Conduct of Business Sourcebook

Chapter 20

With-profits

COBS 20 : With-profits

20.4 **Communications with with-profits** policyholders Provision and publication of PPFM 20.4.1 R A firm must: (1) on request, provide its PPFM, or the PPFM applicable to specified with-profits funds: (a) free of charge to its with-profits policyholders; or (b) for a reasonable charge to any person who is not its with-profits policyholder; and (2) if the *firm* publishes its *PPFM* on its website, prominently signpost its location there. Notification of changes 20.4.2 A firm must send its with-profits policyholders who are affected by any R change in its PPFM, written notice, setting out any: (1) proposed changes to the with-profits principles, three months in advance of the effective date; and (2) changes to the *with-profits practices*, within a reasonable time. 20.4.3 R A firm need not give the notice required if the change to its PPFM: (1) is necessary to correct an error or omission; or (2) would improve clarity or presentation without materially affecting the PPFM's substance; or (3) is immaterial. **Requirements on EEA insurers** 20.4.4 R [deleted] 20.4.5 R [deleted] 20.4.6 G [deleted]

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		Annual report to with-profits policyholders
20.4.7	R	A <i>firm</i> must produce an annual report to its <i>with-profits policyholders</i> , which must:
		(1) state whether, throughout the <i>financial year</i> to which the report relates, the <i>firm</i> believes it has complied with its obligations relating to its <i>PPFM</i> and setting out its reasons for that belief;
		(2) address all significant relevant issues, including the way in which the <i>firm</i> has:
		 (a) exercised, or failed to exercise, any discretion that it has in the conduct of its with-profits business; and
		(b) addressed any competing or conflicting rights, interests or expectations of its <i>policyholders</i> (or groups of <i>policyholders</i>) and, if applicable, <i>shareholders</i> (or groups of <i>shareholders</i>), including the competing interests of different classes and generations.
20.4.8	G	The following documents should be annexed to the annual report in this section:
		(1) the report to <i>with-profits policyholders</i> made by a <i>with-profits actuary</i> in respect of each financial year (see SUP 4.3.16AR(4)); and
		(2) any statement or report provided by the <i>person</i> or committee who provides the independent judgement under the <i>firm</i> 's governance arrangements for its <i>with-profits business</i> .
20.4.9	G	In preparing the annual report to <i>with-profits policyholders</i> , a <i>firm</i> should take advice from a <i>with-profits actuary</i> .
20.4.10	G	A <i>firm</i> should make the annual report available to <i>with-profits policyholders</i> within six <i>months</i> of the end of the <i>financial year</i> to which it relates. A <i>firm</i> should notify its <i>with-profits policyholders</i> in any annual statements how copies of the report can be obtained.