

complaint

Mr J says Lloyds Bank PLC (formally Lloyds TSB Bank Plc) mis-sold him a payment protection insurance ("PPI") policy.

background

This complaint is about a credit card PPI policy taken out in 1995. The policy was added to Mr J's credit card account when he applied for the card in person at the bank.

Our adjudicator did not uphold the complaint. Mr J disagreed with the adjudicator's opinion so the complaint has been passed to me.

my findings

I've considered all the available evidence and arguments to decide what is fair and reasonable in the circumstances of this complaint. I think the relevant issues to take into account are the same as those set out in the note on our website about our approach to PPI complaints.

I've decided not to uphold Mr J's complaint because:

- I think Lloyds TSB made Mr J aware that the PPI was optional and that he chose to take it – although I can understand why he can no longer remember this. I've seen a copy of his signed application form which is ticked to say that he wanted PPI.
- Lloyds TSB recommended the PPI to Mr J, but it doesn't look as if it was unsuitable for him, based on what I've seen of his circumstances at the time. Although he could have relied on his family for financial help, he doesn't appear to have had significant other means to make the repayments if he couldn't work. So I can't reasonably say he had no need for the PPI.
- It's possible the information Lloyds TSB gave Mr J about the PPI wasn't as clear as it should have been. But Mr J chose to take out the policy and so appears to have wanted this type of cover. The policy was competitively priced and apparently affordable.

So I think it unlikely Mr J would have made a different decision if better information had been provided. On balance I think he would still have taken out the policy.

Although Mr J is concerned that he was self-employed, I don't think this would have made it any more difficult for him to claim. So this doesn't change my conclusion.

my decision

For the reasons set out above, I don't uphold Mr J's complaint.

Susan Webb
ombudsman