

Financial Markets Law Committee (“FMLC”)

FinTech Scoping Forum

Terms of Reference



Background and Remit

The financial markets are undergoing rapid transformation owing to technological developments. Virtual currencies, blockchain and initial coin offerings (“**ICOs**”), to name a few new technologies, have presented uncharted territory for established financial markets law, forcing experts to rethink regulation.

The Financial Markets Law Committee (“**FMLC**”) has established the Finance and Technology (“**FinTech**”) Scoping Forum to provide a space for discussion of current and future issues of legal uncertainty arising in the context of technological innovations in financial markets.

The Forum membership includes representatives of banks, trade associations, academics, in-house counsel and solicitors/barristers in private practice.

The Forum may examine issues arising under the current regulatory framework as well as future proposals. In this capacity, it may consider any or all of English, European, international and foreign law.

The Forum supports the FMLC’s radar function by liaising with legal and financial experts from both the public and private sectors in order to ascertain areas of legal uncertainty.

The Forum will make recommendations as to the FMLC's work on FinTech issues. The final decision on these matters rests with the Committee.

Conduct of business

Members of the Forum should meet at least every quarter but may, if it is deemed necessary, meet more regularly. A Forward Schedule, containing meeting dates for the year, will be circulated at the beginning of every year.

Members of the Forum act in a purely personal capacity. The names of the institutions that they ordinarily represent may be mentioned for information purposes only.

For reasons of diversity of perspective, inclusion and practicality, any one organisation should not have multiple colleagues (i.e. more than a maximum of two) with membership of the Forum.

Non-members may be invited to attend meetings as guest speakers. For reasons of continuity and accountability, the participation of non-members *qua ad hoc* observers is not permitted. This rule

Registered Charity Number: 1164902.

"The FMLC" and "The Financial Markets Law Committee" are terms used to describe a committee appointed by Financial Markets Law Committee, a limited company ("FMLC" or "the Company"). Registered office: 8 Lothbury, London, EC2R 7HH. Registered in England and Wales. Company Registration Number: 8733443.

does not apply to individuals from regulatory authorities and international standard setting bodies, who may be invited to attend Forum meetings to ensure transparency.

In order to encourage individual participation, Forum members are not permitted to send alternates to attend meetings. Dial-in details will only be made available (on request) to participants outside the U.K.

Issues for the FMLC/Output

The Forum will not itself have any *vires* to initiate projects or pass resolutions affecting the FMLC. Where a substantive issue of legal uncertainty is raised by members of the Scoping Forum, this may be proposed by the Secretariat to the FMLC as a topic which may require further action. The Committee may then establish working groups and undertake further work on the issue.

Chairs

The Chairs of the Scoping Forum will be chosen on a rotational basis.

Secretariat

The Secretariat will support the Chair and the Forum during meetings, as well as manage Forum-related communications outside meetings. The Secretariat will help draft and circulate meeting agenda and related documents in advance of Forum meetings and take note of minutes. Members are encouraged to suggest agenda items through the Secretariat.

Minutes

The Secretariat will publish the agenda and minutes of all Forum meetings on the [FMLC website](#), in accordance with a protocol which has been previously agreed with members. Pre-arranged presentations and comments by the Chair will be attributed but *ad hoc* comments or observations will not be. Recommendations to the Committee and agreed next steps will be recorded but dissent will not be a matter of record. Following every meeting, a member of the Secretariat will circulate draft minutes for attendees' approval and may request permission to publish any background materials provided as part of the agenda.