

*Draft Order laid before Parliament under section 142Z of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, for approval by resolution of each House of Parliament.*

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DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2014 No. XX**

**BANKS AND BANKING**

**The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Ring-fenced Bodies and Core Activities) Order 2014**

*Made* - - - - **\*\*\***  
*Coming into force* - - **\*\*\***

The Treasury, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 142A(2)(b), 142B(2), 142F and 428(3) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (1), make the following Order.

In accordance with section 142Z of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, a draft of this Order has been laid before Parliament and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.

**PART 1**

**General**

**Citation, commencement and interpretation**

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Ring-fenced Bodies and Core Activities) Order 2014.

(2) This Order comes into force on 1st January 2015.

(3) In this Order—

“account holder” means any person who has an account with an institution which carries on the activity of accepting deposits;

“the 2000 Act” means the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000;

“the 2006 Act” means the Companies Act 2006(2);

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(1) 2000 c. 8. Sections 142A to 142Z1 were inserted into the Act by the Financial Services (Banking Reform) Act 2013, section 4.  
(2) 2006 c.46.

“charity” has the meaning given in section 1 of the Charities Act 2011<sup>(3)</sup>, section 106 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005<sup>(4)</sup> or section 1 of the Charities (Northern Ireland) Act 2008<sup>(5)</sup>;

“CIO” means a body constituted and registered as a charitable incorporated organisation under Part 11 of the Charities Act 2011 or Part 11 of the Charities (Northern Ireland) Act 2008, or as a Scottish charitable incorporated organisation under Part 1 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005;

“company” has the meaning in section 1 of the 2006 Act;

“core deposit” has the meaning given in article 2(2);

“declaration of eligibility” has the meaning given in article 9(1);

“deposit” has the meaning given in article 5 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Regulated Activities) Order 2001<sup>(6)</sup>;

“eligible individual” has the meaning given in article 9(1);

“excluded activities and prohibitions order” means the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Excluded Activities and Prohibitions) Order 2014<sup>(7)</sup>;

“financial year”—

- (a) in relation to a company, has the meaning given in section 390 of the 2006 Act,
- (b) in relation to a limited liability partnership has the meaning given in section 390 of the 2006 Act as modified by regulation 7 of the Limited Liability Partnerships (Accounts and Audit) (Application of Companies Act 2006) Regulations 2008<sup>(8)</sup>,
- (c) in relation to an organisation which is—
  - (i) a charity or a CIO, and
  - (ii) is not a company,
 has the meaning given in regulation 3 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008<sup>(9)</sup>,
- (d) in relation to a registered society—
  - (i) if that society was registered on or after 8th January 2012, means a year of account for that society as defined in section 77 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014<sup>(10)</sup>,
  - (ii) if that society was registered on or before 7th January 2012, means a year of account for that society as defined in section 78 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014,
- (e) in relation to a Northern Ireland industrial and provident society, means a year of account as defined in section 101(1) of the Industrial and Provident Societies Act (Northern Ireland) 1969<sup>(11)</sup>,
- (f) in relation to a Northern Ireland credit union, means a year of account as defined in Article 2(2) of the Credit Unions (Northern Ireland) Order 1985<sup>(12)</sup>,

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(3) 2011 c. 25.

(4) 2005 asp 10.

(5) 2008 c. 12 (N.I.).

(6) S.I. 2001/544. This article was amended by S.I. 2002/682.

(7) S.I. 2014/[ ].

(8) S.I. 2008/1911.

(9) S.I. 2008/629.

(10) 2014 c.14.

(11) 1969 c. 24 (N.I.).

(12) S.I. 1985/1205 (N.I. 12).

- (g) in relation to a society registered under the Friendly Societies Act 1974(13), means a year of account as defined in section 111 of that Act,
- (h) in relation to a society incorporated in accordance with section 6(1) of the Friendly Societies Act 1992(14), has the meaning given in section 118 of that Act,
- (i) in relation to any other organisation—
  - (i) if that organisation is required to prepare a profit and loss account by its constitution or by the law under which it is established, any period in respect of which it is required to prepare such a profit and loss account,
  - (ii) if that organisation is not required to prepare a profit and loss account, means any year commencing on the 1st January;

“limited liability partnership” means a body incorporated under the Limited Liability Partnerships Act 2000(15);

“Northern Ireland credit union” means a credit union as defined in Article 2(2) of the Credit Unions (Northern Ireland) Order 1985;

“Northern Ireland industrial and provident society” means a society registered or deemed to be registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act (Northern Ireland) 1969;

“public body” means any person certain of whose functions are functions of a public nature;

“qualifying organisation” has the meaning given in article 3(1);

“qualifying organisation declaration” has the meaning given in article 3(1);

“qualifying group member” has the meaning given in article 8(1);

“qualifying group member declaration” has the meaning given in article 8(1);

“quarter” means a period of three months;

“recognised accountant” means an accountant who is a member of—

- (a) the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales,
- (b) the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland,
- (c) the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland,
- (d) the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants,
- (e) the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants,
- (f) the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, or
- (g) a professional body for accountants established in a jurisdiction outside the United Kingdom;

“registered society” has the meaning given in section 1 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014;

“securities” has the meaning given in section 14 of the Banking Act 2009(16);

“UK deposit-taker” means an institution which carries on the regulated activity of accepting deposits in relation to which it has a permission under Part 4A of the 2000 Act.

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(13) 1974 c. 46. There are amendments to section 111, but none are relevant to this Order.

(14) 1992 c. 40.

(15) 2000 c. 12. There are amendments to the Act, but none are relevant to this Order.

(16) 2009 c. 1. Section 14 was amended by S.I. 2013/3115.

## PART 2

### Circumstances in which accepting a deposit is not a core activity

#### **Circumstances in which accepting a deposit is not a core activity**

2.—(1) In relation to a UK deposit-taker, accepting a deposit is not a core activity unless the deposit is a core deposit.

(2) A deposit is a core deposit if it is held with the UK deposit-taker in an EEA account except where one or more of the account holders is—

- (a) a relevant financial institution;
- (b) a qualifying organisation;
- (c) a qualifying group member; or
- (d) an eligible individual.

(3) In this article—

- (a) a reference to an account held with a UK deposit-taker is to an account provided by the institution as part of its activity of accepting deposits;
- (b) an account is an EEA account if it was opened at a branch of the UK deposit-taker located in an EEA state;
- (c) “branch” means a place of business that forms a legally dependent part of the UK deposit-taker and conducts directly all or some of the operations inherent in its business;
- (d) “relevant financial institution” has the meaning given in the excluded activities and prohibitions order.

#### **Meaning of qualifying organisation**

3.—(1) An organisation is a qualifying organisation in relation to a UK deposit-taker if it has given to that UK deposit-taker a declaration in accordance with paragraph (2) (a “qualifying organisation declaration”).

(2) A qualifying organisation declaration must—

- (a) contain a statement signed and dated by or on behalf of the organisation giving the declaration (the “declaring organisation”) confirming that the organisation met the relevant qualifying condition in the relevant financial year; and
- (b) be accompanied by either—
  - (i) a copy of the annual accounts prepared by that organisation for the relevant financial year, or
  - (ii) a statement signed and dated by a recognised accountant (a “confirming statement”) in accordance with article 6.

(3) The relevant qualifying condition is set out—

- (a) in the case of a body corporate<sup>(17)</sup> or a partnership, in article 4;
- (b) in the case of an organisation which is not a body corporate or a partnership, in article 5.

(4) For the purpose of this article, in relation to an organisation giving a qualifying organisation declaration to a UK deposit-taker, the relevant financial year is—

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<sup>(17)</sup> “Body corporate” is defined in section 417(1) of the 2000 Act. There are amendments to that section, but none are relevant to this Order.

- (a) the last complete financial year of that organisation that ended before the beginning of the financial year of that organisation in which the qualifying organisation declaration is being given; or
  - (b) if the declaration is being given by that organisation during its first financial year, the period—
    - (i) beginning at midnight at the end of the day before the day on which the organisation was first established, and
    - (ii) ending at midnight on a day which is not more than three months before the date of the qualifying organisation declaration.
- (5) The date of a qualifying organisation declaration is the date given by the organisation making the declaration when that organisation dates the statement referred to in paragraph (2)(a).

### **Qualifying condition for a body corporate or a partnership**

4.—(1) The qualifying condition for a body corporate or a partnership is that during the relevant financial year that body or partnership met one or more of the criteria in table 1—

**Table 1**

Turnover	Not less than £6.5 million
Balance sheet total	Not less than £3.26 million
Number of employees	Not less than 50

(2) If the organisation has existed for less than one financial year, the maximum figure for turnover must be proportionately adjusted.

(3) The balance sheet total means—

- (a) the aggregate of the amounts shown as assets in the organisation’s balance sheet for the relevant financial year; or
- (b) where the organisation is giving a qualifying organisation declaration during its first financial year and has not yet prepared a balance sheet, the aggregate of the amounts which would be shown as assets in a balance sheet prepared not more than six weeks before the date of that qualifying organisation declaration.

(4) The number of employees means the average number of persons employed (whether full-time or part-time) by the organisation in the relevant financial year, determined as follows—

- (a) find for each month in the relevant financial year the number of persons employed under contracts of service by the organisation (whether throughout the month or not);
- (b) add together the monthly totals; and
- (c) divide by the number of months in the relevant financial year.

(5) In this article “turnover”, in relation to a body corporate or a partnership, means the amounts derived from the provision of goods and services falling within the ordinary activities of the body corporate or partnership (“the gross receipts”), after deduction of—

- (a) trade discounts;
- (b) value added tax; and
- (c) any other taxes based on the gross receipts.

### **Qualifying condition for an organisation which is not a body corporate or a partnership**

5.—(1) The qualifying condition for an organisation which is not a body corporate or a partnership is that the organisation’s gross income for the relevant financial year was more than £6.5 million.

(2) In this article “gross income” means an organisation’s gross income from all sources.

(3) For the purpose of paragraph (2)—

(a) the gross income of a charity or a CIO which—

- (i) is not entered in the register of charities kept under section 3 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005<sup>(18)</sup> (“the Scottish Charity Register”), and
- (ii) is a member of a group as defined in section 141 of the Charities Act 2011 or paragraph 1(5) of Schedule 6 to the Charities (Northern Ireland) Act 2008<sup>(19)</sup>

includes the gross income of any charity or CIO which is a member of the same group, and

(b) the gross income of a charity or a CIO which—

- (i) is entered in the Scottish Charity Register, and
- (ii) has one or more subsidiary undertakings (as defined by regulation 1(2) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006)<sup>(20)</sup>,

includes the gross income of any of those subsidiary undertakings which are charities or CIOs.

### **Qualifying organisation declaration accompanied by a confirming statement: requirements for confirming statement**

6.—(1) A confirming statement provided in accordance with article 3(2)(b)(ii) to accompany a qualifying organisation declaration (the “qualifying organisation declaration concerned”) must state that the recognised accountant signing the statement has reviewed—

- (a) the annual accounts for the organisation giving the qualifying organisation declaration concerned for the relevant financial year; or,
- (b) such other relevant information as the recognised accountant—
  - (i) is aware of at the time at which that recognised accountant is asked to give the confirming statement, or
  - (ii) requests from the organisation giving the qualifying organisation declaration concerned;

and that nothing has come to the recognised accountant’s attention which suggests that the qualifying organisation declaration concerned is false.

(2) For the purpose of paragraph (1)(b) relevant information is information which—

- (a) in the case of a company or a partnership, concerns its turnover, balance sheet total or number of employees for the relevant financial year for the purposes of article 4; and
- (b) in the case of any other organisation, concerns its gross income for the relevant financial year for the purposes of article 5.

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<sup>(18)</sup> 2005 (asp 10).

<sup>(19)</sup> 2008 c. 12 (N.I.).

<sup>(20)</sup> S.S.I. 2006/218. There are amendments to regulation 1, but they are not relevant to this Order.

### **Requirements concerning currency when qualifying organisation declaration accompanied by annual accounts**

7.—(1) If an organisation gives to a UK deposit-taker a qualifying organisation declaration which is accompanied by annual accounts in accordance with article 3(2)(b)(i), those annual accounts must be—

- (a) in sterling; or
- (b) accompanied by a set of those annual accounts with figures converted into sterling.

(2) The conversion must be made by reference to an appropriate spot rate of exchange as at the last day of the period in respect of which the annual accounts are made up.

### **Meaning of qualifying group member**

8.—(1) An organisation is a qualifying group member in relation to a UK deposit-taker if that organisation has provided to that UK deposit-taker a declaration in accordance with paragraph (2) (a “qualifying group member declaration”).

(2) A qualifying group member declaration must—

- (a) contain a statement that the organisation giving the declaration is a member of the same group<sup>(21)</sup> as a qualifying organisation (the “relevant qualifying organisation”); and
- (b) be either—
  - (i) accompanied by a declaration (a “supporting declaration”) which complies with paragraph (3), or
  - (ii) accepted by the UK deposit-taker to which the declaration is given without being accompanied by a supporting declaration, in accordance with paragraph (4).

(3) In relation to a qualifying group member declaration, a supporting declaration must consist of a qualifying organisation declaration for the relevant qualifying organisation which—

- (a) has previously been provided to a UK deposit-taker (other than the UK deposit-taker to which the qualifying group member declaration is being given); or
- (b) will accompany the qualifying group member declaration when that qualifying group member declaration is provided to the UK deposit-taker concerned.

(4) A UK deposit-taker may accept a qualifying group member declaration without a supporting declaration if, at the date on which it receives that qualifying group member declaration, it has previously received a qualifying organisation declaration for the relevant qualifying organisation.

### **Meaning of eligible individual**

9.—(1) An individual is an eligible individual in relation to a UK deposit-taker if—

- (a) that individual has provided to that UK deposit-taker a statement complying with paragraph (2) (a “declaration of eligibility”); and
- (b) that declaration of eligibility is—
  - (i) accompanied by a statement signed and dated by a recognised accountant in accordance with paragraph (5) (a “confirming statement”), or
  - (ii) accepted by the UK deposit-taker to which that declaration is given without a confirming statement, in accordance with paragraph (6).

(2) A declaration of eligibility must—

- (a) confirm that the individual giving the declaration meets the condition in paragraph (3);

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(21) “Group” is defined in section 421 of the 2000 Act.

- (b) specify the period in respect of which the individual giving the declaration has calculated that they meet the condition in paragraph (3) (the “eligibility calculation period”); and
- (c) be signed and dated by the individual giving the declaration.

(3) The condition mentioned in paragraph (2)(a) is that on average during the eligibility calculation period the individual giving the declaration of eligibility held assets to the value of not less than £250,000, as calculated in accordance with article 10.

(4) An eligibility calculation period specified in a declaration of eligibility in accordance with paragraph (2)(b) must be a period of twelve months ending on a day which falls not more than three months before the date of the declaration of eligibility in which it is specified.

(5) A confirming statement given in accordance with paragraph (1)(b)(i) must state that the recognised accountant signing the statement has reviewed—

- (a) the declaration of eligibility; and
- (b) any information relating to the assets on which the declaration of eligibility is based—
  - (i) of which the recognised accountant was aware at the time at which the recognised accountant was asked to make the confirming statement, or
  - (ii) which the recognised accountant has subsequently requested from the individual giving the declaration of eligibility,

and that nothing has come to the recognised accountant’s attention which suggests that the declaration of eligibility is false.

(6) A UK deposit-taker may accept a declaration of eligibility without a confirming statement if it is satisfied that the declaration of eligibility is true.

(7) The date of a declaration of eligibility is the date given by the individual making the declaration when that individual dates the declaration.

### **Declaration of eligibility: determining assets held by an individual**

**10.**—(1) For the purpose of preparing a declaration of eligibility the assets of an individual (“A”) must be calculated as follows—

- (a) at the end of each quarter in the eligibility calculation period calculate the value of such assets held by A as are necessary to demonstrate that A meets the condition specified in article 9(3) to give quarterly totals; and
  - (b) add the quarterly totals together and divide by four.
- (2) For the purpose of calculating quarterly totals—
- (a) any money on deposit in a joint bank account for which A is one of the account holders shall be treated as held by A alone;
  - (b) if A holds any other asset jointly with one or more other persons, A shall be treated as holding —
    - (i) a share of the asset determined in accordance with any agreement between the owners of the asset concerning the shares in which they hold the asset, or
    - (ii) if there is no such agreement, a share of the value of the asset which is equal to the total value of the asset concerned divided by the number of joint owners.

(3) In this article “assets”, in relation to an individual, means assets of one of the kinds mentioned in paragraph (5) which are held—

- (a) by that individual as legal and beneficial owner, solely or jointly with others; or
- (b) by another person for the benefit of that individual (solely or jointly with others) under a trust.



(4) For the purpose of paragraph (3)(b) assets which are held in a part of the United Kingdom other than England or Wales or in a country or territory outside the United Kingdom are to be regarded as held under a trust if they are held under an arrangement under the law of that part, country or territory which corresponds to a trust.

(5) The kinds of asset referred to in paragraph (3) are—

- (a) money, including money held on deposit; or
- (b) transferable securities as defined in Article 4.1(18) of the markets in financial instruments directive<sup>(22)</sup>.

(6) In this article “joint bank account” means an account—

- (a) opened in the name of two or more persons; or
- (b) over which two or more persons have rights that are exercised by means of the signature of one or more of those persons.

(7) In this article, a reference to a quarter is a reference to any complete quarter falling within a core deposit calculation period for a UK deposit-taker.

## PART 3

### Circumstances in which UK deposit-takers are not ring-fenced bodies

#### **Circumstances in which UK deposit-takers are not ring-fenced bodies**

**11.**—(1) A UK deposit-taker is not a ring-fenced body if—

- (a) it carries out the regulated activity of effecting or carrying out contracts of insurance as principal in accordance with a permission under Part 4A of the 2000 Act;
- (b) it is a registered society, a Northern Ireland industrial and provident society or a Northern Ireland credit union; ;
- (c) it complies with the condition set out in paragraph (2) (the “relevant event condition”); or
- (d) it complies with the condition set out in article 12 (the “core deposit level condition”).

(2) In relation to a UK deposit-taker, the relevant event condition is—

- (a) that the UK deposit-taker would not be a ring-fenced body but for the occurrence of a relevant event; and
- (b) not more than four years have passed since the date of that relevant event.

(3) In this article “relevant event”, in relation to a UK deposit-taker, means an event of one of the following kinds—

- (a) as a result of a transfer effected by an instrument or order made under or in accordance with any provision of the Banking Act 2009<sup>(23)</sup> the UK deposit-taker or a member of its group—
  - (i) acquires property, rights or liabilities from another institution, or
  - (ii) acquires securities issued by another institution;
- (b) any other power conferred by or as a result of Part 1 of the Banking Act 2009 is exercised in relation to the UK deposit-taker.

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<sup>(22)</sup> The “markets in financial instruments directive” is defined in section 425(1)(a) of and paragraph 4C of Schedule 3 to the 2000 Act. Paragraph 4C of Schedule 3 was inserted by, and section 425(1)(a) was amended, by [S.I 2006/2975](#).

<sup>(23)</sup> 2009 c. 1.

### **Core deposit level condition**

- 12.**—(1) The core deposit level condition is that at any particular time (“T”)—
- (a) in the case of a UK deposit-taker which is not a member of a group, its average core deposit total is equal to or less than £25 billion;
  - (b) in the case of a UK deposit-taker which is a member of a group, the sum of the average core deposit totals for each member of the group that is a relevant group member is equal to or less than £25 billion.
- (2) For the purpose of paragraph (1)(b) a group member is a relevant group member if—
- (a) it is a UK deposit-taker; and
  - (b) it does not carry out the regulated activity of effecting or carrying out contracts of insurance as principal in accordance with a permission under Part 4A of the 2000 Act.
- (3) Subject to article 13, the average core deposit total for a UK deposit-taker is determined as follows—
- (a) calculate the total core deposits held by the UK deposit-taker at the end of each quarter in the core deposit calculation period to produce quarterly totals; and
  - (b) add those quarterly totals together and divide by the number of quarters in the core deposit calculation period.
- (4) The core deposit calculation period is—
- (a) in the case of a UK deposit-taker that has existed for three financial years or more, the period of three consecutive financial years of that UK deposit-taker which ends immediately before the start of the financial year in which T falls;
  - (b) in the case of any other UK deposit-taker, the period for which that UK deposit-taker has existed at T.
- (5) If a UK deposit-taker holds core deposits in a currency other than sterling, the quarterly totals referred to in paragraph (3) must be calculated by converting financial amounts representing such deposits into sterling.
- (6) The conversion must be made by reference to an appropriate spot rate of exchange as at the last day of the quarter to which a quarterly total relates.
- (7) In this article a reference to a quarter is a reference to any complete quarter falling within a core deposit calculation period for a UK deposit-taker.

### **Deposits excluded from determination of core deposit level**

- 13.**—(1) For the purpose of determining the average core deposit total for a UK deposit-taker the quarterly totals referred to in article 12(3) do not include deposits if—
- (a) the deposits concerned are held by the UK deposit-taker as a result of the transfer to it of all or part of the business of another institution, other than by way of an excluded transfer; and
  - (b) not more than four years have passed since the date of completion of that transfer.
- (2) For the purpose of calculating the sum referred to in article 12(1)(b) the average core deposit total for a UK deposit-taker is not included if—
- (a) the relevant UK deposit-taker (the “target institution”) became a member of the group concerned as a result of another member of that group (the “acquiring institution”) acquiring securities issued by the target institution;
  - (b) at the date of that acquisition the target institution was not a ring-fenced body;

- (c) that acquisition would, but for the provisions of this paragraph, have resulted in the group of which the acquiring institution is a member ceasing to meet the condition in article 12(1)(b); and
  - (d) not more than four years have passed since the date of completion of the acquisition.
- (3) In this article “excluded transfer” means a transfer which is made—
- (a) by way of a ring-fencing transfer scheme; or
  - (b) to a UK deposit-taker from an institution which is a member of the same group as the UK deposit-taker as at the date of the transfer.

## PART 4

### Requirements for non ring-fenced bodies

#### **Rules about information to be provided by a non ring-fenced body to individual account-holders**

14.—(1) The FCA must make rules specifying the information a non ring-fenced body must provide at any specified time (“specified information”) to—

- (a) individuals who have applied to open an account with that non ring-fenced body (including a joint account); and
  - (b) account-holders of that non ring-fenced body who are individuals.
- (2) The specified information must include a description of—
- (a) any excluded activity<sup>(24)</sup> which the non ring-fenced body is carrying on; and
  - (b) any prohibited action which the non ring-fenced body has taken;

at the time at which rules made by the FCA under paragraph (1) specify the information must be provided.

- (3) In this article—
- (a) “non ring-fenced body” means a UK deposit-taker which is not—
    - (i) a ring-fenced body, or
    - (ii) an institution which is exempt from the definition of a ring-fenced body by virtue of section 142A(2) of the 2000 Act or any order made under that section;
  - (b) “prohibited action” means any action which a ring-fenced body is prohibited from taking by the excluded activities and prohibitions order.

Date

*Name*  
*Name*  
Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her  
Majesty’s Treasury

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(24) “Excluded activity” is defined in section 142D of the Act. Section 142D was inserted into the Act by the Financial Services (Banking Reform) Act 2013 (c 33), section 4.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order specifies classes of institution which are exempted from the definition of “ring-fenced body in section 142A of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (c.8) (“the Act”). The classes of institution which are exempted are insurance companies, societies registered under s. 1 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 (which include credit unions and industrial and provident societies), Northern Ireland credit unions, Northern Ireland industrial and provident societies, banks which hold less than £25 billion core deposits, and bodies which would only have become ring-fenced bodies as a result of action being taken under the Banking Act 2009 to stabilise a bank in financial difficulty where not more than four years has passed since the date of that action.

Article 2 defines core deposit and provides that if a deposit is not a core deposit, then the activity of accepting it is not a core activity. A deposit is a core deposit if it held in an EEA account unless one or more of account holders is a relevant financial institution; a qualifying organisation; a member of a qualifying group, or an eligible individual.

Article 3 defines a qualifying organisation as an organisation that has confirmed to a UK deposit-taker that it met the qualifying condition in the relevant financial year.

Article 4 specifies the qualifying condition for a body corporate or a partnership. The condition is that in a relevant financial year the organisation meets at least one of three conditions: its turnover is not less than £6.5 million; its balance sheet total is not less than £3.26 million; it employs not less than 50 people.

Article 5 specifies the qualifying condition for a public body, a charity or a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO). The condition is that in a relevant financial year the organisation has a gross income of more than £6.5 million.

Article 6 sets out the requirements for the confirming statement which must be provided with the declaration made by a qualifying organisation.

Article 7 requires an organisation which providing to a UK deposit-taker a qualifying organisation declaration that is supported by annual accounts, to provide those annual accounts in sterling, or accompanied by a set of those annual accounts converted into sterling.

Article 8 defines “qualifying group member” and sets out the requirements for the declaration which must be made by the qualifying group member.

Article 9 defines when an individual is an eligible individual and how they may certify this is the case by providing a declaration of eligibility. An individual is eligible if they have provided a statement that they held not less than £250,000 in assets on average during the period of one year ending with the date of the declaration of eligibility.

Article 10 makes provision about how to determine the assets held by an individual and the value of those assets (which must consist of money or transferable securities) for the purpose of preparing a declaration of eligibility.

Article 11 specifies types of UK deposit-taker which are not ring-fenced bodies.

Article 12 sets out the core deposit level condition which determines whether or not a deposit-taker is a ring-fenced body, and makes provision for calculating the average core deposit total for UK deposit-takers.

Article 13 makes provision for the exclusion of certain deposits from the average core deposit total.

Article 14 requires the FCA to make rules applicable to non ring-fenced bodies specifying information they must provide to their account holders in specified circumstances.

An Impact Assessment of the effect of the Financial Services (Banking Reform) Act 2013, and the secondary legislation to be made under it (including this Order) on the costs of business and the voluntary sector has been prepared and is available on HM Treasury's website ([www.gov.uk/treasury](http://www.gov.uk/treasury)) or from the HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ and is annexed to the Explanatory Memorandum for this Order.