Financial Conduct Authority



Minutes

Meeting: FCA Board Meeting

Date of Meeting: 5 February 2016 at 3.00pm

Venue: 25 The North Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London E14 5HS

Present: Andrew Bailey John Griffith-Jones (Chair)

Catherine Bradley* Tracey McDermott

Amanda Davidson Jane Platt

Amelia Fletcher Christopher Woolard

In attendance: Set out in Annex A

Apologies: Sir Brian Pomeroy

*by telephone

Quorum and Conflicts

The Meeting noted there was a quorum present and proceeded to business.

1 Specific items of Business

1.1 Thematic Review: Fair treatment of long-standing customers in the life insurance sector

The Board received the paper and noted the following points:

- following the previous Board discussion in December, the team had finalised the report setting out the key findings of the thematic review into the fair treatment of long-standing customers by life insurers, including the FCA's expectations of firms in this area for the future. In line with the Board's previous agreement this was planned to be published on 3 March 2016;
- the Executive planned to begin engagement with the industry to seek a voluntary solution
 to capping and/or removing exit and paid-up charges on investments of the type that were
 subject to the review. This work would be in addition to the new duty to make rules,
 proposed by HM Treasury and currently being considered by parliament to cap exit
 charges on customers cashing in, and taking certain other action relating to their pension
 savings from age 55 following on from the government's pension reforms; and
- the Executive had considered the options for undertaking any backward-looking work, including the appropriate use of formal enforcement powers. The paper set out the recommended approach and considered the potential market impact of any announcement of work in this area.

The Board considered the proposal recommended.

The Board agreed the proposed approach using enforcement powers.

2 The Rules and Guidance to be determined

The Board made the one instrument set out in Annex B.

3 Any other business

There was none.

Claire Strong
Deputy Company Secretary

ANNEX A: Attendees

Megan Butler Director, Supervision – Investment, Wholesale & Specialists

Vickiesha Chabra Associate, Chairman's Office

Sean Martin General Counsel

Simon Pearce Company Secretary

Eleanor Searley Manager, CEO Office

Mark Steward Director, Enforcement & Market Oversight

Claire Strong Deputy Company Secretary

Caroline Gardner Head of Department, Pensions & Retirement Income (for item 1.1)

(for item 1.1)

Bonita Nightingale Manager, Life Insurance Themes (for item 1.1)

Carol Thomas Associate, Life Insurance Themes (for item 1.1)

Linda Woodall Director, Life Insurance & Financial Advice (for item 1.1)

ANNEX B: Resolution

The Board of the Financial Conduct Authority resolves to make the following instrument:

Benchmarks (Amendment No 2) Instrument 2016 (FCA 2016/8)