, joint accounts are considered to be held in equal shares). You may be entitled to a payment in some circumstances. Payments under the scheme are subject to a limit for each depositor. Information about the Financial Claim Scheme can be obtained from <http://www.fcs.gov.au>.

## 8 PEXA

If there is any inconsistency between this clause 8 and the remainder of the PDS, clause 8 prevails to the extent of that inconsistency.

### Ways to provide us instructions

If you have subscribed to Property Exchange Australia Limited's (PEXA's) Electronic Lodgement Network (PEXA System), we may agree with you that you can authorise us to accept instructions from signatories through the PEXA System in accordance with the specified method of operation. Any such authorisation must be provided to PEXA in its usual form of authority which shall be binding until PEXA receives written notice from you (in accordance with method of operation) of the cancellation or variation of this authority and despite any prior notification to us of the cancellation or variation of the authority or removal of any signatory. Transactions carried out through the PEXA System are subject to PEXA's Financial Settlement Terms & Conditions and the Product Disclosure Statement for this account.

### Making payments through PEXA

Payments through the PEXA System can only be made if you are a subscriber to PEXA and have provided PEXA with the authorities referred to above. We are entitled to treat instructions received by PEXA which are authorised by your signatories' log in and password through the PEXA System as duly authorised by you.

If you have applied to PEXA to transact through the PEXA System, we may exchange your information with PEXA. See the Bankwest Privacy Policy for more information.