



# Financial Services and Markets Act 2000

## 2000 CHAPTER 8

### PART I

#### THE REGULATOR

##### *The Authority's general duties*

## **2 The Authority's general duties.**

- (1) In discharging its general functions the Authority must, so far as is reasonably possible, act in a way—
  - (a) which is compatible with the regulatory objectives; and
  - (b) which the Authority considers most appropriate for the purpose of meeting those objectives.
- (2) The regulatory objectives are—
  - (a) market confidence;
  - (b) public awareness;
  - (c) the protection of consumers; and
  - (d) the reduction of financial crime.
- (3) In discharging its general functions the Authority must have regard to—
  - (a) the need to use its resources in the most efficient and economic way;
  - (b) the responsibilities of those who manage the affairs of authorised persons;
  - (c) the principle that a burden or restriction which is imposed on a person, or on the carrying on of an activity, should be proportionate to the benefits, considered in general terms, which are expected to result from the imposition of that burden or restriction;
  - (d) the desirability of facilitating innovation in connection with regulated activities;
  - (e) the international character of financial services and markets and the desirability of maintaining the competitive position of the United Kingdom;

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*Status: Point in time view as at 13/02/2004. This version of this provision has been superseded.*

**Changes to legislation:** Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, Section 2 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 10 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

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- (f) the need to minimise the adverse effects on competition that may arise from anything done in the discharge of those functions;
  - (g) the desirability of facilitating competition between those who are subject to any form of regulation by the Authority.
- (4) The Authority’s general functions are—
- (a) its function of making rules under this Act (considered as a whole);
  - (b) its function of preparing and issuing codes under this Act (considered as a whole);
  - (c) its functions in relation to the giving of general guidance (considered as a whole); and
  - (d) its function of determining the general policy and principles by reference to which it performs particular functions.
- (5) “General guidance” has the meaning given in section 158(5).

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**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

**C1** S. 2(4)(a) restricted (17.8.2001) by S.I. 2001/2617, arts. 2(a), 4(3), Sch. 2 paras. 9, 11

**C2** S. 2(4)(c) restricted (17.8.2001) by S.I. 2001/2617, arts. 2(a), 4(3), Sch. 2 paras. 13-16

**Status:**

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