

# General Information Sheet

## Classic Home Loan

## 1. Lender

HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c.  
116 Archbishop Street  
Valletta VLT 1444

## 2. Purposes for which this loan may be used

Classic Home Loans may be used for the purchase, construction, completion, alteration or refurbishment of property to be used as your residence. It may also be used for the redemption of ground rent burdening a property that is being (or shall be) used as your residence. Classic Home Loans may only be availed of by residents of Malta.

## 3. Security

We will normally ask for the following security for your loan:

- First General Hypothec for the full loan amount.
- First Special Hypothec and Special Privilege for the full loan amount over the property being financed.
- Life assurance policy for the full loan amount.
- Buildings insurance policy for the replacement cost of the property being financed.

Additional security may possibly be required.

## 4. Description of the types of home loans available

Variable rate loans- Variable interest rates are quoted as a margin over our Home Loans Base Rate which is currently 2.25%. The Bank may change the margin and/or the Home Loans Base Rate, and as a consequence your applicable variable interest rate, at any time. Your repayment amount or the number of repayments may change whenever there is a change in the interest rate. We will advise you should there be such a change (to the repayment amount or number of repayments).

Fixed rate loans - With a fixed interest rate, your repayment amount will remain unchanged for the term of the fixed interest rate option. At the end of this term your loan will switch to the applicable variable interest rate.

## 5. Repayment options

If the term of your loan is 20 years or more you may

choose between a standard capital and interest repayment option and the HomeStart option. With a standard capital and interest repayment you will have an equated monthly repayment for the full term of the loan which will remain unchanged unless there is a change in the interest rate. With the HomeStart option you will have an interest only repayment for the first 3 or 5 years and an equated monthly capital and interest repayment thereafter.

The HomeStart option is not available if you opt for a fixed interest rate.

## 6. Fees and costs

### Fees

Processing (Legal) Fee of €200 is applicable. If, however the application for finance is withdrawn and cancelled (even after the sanction letter has been issued) this processing (legal) fee is refundable.

Booking Fee of €100 is payable on the Fixed Interest Rate options.

Amendment Fee of €15 will be due when a request to change the conditions of the sanction letter is processed by the Bank.

Updating of Searches Fee of €13.90 will be due when the Bank updates the legal searches. This exercise takes place every eight years.

Commitment Fee - This fee applies only if the amount of the loan is not fully drawn following the expiry of the last date permitted for drawings of the loan as stated in the sanction letter. In such case a commitment fee will be debited to your calculated as follows:

- Variable rate loans: 0.10% (minimum €15 and maximum €40) on the undrawn amount and is payable quarterly in advance.
- Fixed rate loans: Maximum drawdown period is 21 months but customers may avail themselves of a three month extension against a payment of €40. (Applicable only one time).

### Insurance Costs

Life assurance premium.

Property insurance premium.

### **Third Party Costs**

Architect's valuation costs.

Notarial fees and other contract related expenses (Public Registry fees, Land Registry fees and ancillary costs).

A charge of €30 per deed plus €20 for any immovable property situated in a Land Registration Area which is taken as security will be levied to cover third party costs with respect to post-deed updating of hypothecary security.

In the case of a pledge on shares, bonds, bank balances or insurance policies any fees charged by other financial institutions will be debited to your account.

If the funds are used for the construction or the completion of property the Special Privilege competent to the Bank by law on the amount which was used for this purpose must be registered in the Public Registry. The third party charges incurred by the Bank will be debited to your account.

### **7. Cost of a typical loan**

The cost of a typical home loan of €170,000, being made available to a home loan buyer at a variable borrowing interest rate of 2.85% p.a. for a term of 360 months is illustrated as follows:

The annual percentage rate of charge (APRC) will be 3.0% p.a. The loan will be repayable in 359 equal monthly instalments of €706.82 and one final instalment of €718.63 over a term of 30 years. The total sum payable throughout the term of the loan assuming the interest rate remains unchanged will be €254,938.71.

Applicable charges on this loan are as follows – processing (legal) fee of €200; updating of searches fee of €41.70, fee for post-deed checking of hypothecary charge of €30 and fee for bank's appointed architect of €200 (based on a property value up to €400,000).

Terms and conditions apply.

### **8. Early repayment**

During the term of the loan for which the interest rate will be variable additional repayments may be made without any restrictions.

If, during the term of the loan for which the interest rate will be fixed, you make any additional repayments during one calendar month in excess of 50% of the agreed monthly repayment, you may incur an early repayment fee as explained hereunder.

The early repayment fee consists of the difference between the fixed interest rate and the applicable variable interest rate (as stipulated in the sanction letter) over the remaining term of the fixed interest rate contract. If, at the time of the additional repayment the applicable variable interest rate is equal to or higher than the fixed interest rate, no early repayment fee will be incurred.

You will also incur an early repayment fee on the full outstanding loan balance if you decide to switch the loan from a fixed interest rate to a variable interest rate or to another fixed interest rate before expiry of the original fixed interest rate period.

The early repayment fee consists of the difference between the original fixed interest rate and the new rate over the remaining term of the original fixed interest rate contract. If, at the time of the switch, the new rate is equal to or higher than the original fixed interest rate, no early repayment fee will be incurred.

### **9. Duration**

Classic Home Loans are normally to be repaid within a maximum term of 40 years subject to loan being repaid by the time the older borrower is 65 years of age.

### **10. Currency**

Classic Home Loans are only available in euro.

### **11. Government subsidies**

If you would like any information on whether you may benefit from any subsidy on your home loan you are kindly requested to contact the Housing Authority at 12, Pietro Floriani Street, Floriana.

### **12. List of documents required**

- Evidence of income (three months' payslips and form FS3 if you are employed, or three income tax returns if you are self-employed)
- Identity card.
- Preliminary agreement or deed of purchase of property.

- Architect's valuation on our standard form. Valuation will need to be done by an architect appointed by the Bank.
- Copy of the latest ground rent receipt (if applicable)
- Any other documents that may be requested by the bank.

### **13. Mandatory Ancillary Services**

In order to be able to take out a Loan you are required to obtain life insurance cover and home owner insurance cover. These ancillary products may be obtained through HSBC or from any other third party providers who are able to offer adequate insurance cover deemed acceptable by the Bank.

### **14. Non-Compliance with your commitments towards the Bank**

It is important to take into consideration the consequences of non-compliance with the sanction letter and the General Conditions Regulating Loans especially where this is an event of default. Where there is an event of default as described in the General Conditions Regulating Loans, the Bank may be forced to act on the security that is securing the loan and this will mean that the property securing the loan will be sold through court auction in order to pay off the outstanding loan balance.

### **15. Other Consideration**

If you are resident in any country other than Malta, any regulatory protections afforded to you by your country of residence shall not apply to this Loan.

### **16. Tax Disclaimer**

If you are not a resident of Malta, you may have to pay tax arising in your country of residence over the Loan, which would be payable to the relative tax authority and which shall be separate and in addition to any interest payments over the Loan which fall due and are payable to Us.

There may however be relief available from the tax paid. We do not give tax advice and you should seek advice from an independent tax advisor to ensure you understand any tax obligations and potential tax relief available.

If there is tax payable, you are solely responsible for paying the tax arising in your Country of residence or elsewhere.

If your country of residence imposes such tax, this would make the cost of your Loan higher than indicated in your loan statement/documentation.

### **17. Advisory Services**

We do not provide advice or recommend a particular mortgage for you. However, based on your answers to some questions, we will give you information about a mortgage proposition as described in this document so that you can consider before you make your own choice.

### **18. Creditworthiness Assessment - Obligation to disclose correct information**

You shall provide the bank with complete and correct information on your financial situation and personal circumstances in the context of the application process. This information will be used to establish creditworthiness.

If you choose not to provide the information necessary for an assessment of your creditworthiness, the bank shall warn you that it will be unable to carry out a creditworthiness assessment and therefore the credit agreement may not be granted.

### **Creditworthiness Assessment – right of Bank to re-assess up to deed of Loan execution**

At any time after the date of a Sanction Letter and until the deed of Loan is actually executed, the Bank shall have the right to request that you provide it with documentation required in order to be able to re-assess your credit worthiness. Furthermore, if at the time of the credit worthiness assessment, your income includes the Government Covid-19 supplement, you will be required to provide to the Bank with a written confirmation from your employer that your income will remain at the current indicated level even when the Covid-19 supplement ends. If you do not provide the required documentation in time or if the re-assessment findings are such that would lead to a re-consideration and the refusal by the Bank to provide you with the Loan, the Bank shall have the right to withdraw its Sanction Letter with immediate effect\*. In such cases, you will be informed that the sanction letter has been withdrawn and that your request for a loan has been declined. Please ensure that this condition is well clear to you and to the seller.

## **19. Bank Appointed Architect Valuation**

You shall provide the Bank with a Bank Appointed Architect valuation of the Property. If the valuation provided is dated earlier than 90 days prior to signing of deed, the Bank will be requesting your same Bank Appointed Architect to provide it with a reconfirmation of the property valuation prior to signing of deed (at its cost). Should such reconfirmation report include any adverse comments or revised valuation that would lead to a reconsideration and the refusal by the Bank to provide you with the loan, the Bank shall have the right to withdraw the sanction letter already issued with immediate effect\*. In such case, You will be informed in writing that the sanction letter has been withdrawn and that your request for a loan has been cancelled.

**\*Important Note:**

Cancellation of the loan at such stage will have material consequences and may also impact your right to be refunded with any deposit made so it is important that you ensure to discuss this aspect with your notary so that he can include any necessary provisions in the promise of sale agreement\*\* to protect your rights.

Make sure you understand the full implications of this condition.

\*\*If you have already entered into a promise of sale agreement ensure to seek further legal advice on the implications of this condition.