

## A stress-free holiday

Liberty Group Advisory Services

Make sure your financial house is in order so that you can enjoy your holiday and have a stress-free start to the New Year.

### Have I paid my bills?

At this time of year it is very easy to forget to pay your bills. Avoid a bad credit record by making sure all your December payments are up to date. Paying some of your January accounts early will help you avoid the temptation of spending your accounts money on holiday!

### Have I told my life insurer and medical scheme that I am travelling outside the country?

If you are travelling outside of South Africa, it's a good idea to let your insurer and medical scheme know, especially if you are travelling to a country that is considered a high risk.

You are generally fully insured on your life insurance policy, no matter where you are travelling, as long as you have told your insurer where you are going, but find out if you need extra insurance cover before you finalise your travel arrangements. This is especially important with regard to disability cover.

If you have any specific health conditions, speak to your medical scheme to confirm you are covered to travel.

### Do I need travel insurance?

Travel insurance is usually included in your travel package and generally covers medical conditions and treatment - this is particularly true if you have paid by credit card. But read the details carefully so that you understand the cover fully and how and where to claim.

### Do I have enough life insurance?

Ask your financial adviser if you have the right cover should you fall off your skis at breakneck speed. Most people feel some anxiety when they are travelling, especially abroad. You can't control the world but you can make sure you have the cover in place should something go wrong.

### Are my insurance premiums up to date?

House break-ins and car accidents peak over this period so make sure your short-term insurance premiums are up to date to avoid any nasty surprises.

### Is my will up to date?

Does your will reflect your wishes? Have you specified a guardian for your children? This is a good time to review your will especially if there have been big changes in your life such as marriage, divorce or the birth of child.

### Are my documents easily accessible?

While we may not want to think about it, things can go wrong on holiday. Make sure your family knows where to find important documents, such as your will and insurance policies. Also ensure they have emergency contact details such as your medical scheme information and doctor's telephone number.