

Chapter 8

Obligations & Process



8.4 Change of name

- 8.4.1** G A society's name will stay the same unless we register a change. To change its name, a society must pass a resolution at a general meeting with the appropriate notice. Charities registered in Scotland must also include confirmation from OSCR that it has given permission for the name change when they apply to us to register the change.
- 8.4.2** G If the resolution is passed, societies should complete our name change form and return to us. The name change does not become effective until we have registered it.
[Note: <http://www.fca.org.uk/your-fca/documents/forms/change-of-name-form>]
- 8.4.3** G We explain our approach to names on ■ RFCCBS 3.8 and ■ RFCCBS App 1.
- 8.4.4** G The name a society wishes to register must be available. To see whether a name is available the society should check Companies House, the Charity Commission, OSCR and the Mutuals Public Register.
[Note:<http://www.companieshouse.gov.uk/> , <http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/>, <http://www.oscr.org.uk/>, <http://mutuals.fsa.gov.uk/>]
- 8.4.5** G Societies should also check if the name they want to use includes any words that require permission or approval for use. See RFCCBS App 1 for more information.
- 8.4.6** G Regulated housing associations must notify their regulator of any change to their name.
- 8.4.7** G We do not need to be notified of business names or changes to them. However if the society is applying to use a sensitive word that requires FCA approval under financial services legislation e.g. 'bank', then it must seek that approval.
[Note: <https://www.fca.org.uk/firms/firm-details/sensitive-business-names>]
- 8.4.8** G Societies must comply with the requirements in Part 41 Companies Act 2006 about business names.