Chapter 3

Rules about application



## 3.2 What?

- 3.2.1A PRIN (other than Principle 12 and ■ PRIN 2A) applies with respect to the carrying on of:
  - (1) regulated activities;
  - (2) activities that constitute dealing in investments as principal, disregarding the exclusion in article 15 of the Regulated Activities Order (Absence of holding out etc);
  - (3) ancillary activities in relation to designated investment business, home finance activity, regulated funeral plan activity, credit-related regulated activity, insurance distribution activity and accepting deposits; and
  - (4) activities directly arising from insurance risk transformation.
- 3.2.1B Other than with respect to a firm that is a credit union, PRIN also applies with respect to:
  - (1) the provision of payment services;
  - (2) issuing of electronic money (where not the activity of issuing electronic money specified in article 9B of the Regulated Activities Order); and
  - (3) activities connected to the provision of payment services and to the issuing of electronic money (whether or not the activity of issuing electronic money specified in article 9B of the Regulated Activities Order).
- 3.2.1C Issuing of *electronic money* will therefore be covered under either ■ PRIN 3.2.1AR(1) where it is the regulated activity of issuing electronic money specified in article 9B of the Regulated Activities Order, or under ■ PRIN 3.2.1BR where it is not that regulated activity.
- 3.2.2 PRIN also applies with respect to the communication and approval of financial promotions which:
  - (1) if communicated by an unauthorised person without approval would contravene section 21(1) of the Act (Restrictions on financial promotion); and

- (2) may be *communicated* by a *firm* without contravening section 238(1) of the *Act* (Restrictions on promotion of collective investment schemes).
- **3.2.2-A G** PRIN applies to the communication of promotions concerning payment services and electronic money.
- **3.2.2A R** [deleted]
- 3.2.3 R Subject to PRIN 3.2.4R, *Principles* 3, 4 and (in so far as it relates to disclosing to the *FCA*) 11 (and this chapter) also:
  - (1) apply to *firms* with respect to the carrying on of *unregulated* activities (for *Principle* 3 this is only in a *prudential context*); and
  - (2) for *firms* and other *persons* that are subject to the *Principles*, take into account any activity of other members of a *group* of which the *firm* is a member.
- 3.2.4 R In relation to an *Annex II benchmark administrator* which:
  - (1) administers only *benchmarks* which are subject to Annex II to the *benchmarks regulation*; and
  - (2) does not have *permission* to carry on any other *regulated activities* in relation to which *Principle* 11 applies,

*Principle* 11 (in so far as it relates to disclosing to the *FCA*) applies only to the *regulated activity* of *administering a benchmark*.

The FCA only expects an Annex II benchmark administrator subject to

■ PRIN 3.2.4R to disclose information under Principle 11 which is relevant to the firm's compliance with its obligations under the benchmarks regulation.

## Principle 12 and PRIN 2A: additional application provisions

- (1) Principle 12 and PRIN 2A apply to a firm's retail market business, including in respect of existing products and closed products.
  - (2) (a) Subject to (b), Principle 12 and PRIN 2A apply to a firm with respect to the communication or approval of a financial promotion (see PRIN 3.2.2R), but only if the financial promotion is addressed to, or disseminated in such a way that it is likely to be received by, a retail customer.
    - (b) Principle 12 and ■PRIN 2A do not apply to the communication or approval of a financial promotion to the extent that the financial promotion relates to an activity that is excluded from the definition of retail market business by virtue of limbs (1) to (6) of that definition.

3.2.6

- (3) If the firm is a credit union, and except insofar as Principle 12 and ■ PRIN 2A apply by virtue of (2), then *Principle* 12 and ■ PRIN 2A do not apply to the following activities:
  - (a) payment services and activities connected to the provision of payment services, except where the activity is an ancillary activity in relation to a regulated activity other than issuing electronic money; and
  - (b) activities connected to or ancillary activities in relation to issuing electronic money, but only insofar as the activity is not an ancillary activity in relation to another regulated activity.
- 3.2.7 Where *Principle* 12 and ■ PRIN 2A apply to the activities of a *firm* operating in a distribution chain, *Principle* 12 and ■ PRIN 2A apply only to the extent that the person is responsible in the course of carrying out those activities for determining or materially influencing retail customer outcomes.
- 3.2.8 R Subject to ■ PRIN 3.2.7R, *Principle* 12 and ■ PRIN 2A do not apply to activities to the extent that those activities are not included in a rule which sets out the scope of protections offered to retail customers by COBS, ICOBS, MCOB, BCOBS, CMCOB, FPCOB, PROD or CONC.
- 3.2.9 G [deleted]

## **Interaction between Principle 12 and Principles 6 and 7**

- 3.2.10 R Principles 6 and 7 do not apply to a firm's activities to the extent that Principle 12 and ■ PRIN 2A apply.
- G 3.2.11 Activities to which *Principles* 6 and 7 rather than *Principle* 12 and ■ PRIN 2A may apply include, for example, services provided to professional clients.
- G 3.2.12 Principle 12 and ■ PRIN 2A have a broader application than Principles 6 and 7, for example they apply to firms in the distribution chain for whom the retail customer may not be a client.