

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Overview

- 1.1** **I** This chapter gives an introduction to this guidance.
- 1.1.1** **G** The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) is the registering authority for 'registered societies' under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 (the Act). Registered societies are:
- (1) co-operative societies;
 - (2) community benefit societies;
 - (3) pre-commencement societies (societies previously known as 'industrial and provident societies'). In this document we refer to all registered societies simply as 'societies'.
- 1.1.2** **G** This guidance explains:
- (1) how we approach our role as registering authority;
 - (2) our policy;
 - (3) certain processes under the Act;
 - (4) how we apply society law in our role as registering authority.
- 1.1.3** **G** This guidance may help people:
- (1) setting up a society;
 - (2) on the board of a society;
 - (3) advising a society.
- 1.1.4** **G** Members of societies may also find this guidance useful.