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## Feedback on Consultation Paper 10 **2017 Levy Schemes**

Issued 07 April 2017

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### Contents:

- A: Summary
  - B: Consultation overview
  - C: Summary of responses
  - D: Next steps
- 

### **A: Summary**

The Channel Islands Financial Ombudsman (CIFO) can prescribe schemes for case fees and levies to be paid by certain financial services providers in respect of the expenses of CIFO. CIFO consulted on the draft 2017 levy schemes in early 2017. Two submissions with comments were received from stakeholders in response to this consultation, both supported the proposed 2017 levies.

Based on further information from new registered providers, showing a smaller number amongst whom the total is divisible, the Guernsey non-banking sector levy has been slightly adjusted (from £794 to £807). The other amounts remain the same. The Guernsey levy scheme has been amended accordingly and the CIFO board approved the levy schemes on 29 March 2017. The Financial Services Ombudsman Levy Scheme (Jersey) 2017 [‘the 2017 Jersey Levy Scheme’] and the Financial Services Ombudsman Levy Scheme (Bailiwick of Guernsey) 2017 [‘the 2017 Guernsey Levy Scheme’] were published on 07 April 2017 and come into force on 10 April 2017.

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### **B: Consultation overview**

The Channel Islands Financial Ombudsman (CIFO) published Consultation Paper 10: 2017 Levy Schemes on 03 February 2017, with a closing date of 20 March 2017. The consultation paper was published on the CIFO website, featured in a CIFO newsletter and notifications were sent to stakeholder representatives. The consultation included the following consultation questions.

Q1: Do you have any comments on the proposed levy schemes?

Q2: Do you have any feedback on the 2016 levy process, such as on the ease of use of the zero-rating certification form and the clarity of the documentation?

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## **C: Summary of responses**

Three responses were received, from:

- Citizens Advice Guernsey;
- Standard Bank; and
- Barclays Bank PLC, Jersey branch and Barclays Bank PLC, Guernsey branch.

Citizens Advice Guernsey had no comments; the other two responses supported the proposed levy amounts.

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## **D: Next steps**

The proposed levy amounts in the draft 2017 levy schemes were calculated using a best estimate, at the date of publication of the consultation paper, of the predicted number of levy-payers for 2017. This estimate was based on the numbers of levy-payers in 2016 and initial analysis of the data provided by the regulators on the number of registered providers as at 3 January 2017. It took into account changes in the number of registered providers and included estimates on the number of new registered providers that will be eligible for zero rating. Based on further information from new registered providers, showing a smaller number amongst whom the total is divisible, the Guernsey non-banking sector levy has been slightly adjusted (from £794 to £807). The other amounts remain the same. The Guernsey levy scheme has been amended accordingly and the CIFO board approved the levy schemes on 29 March 2017.

The 2017 Jersey Levy Scheme and the 2017 Guernsey Levy Scheme were published on 07 April 2017 and come into force on 10 April 2017. CIFO will commence issuing levy notices to the banking sector in the coming weeks and to the other sectors thereafter, in May 2017.

The review of CIFO funding will commence in April with stakeholder briefing sessions in each island (see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/channel-islands-financial-ombudsman-10906388018> for details).

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