

Minutes of the Working Group on Sterling Risk-Free Reference Rates new member induction event
Wednesday 24th January 2018
Barclays' offices – 5 North Colonnade

Background

1. In early 2018 the Working Group on Sterling Risk-Free Reference Rates was reconstituted such that it would reflect a broader range of market participants.¹ The purpose of the induction was to summarise the Group's work up to date and to outline the progress made on technical issues discussed in sub-groups.
2. The session covered issues previously discussed in Working Group meetings. No material new issues were raised.

Introductions

3. The Bank of England and FCA introduced the event. A round of introductions took place in which the Chair and Vice Chairs explained the scope of their roles.

Competition law

4. The Chair reminded all members of the Working Group of their responsibilities in relation to compliance with competition law and the importance of taking their own independent competition law advice.

Key areas covered in induction event

5. Members were briefed on the following key areas:
 - a. Rationale for SONIA as the sterling risk-free reference rate (RFR);
 - b. Work being done to reform SONIA;
 - c. The future of Libor (a recap of Andrew Bailey's July speech²);
 - d. The work of the following sub-groups of the Working Group:
 - i. Term reference rates;
 - ii. SONIA futures;
 - iii. Pensions and Insurance adoption;
 - iv. Transition issues in syndicated loan markets;
 - v. Transition issues in bond markets;
 - e. The progress of the ISDA working group looking at fallback arrangements in derivative contracts
6. The event concluded with a closing statement from Chris Salmon in which he thanked members for their commitment to the work of the Working Group.

¹ A press release announcing the reconstitution of the group can be found at the following link:
<https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/news/2017/november/bank-and-fca-launch-next-phase-of-sterling-libor-transition-work>

² <https://www.fca.org.uk/news/speeches/the-future-of-libor>

Private sector attendees

Francois Jourdain	Barclays (Chair)
Andreas Giannopoulos	Barclays (Chair's office)
Simon Wilkinson	Legal & General Investment Management (Vice Chair)
Frances Hinden	Shell (Vice Chair)
Robert De Roeck	Aberdeen Standard Investments
Shaun Kennedy	Associated British Ports
Sarah Boyce	Association of Corporate Treasurers
Nick Siggers	Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Robert Mitchelson	Blackrock
Aude Pacatte	European Bank for Reconstruction & Development
Jasper Lillingston	European Bank for Reconstruction & Development
Sarah-Jane Chilver-Stainer	GlaxoSmithKline
Nikhil Choraria	Goldman Sachs
Chirag Dave	Goldman Sachs
Robert Gall	Insight Investment
Chris Rhodes	ICE Group
Paul Richards	ICMA
Rick Sandilands	ISDA
Galina Dimitrova	Investment Association
Ross Barrett	Investment Association
Clare Dawson	Loan Market Association
David Horner	London Stock Exchange Group
David Covey	M&G Investments
Tommy Chung	Nationwide Building Society

Official sector attendees

Chris Salmon	Bank of England
Ed Ocampo	Bank of England
Tim Taylor	Bank of England
Imane Bakkar	Bank of England
Will Parry	Bank of England
Rob Harris	Bank of England
Josh Jones	Bank of England
Edwin Schooling Latter	Financial Conduct Authority
Harriet Hunnable	Financial Conduct Authority
Devid Mazzonetto	Financial Conduct Authority
Heather Pilley	Financial Conduct Authority
Adeshini Naidoo	Financial Conduct Authority
Toby Williams	Financial Conduct Authority