



Bank of England PRA

Application for Authorisation

UK Insurance Special Purpose Vehicle (UK ISPV) Application Form – Notes

Terms in this form

In this form we use the following terms:

- 'AMRE' refers to Aggregate Maximum Risk Exposure as defined in the PRA Rulebook
- 'applicant' refers to the person or firm applying on behalf of the proposed UK ISPV, where the entity has not been established yet. Where an entity has already been established the applicant may be the entity, or a person or firm applying on its behalf.
- 'cedant' refers to the undertaking which the UK ISPV assumes risk from;
- 'FCA' refers to the Financial Conduct Authority;
- 'FSMA' refers to the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000;
- 'UK ISPV' refers to a UK ISPV, as per the meaning given in the Glossary of the PRA Rulebook;
- 'UK ISPV webpage' refers to the following webpage: <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/prudential-regulation/authorisations/insurance-special-purpose-vehicles>
- 'UKMISPV' refers to a UK multi-arrangement UK ISPV, as per the meaning given in the Insurance Special Purpose Vehicles Part of the PRA Rulebook;
- 'Part 4A Permission' refers to the permission granted by the PRA to carry out one or more regulated activities as per section 55F (within Part 4A) of FSMA;
- 'PCC' refers to a Protected Cell Company;
- 'PRA' refers to the Prudential Regulation Authority;
- 'Qualifying holding' has the meaning given in Chapter 1.2 of the Insurance Special Purpose Vehicles Part of the PRA Rulebook;
- 'RAO' refers to Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Regulated Activities) Order 2001 (SI 2001/544);
- 'RTR' refers to the Risk Transformation Regulations 2017;
- 'SOP' refers to Scope of Permission;
- 'Statement of Policy' refers to the PRA's Statement of Policy 'The Prudential Regulation Authority's approach to authorising and supervising of UK insurance special purpose vehicles';
- 'VoP' refers to Variation of Permission;
- 'we', 'us' or 'our' refers to the appropriate regulator; and
- 'you' refers to the person(s) signing the form on behalf of the applicant.

Note: The requirements that an applicant seeking to become a UK MISPV must meet are the same as those for a standalone UK ISPV. Therefore, unless otherwise indicated, all references made to "UK ISPV" in this form are equally applicable to UK MISPVs

Introduction

Background

Entities wishing to operate in the United Kingdom as a UK ISPV need to apply to the PRA for a 'Part 4A Permission' to perform the regulated activity of 'insurance risk transformation' as defined in Regulation 13A of the RAO. The application will be reviewed in conjunction with the FCA and FCA consent will be required before authorisation by the PRA. If the firm will be a PCC then the applicant will also need to submit an application to register the PCC (accessed via the [ISPV webpage](#)).

Pre-application stage

An applicant can submit an application at any time, but the PRA also offers applicants the possibility of a 'pre-application stage' prior to formal submission. This is not a mandatory part of the authorisation process, but in our experience, it can make the review process quicker and simpler once a formal application is subsequently submitted. A pre-application stage will also be used by the PRA to determine whether proposals meet the criteria for a standard application and be handled via the green channel. The PRA will endeavour to confirm whether such proposals have been identified as a standard application within 2 weeks of beginning the pre-application stage. More information can be found on the [ISPV webpage](#).

Relevant requirements

A full list of the relevant legal and policy material in relation to UK ISPVs is set out in Chapter 1 of the PRA's Statement of Policy.

In the PRA's Statement of Policy and the 'FCA Statement – authorising and supervising insurance special purpose vehicles' the PRA and FCA, respectively, outline their approach and expectations to authorising UK ISPVs, including the relevant parts of the PRA Rulebook and FCA Handbook, respectively, which must be met. Further, the UK ISPV must also meet the relevant provisions in the Risk Transformation Regulations 2017, and FSMA, including the PRA and FCA Threshold Conditions.

Particular importance is placed on compliance with Chapter 2B of the Insurance Special Purpose Vehicles Part of the PRA Rulebook which relate to the requirements on the UK ISPV to be 'fully funded', ensure 'effective risk transfer' and ensure subordination of the 'rights of the providers of debt or financing mechanisms'. Additionally, an UK MISPV must also demonstrate compliance with Chapter 4 of the Insurance Special Purpose Vehicles Part of the PRA Rulebook-

ISPV Application Form

Appendix 2 of the PRA's Statement of Policy prescribes the information which must be included in an application for an UK ISPV. The UK ISPV Application Form includes this information, along with other relevant information which is likely to assist the PRA and FCA in reaching their decision. Once we have reviewed the information submitted as part of this application, we reserve the right to seek additional information where required. Applicants are required to complete the application form in full and are encouraged to signpost where supporting documentation contains evidence the mandatory authorisation conditions are met to enable a quicker and simpler review process.

UK ISPV Application Form – Notes

These notes intend to provide further guidance for applicants when completing and submitting an UK ISPV Application Form.

Documentation requirements

We would like applications to contain documentation which is as complete as possible. However, we appreciate that, due to the transactional nature of ILS it may be the case that (1) final documentation or (2) the complete set of documentation will not always be available at the start of the application stage. Applicants should discuss this with us to explain what is likely to be available and how this might affect the timing of the application.

In cases where final documentation is not available at the point of application, we are happy to consider receiving draft documentation provided that it is at an advanced stage and only relatively minor amendments are expected prior to the final documentation being submitted. Substantive changes following submission of the application are likely to extend the time needed for assessment. We understand that the transaction documents are legally executed after approval, and therefore some specific commercial terms may remain outstanding until the transaction closes. The applicant should identify where this is the case in the documentation prior to approval being granted and confirm they do not impact the mandatory authorisation conditions.

In the cases where the complete set of documentation is not available at the point of application, we would anticipate discussing this with the applicant at the pre-application stage to understand which documents we can expect to receive at the point of application, and which at an agreed later date.

Further information on all of the above, including the application process, the authorisation itself, and the post-authorisation supervisory and reporting requirements can be found in the PRA's Statement of Policy and the FAQs on the [ISPV webpage](#).

Draft for consultation

1 Core Details

We need to know this information to contact the relevant individuals during our assessment, to enable efficient processing of the application and to update the Financial Services Register, the public record of authorised firms, upon approval.

Applicant

1.1 Is the applicant acting on behalf of the proposed UK ISPV?

In the case of a standalone UK ISPV the entity may not have been established at the point of submitting an application, and in the case of a PCC, the PCC entity may only be established upon authorisation. Therefore, pending the PCC's incorporation, the sponsor of the proposed PCC may apply on its behalf. The applicant should indicate the capacity in which it is acting and why the proposed UK ISPV cannot execute the application on its own behalf.

1.2 Principal place of business of applicant.

No additional notes.

Contact for this application.

1.3 Contact details of the person we will get in touch with about this application.

No additional notes.

Details of professional advisers

Some applicants seek professional advice in completing the application (e.g. from a compliance consultant or lawyer). Questions 1.4 to 1.6 ask if the applicant has had such help, and if so, requests details of its adviser.

1.4 Has a professional adviser been used to help with this application?

No additional notes.

1.5 Name and contact details of professional adviser.

No additional notes.

1.6 Shall we copy all correspondence to the professional adviser?

Please note that while we will copy correspondence to the applicant's professional advisers, we will correspond with all relevant parties during the application and assessment process.

Timings for this application

1.7 Does the applicant have a target date for authorisation to be considered (dd/mm/yy)?

The exact timeframe varies from application to application, but we endeavour to reach a decision as quickly as possible. The PRA will assess proposals to determine whether they qualify as a standard application and be handled via a green channel with a decision provided within 4-6 weeks. Where effective pre-application engagement has taken place the 4-6 week timeframe is more likely to be feasible. Applications which are novel or more complex may require longer than 4-6 weeks for additional review time. The official statutory deadline of 6 months for a complete application is explained in paragraph 2.19 of the PRA's Statement of Policy. However, a decision is expected to be reached within a much shorter timeframe. More information on the pre-application stage, and how to submit a good quality application can be found on the [ISPV webpage](#).

Where the PRA is able to approve the application much faster it shall let the applicant know at the earliest.

Legal status of the proposed UK ISPV

1.8 Principal place of business of the proposed UK ISPV.

Once authorised, this address will appear on the firm's public entry on the Financial Services Register. In addition, other basic information about the UK ISPV will be uploaded to the Financial Services Register, and therefore these details will be in the public domain. The details uploaded include information on the UK ISPVs permitted regulated activities, any approved persons, e.g. SMF directors, and other basic details. It may take up to one working day for this information to show on the register.

1.9 For a UK ISPV which is not a PCC, please provide the Certification of Incorporation, Memorandum of Association, Articles of Association and the registered company number on the Companies House register. For a PCC continue to Question 1.12.

As outlined in Question 1.1, in the case of an UK ISPV which is not a PCC, the entity may not have been established at the point of submitting an application. Please explain if this is the case, or if there is another reason, and also outline when the applicant expects the requested information to be submitted. If relatively advanced draft documentation is available, then this may be submitted as part of the application.

1.10 You must confirm that all details given above match Companies House records.

No additional notes.

1.11 Is the applicant Firm a body corporate?

No additional notes.

1.12 For a PCC, please enclose a completed Application Form for Registration of Protected Cell Companies (accessed via the UK [ISPV webpage](#)), and its Instrument of Incorporation.

As outlined in Question 1.1, in the case of a PCC, the PCC entity can only be established upon authorisation. However, this should not prevent the requested documentation being submitted prior to approval. If this information is not available please provide a reason, and also outline when the applicant expects the requested information to be submitted. If relatively advanced draft documentation is available then this may be submitted as part of the application.

Pursuant to Regulation 21(2) of the RTR, where possible, please provide the FCA a statement signed by the solicitor or counsel of, or acting on behalf of, the proposed UK ISPV confirming that the Instrument of Incorporation satisfies the requirements of Regulation 19 of the RTR. For a non PCC continue to Question 1.13.

Providing the relevant statement signed by the solicitor or counsel of, or acting on behalf of, the proposed UK ISPV will prevent unnecessary delays to the authorisation.

A person certifying the Instrument of Incorporation must fall within one of the categories:

“Counsel” means a person who is—

- a) a barrister within the meaning given in section 207 of the Legal Services Act 2007;
- b) a practising member of the faculty of advocates in Scotland; or
- c) a barrister who has been called to the bar in Northern Ireland and who holds a current practising certificate.

“Solicitor” means a person who is—

- a) a solicitor within the meaning given by section 207 of the Legal Services Act 2007;
- b) enrolled on the roll of solicitors kept under section 7 of the Solicitors (Scotland) Act 1980; or
- c) a solicitor within the meaning given by Article 3(2) of the Solicitors (Northern Ireland) Order 1976.

Section 207 of the Legal Services Act 2007 states that a “barrister” is an individual that has been called to the Bar by an Inn of Court, and is not disbarred by order of an Inn of Court. “Solicitor” means a solicitor of the Senior Courts, and “solicitor of the Senior Courts” suggests a person who has already completed their

training contract and has been admitted as a solicitor of the Senior Courts and whose name is on the roll of solicitors.

History of applicant

1.13 Has the applicant ever submitted and had approved a similar application, to the extent the proposed cedant is the same, *and* the information included in the application form and its supporting transaction documents are substantially the same?

Where an application is sufficiently similar to a previous transaction that has been authorised, to the extent it is the same cedant and substantially the same transaction documentation, we will aim to leverage as far as possible any work done in the previous application. We would expect to discuss with the applicant the level of changes they envisage so we can focus our review as much as possible on the key changes.

1.14 Has the applicant ever been refused – or had revoked – any licence, membership, authorisation, registration or other permission granted by a financial services regulator or government body in the United Kingdom or overseas?

No additional notes.

1.15 Has the applicant ever, after having made an application to a regulatory body for any of the items below, decided not to proceed with it?

No additional notes.

Draft for consultation

2 Scope of Permission

In accordance with Regulation 7 of the RTR, as a standard part of the approval process for any UK ISPV, the PRA will impose a limitation on the FSMA 'Part 4A Permission', which will determine the scope of the regulated activities that the UK ISPV may carry on (referred to as the "Scope of Permission" or "SOP"). The SOP will set out the regulated activity/activities any UK ISPV is authorised to carry on; and any limitations attaching to it.

Type of UK ISPV

2.1 For which type of entity is the applicant seeking authorisation?

For a PCC application, the applicant will need to include an Application Form for Registration of Protected Cell Companies alongside this application form. If the intention is to grant authorisation as a PCC, the FCA will then incorporate the PCC. Once incorporated, then the PRA will authorise the vehicle. If the decision is to refuse authorisation, the FCA will not incorporate the PCC.

Regulated activities

2.2 Please confirm that the applicant is seeking permission for the proposed UK ISPV to carry on the regulated activity of insurance risk transformation.

See Article 13A of the RAO for definition of 'insurance risk transformation'. The definition is also set out in chapter 3A of the Risk Transformation Regulations 2017.

2.3 Please confirm that the applicant requests permission for the proposed UK ISPV to carry on the regulated activity of 'Agreeing to carry on a regulated activity'.

Given the regulated activity of insurance risk transformation is excluded from those activities outlined in PERG2.7.21 of the FCA Handbook, the applicant must also apply for the proposed UK ISPV to carry on the regulated activity of 'agreeing to carry on a regulated activity'.

2.4 Is the applicant intending for the proposed UK ISPV to carry on any ancillary activities?

No additional notes.

Limitation on the Scope of Permission (SoP)

2.5 Does the applicant want any flexibility in its SoP?

The SoP will be based on the information included in the application form. This information must be of sufficient quality and detail to clearly demonstrate compliance with the relevant requirements. The contents of the SoP will be agreed on a case-by-case basis between the applicant and the PRA, taking into account the components listed in the Statement of Policy. The PRA may deem it appropriate to include any other information submitted as part of this application within the SoP.

If the applicant wants flexibility regarding future transactions, for example, flexibility on the types of risks underwritten, trigger mechanisms, contractual terms in its transaction documents, or changes in service providers, this must be highlighted and the specifics of the flexibility documented in this form at the outset. Highlighting such flexibility only in the latter stages of the authorisation process will likely result in the authorisation timelines being extended.

In the case of a UK ISPV which accepts only a single risk transfer, it is likely that the applicant will not require much flexibility in its SoP. However, in the case of an UK MISPV, especially for a PCC, the SoP provides applicants with a flexible tool to allow the possibility of seeking authorisation in advance for future UK MISPV transaction structures so that future transactions may be executed without further regulatory approval.

Consistent with Part 4A of FSMA, an UK ISPV may not act outside its SoP. This means that in the case of an UK MISPV, future transactions must fall within the SoP.

Where an UK ISPV wishes to perform activities that are outside its current SoP, it can apply to the PRA for approval for the SoP to be updated. An UK ISPV should do this by submitting an application for a variation of permission (VoP) using the UK ISPV VoP Application Form (see the ISPV webpage for a link to the relevant form). If this is approved, an updated SoP will be issued. The timetable for approval is likely to vary depending on the complexity of the changes proposed.

3 Funding, Risk Transfer and Subordination

ISPVs must meet the applicable requirements related to fully funded, effective risk transfer and subordination of providers of debt or finance (i.e. investor),

As outlined in the previous Scope of Permission section, if the applicant wants flexibility regarding future transactions, this must be highlighted, and the specifics of the flexibility documented in this form at the outset.

Note: The applicant should complete the requests in this section by providing any documents needed as an annexure and listed the cross reference to the relevant part(s) of that supporting document that correspond to each of the requests. Where the applicant considers a request is not applicable they must explain why. The information in this section is needed to ensure that the UK ISPV meet the relevant requirements in the PRA rule book chapter on UK ISPVs

Further information relating to specific potential transaction features can be found in the PRA's Statement of Policy and the FAQ on the [ISPV webpage](#).

Purpose of the UK ISPV

3.1 How will the UK ISPV remain fully funded?

This information is required for the PRA to assess that the UK ISPV will remain fully funded at all times.

Where an UK ISPV uses different bank accounts to segregate the expense liabilities from the insurance liabilities, please provide details of the different bank accounts, including the purpose, investment strategy, where applicable, and pre- and post-enforcement priority of payments, where applicable, for each. For a PCC this includes details of bank accounts in the core and the cell(s).

The applicant should consider stress and/or scenario tests. For example, how would the UK ISPV ensure it has, at all times, assets; the value of which are equal to or exceed the AMRE:

- if the value of the assets used to meet the AMRE were to deteriorate – do limited recourse provisions or do top-up arrangements exist and how might these be relied upon;
- in the event of default, insolvency, bankruptcy or other credit event relating to one of the counterparties to the contractual arrangements; or
- where the UK ISPV is relying on investment income to fund future fees and expenses, where these items are included in the calculation of the AMRE.

In addition, depending on the structures used, the following may also be relevant – fully paid in funds, collateral arrangement/structure, payout instructions, loss payments, collateral releases to providers of debt or finance (i.e. investors), limited recourse and non-petition provisions, off-balance sheet commitments, future premiums, etc. The UK ISPV should determine which of these are relevant and share the relevant information with the PRA. Ultimately, the applicant must be able to convince the PRA that the UK ISPV will remain fully funded.

3.2 How will the UK ISPV ensure effective risk transfer which is enforceable in all relevant jurisdictions, clearly defined and incontrovertible?

This information is required for the PRA to assess that the risk transfer from the cedant to the UK ISPV and further to the investor is effective, enforceable in all relevant jurisdictions, clearly defined and incontrovertible. This may include the details of the risk to be transferred including any offering materials where relevant, the form of the risk transfer, risk periods, early termination events, commutation approach. Ultimately, the applicant must be able to convince the PRA that the UK ISPV will ensure risk transfer.

3.3 How will the UK ISPV ensure subordination?

This information is required for the PRA to assess that the investor's rights are subordinated at all times to the reinsurance obligations of the UK ISPV to the insurance or reinsurance undertaking. The applicant should provide reference to the clauses which give legal effect to

- the claims of the providers of debt or financing mechanisms are at all times being subordinated to the reinsurance obligations of the UK ISPV to the cedant;
- no payments being made to the investors if this would result in the UK ISPV no longer being fully funded
- the investors having no rights of recourse to the assets of the cedant and no rights to apply for the winding up of the UK ISPV

3.4 How will the UK ISPV will invest its assets?

This should include the following:

- a) How does the UK ISPV properly identify, measure, monitor, manage, control and report its assets?*
- b) How does the UK ISPV ensure the security, quality, liquidity, localization and profitability of the portfolio as a whole?*
- c) How are assets invested appropriate to the nature and duration of its liabilities?*
- d) What use is made of derivative instruments, if any?*
- e) How does the UK ISPV ensure that investments and assets which are not admitted to trading on a regulated market shall be kept to prudent levels;*
- f) How does the UK ISPV ensure that assets are properly diversified in such a way as to avoid excessive reliance on any particular asset, issuer or group of undertakings, or geographical area and excessive accumulation of risk in the portfolio as a whole*
- g) How does the UK ISPV ensure that investments in assets issued by the same issuer, or by issuers belonging to the same group, do not expose the UK ISPV to excessive risk concentration.*

3.5 Purpose of the UK ISPV

No additional notes.

3.6 Contractual terms and conditions

Provide the necessary cross references to each clause. If, given the structure of the planned transaction, any clause is not relevant to the transaction please explain that in detail via an appropriate cross reference.

4 Systems of Governance

ISPVs must meet the applicable requirements related to fitness and propriety of individuals and shareholders, appropriate governance, systems and controls, as well as supervisory reporting.

As outlined in the previous Scope of Permission section, if the applicant wants flexibility regarding future transactions, this must be highlighted with specifics of the flexibility documented in this form at the outset.

Fit and proper requirements of persons who effectively run an UK ISPV

This information is required for the PRA to assess the UK ISPV's compliance with section 2C of the rule book.

We need to be satisfied that the UK ISPV will have staff of adequate quality, skills and experience at all levels. We will also consider the extent to which the members of the governing body have experience in the financial services industry.

What is an approved person?

An approved person is a person who is approved by the relevant regulator to perform a senior management function or a FCA controlled function at an authorised firm. To be approved, and continue to be approved, to perform a senior management function (SMF) or a FCA controlled function (CF), an individual must meet and maintain the criteria for approval (the 'fit and proper test') and then perform their relevant function(s) in line with the PRA Rulebook and FCA Handbook; and FCA's Code of Conduct (COCON).

Please be aware that once the vehicle is approved, the names of the approved SMF and/or CF individuals will be shown on the Financial Services Register: <https://register.fca.org.uk>.

What is a senior management function?

A senior management function is a function, relating to the carrying on of a regulated activity by a firm, which is specified by the PRA in the table of PRA senior management functions, under section 59 of FSMA 2000.

A full list of all the senior management functions and an explanation of each one can be found at:

PRA Functions: Insurance - Senior Insurance Management Functions Part of the PRA Rulebook

FCA Functions: SUP10A of the FCA Handbook

You should review the description of each senior management function and identify those that apply to the UK ISPV.

- 4.1 List below the names of the individuals who will perform the SMR functions required of an UK ISPV - SMF1(ISPV) - as well as those who will be performing any other applicable SMR functions (such as an SMF 3, if relevant). Also, please fill in the relevant application form (see Senior Managers Regime – Applications and Notifications Part of the PRA Rulebook) for each of the individuals nominated for a SMF role at the UK ISPV.**

The relevant SMR Form A application forms can be found [here](#).

Please complete all sections of the relevant SMR application forms in particular please provide full details to the information requested in Section 6 of the SMR Form A application form.

Please note that although Form M notification forms are not required at the point of application for UK ISPV authorisation, any subsequent changes to NEDs or Key Function Holders post authorisation should be submitted to the PRA.

As described in paragraph 3.28 of the PRA's Statement of Policy, the PRA takes a case-by-case approach to SMF applications. In addition, provided that there are no conflicts of interest; a SMF role could be held by a suitably senior employee or director of a third-party (such as an outsourced service provider).

- 4.2 Please also provide information about the identity, qualification and relevant experience of all persons who will be employees of the UK ISPV (other than the SMR or controlled functions above), including details of persons who will be effectively running the UK ISPV (for more information on**

‘effectively running’ see paragraph 3.26 of the PRA’s Statement of Policy) and those who will hold key function holder responsibilities. An individual may perform more than one key function.

All individuals who are ‘effectively running’ the UK ISPV must satisfy the fit and proper criteria set out in the Insurance – Fitness and Propriety Part of the PRA Rulebook. ‘Effectively running’ is described in paragraph 2.32 of SS35/15 ‘Strengthening individual accountability in insurance’. It is normally expected to include all the members of the governing body as well as the senior management of the UK ISPV who are responsible for key decision making and for implementing the strategies and policies approved by the governing body.

Fit and proper requirements for qualifying holdings – Chapter 2C of the Insurance Special Purpose Part of the PRA Rulebook and as per Threshold Condition 2.3 of the FCA Handbook.

This information is required as part of PRA’s assessment of the UK ISPV’s compliance with Chapter “C of the insurance Special Purpose vehicles Part of the PRA Rulebook, and in particular, to help us to understand who will control/own the UK ISPV and the relationships the UK ISPV may have with other individuals or entities.

4.3 Structure Chart

Provide a structure chart of the proposed UK ISPV’s ownership/equity structure and of any close links.

The term ‘Close Link’ has the meaning given in threshold condition 4F(3) (Effective Supervision) as set out in Schedule 6 (Part 1E) of FSMA.

If there will be any close links, outline whether they might prevent our effective supervision of the UK ISPV, and the business type of the close link.

No additional notes.

4.4 Provide an assessment of the applicable accounting consolidation requirements of the UK ISPV into a group.

The applicant should provide an assessment of the applicable accounting consolidation requirements of the UK ISPV into a group. Where the UK ISPV is consolidated into a group the PRA will need to assess the specific circumstances for consolidation against the relevant requirements.

4.5 Qualifying holdings

The term ‘qualifying holding’ has the meaning of Chapter 1.2 of the Insurance Special Purpose Vehicle Part of the PRA Rulebook.

- a) For standalone UK ISPVs, describe the UK ISPV’s framework for assessing the fitness and propriety of each shareholder that will meet the qualifying holding threshold. This should consider all of the criteria in Chapter 2C of the Insurance Special Purpose Vehicles Part of the PRA Rulebook.**
- b) For each shareholder that will meet the qualifying holding threshold and, for a PCC, provide the following where applicable**
- c) If applying for an MISPV which is a PCC, and thus applying to register a PCC, will there be any arrangements within the PCC which could enable shareholders in cells to exercise significant influence over it?**

No additional notes

Sound administrative and accounting procedures, adequate internal control mechanisms and risk management requirements

This information is required for the PRA to assess the UK ISPV's compliance with 2C8 and 2C9 of the Rulebook and for the FCA to assess compliance with SYSC and Threshold Condition 2.4.

4.6 Describe how the system of governance and management will be in accordance with the Rulebook requirements under 2C8 and 2C9 and as per SYSC and Threshold Condition 2.4 of the FCA Handbook. Details of supporting documentation must be provided in the cross reference.

No additional notes.

4.7 IT Systems – Provide responses to the following:

We do not specify which IT systems the UK ISPV should use. The UK ISPV's regulated activities must be supported by IT services which are effective, resilient and secure and have been appropriately designed to meet expected future as well as current business needs.

The risks to the UK ISPV's proposed business as a result of the failure or error of its IT systems will be greater if the UK ISPV's IT system is complex and/or it is dependent on its IT systems. In such cases, we require additional information on the UK ISPV's planned IT systems, and the control framework for managing the risks. We need to be satisfied that the UK ISPV will have in place robust IT systems and the control framework for managing the risks posed by them from authorisation and on an ongoing basis. In addition, where a firm outsources critical or important IT and related functions, it remains fully responsible for carrying out all of its obligations under the regulatory system.

4.8 Outsourcing – will the applicant be outsourcing any key functions or additional services? If so, provide a written outsourcing policy and details of all outsourcing or sub-contracting arrangements

a) Outsourced arrangements

If the UK ISPV chooses to use an outsourced service provider for the delivery of critical services, it must comply with the General Outsourcing Requirements (SYSC 8.1 of the FCA Handbook and the Outsourcing Part of PRA Rulebook). The overall aim of these regulatory obligations is to ensure that operational risk is appropriately managed and the use of the outsourced service provider does not impair the ability of the PRA to regulate the UK ISPV. Where an UK ISPV outsources key or important operational functions or any relevant services and activities, it remains fully responsible for discharging all of its obligations under the regulatory system and must comply with the following conditions:

1. the outsourcing must not result in the delegation by senior personnel of their responsibility;
2. the relationship and obligations of the UK ISPV towards its clients under the regulatory system must not be altered;
3. the conditions with which the UK ISPV must comply in order to be authorised, and to remain so, must not be undermined; and
4. none of the other conditions subject to which the UK ISPV's authorisation was granted must be removed or modified.

b) Outsourcing oversight

The UK ISPV must have adequate reporting lines and regular oversight in place to ensure that the outsourced service providers are operating in line with the outsourcing agreements, and that any breaches/issues of the outsourced service providers are reported appropriately. The UK ISPV needs to monitor and manage outsourced services to determine the ongoing appropriateness of the service provider, and prevent undue operational risk to the vehicle.]

c) Outsourcing of day-to-day management

In line with the general prohibition (section 19 of FSMA), a person (including a firm) cannot carry out a regulated activity in the UK, or purport to do so, unless they are either an authorised person or an exempt person under FSMA. An authorised person can only carry out regulated activities for which they have been given specific 'Part 4A permission' by either the FCA or PRA (depending on the regulated activities carried on) under each regulator's respective authorisation process.

Anyone doing business in the UK should establish whether their proposed business requires them to apply for authorisation to carry on regulated activities. The activities and specified investments which constitute 'regulated activities' are set out generally under FSMA and are defined in the RAO which is secondary legislation under FSMA.

It is the responsibility of the outsourced service provider to satisfy themselves that they are not carrying on any regulated activity without the required 'Part 4A permission'. Similarly, it is for the applicant to have satisfied themselves that the outsourced service provider is not acting without the required permissions.

d) A list of material outsourcing agreements.

No additional notes.

4.9 Supervisory reporting

This information is required for the PRA to assess the UK ISPV's compliance with rule 5A.

Once authorised, the date of the financial year end is the date that will be used to determine the timing of the UK ISPV's reporting to us in accordance with rule 5A.4. If the UK ISPV is a limited company the date entered here must match that in the Companies House Registration.

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5 Compliance Arrangements

The applicant must have the appropriate compliance arrangements in place.

Compliance procedures

- 5.1 Please confirm the applicant has in place documented compliance procedures that relate specifically to the regulated business for which it is seeking permission.**

No additional notes.

Compliance monitoring programme

- 5.2 Please confirm the applicant has in place a documented compliance monitoring programme that relates specifically to its compliance procedures manual.**

No additional notes.

Other information relevant to this application

- 5.3 Is there any other information relevant to our assessment of this application?**

No additional notes.

Financial crime

- 5.4 ISPVs should have appropriate policies and procedures to prevent financial crime. Please describe the steps the applicant has, or will, put in place to counter the risks that might be used by others to further financial crime. This includes any offence involving a) fraud or dishonesty; b) misconduct in, or misuse of information relating to, financial markets; or c) handling the proceeds of crime.**

No additional notes.

Draft for Consultation

6 Documents for this application

Please list which forms and documents are included in the application pack.

Supporting Documentation

- 6.1 List below all the documents that are being sent with this application. The documents should cover, inter alia, details of Compliance monitoring - oversight, controls and resourcing.**

No additional notes.

- 6.2 Please provide any comments on supporting documents if necessary.**

No additional notes.

Draft for consultation

7 Application fee

The applicant must send a BACS payment or cheque for the appropriate application fee in full with this application, otherwise the application will not be processed.

Application fee

No additional notes.

How to pay by BACS payment

No additional notes.

How to pay by cheque

No additional notes.

Draft for consultation

8 Declaration

Declaration

No additional notes.

Who must sign the declaration?

No additional notes.

Draft for consultation