

Annex 1




6-month progress on actions in PM letter

On 24 December 2024, the Prime Minister wrote to the main UK regulators (including the FCA) seeking ideas for growth. In our [response letter](#) of 16 January 2025, we set out our plans to do this, listing some 50 actions we are taking to unlock new potential in the economy. Below, we provide a 6-month update on our progress in pursuit of those goals.

(Note: The government published the policy paper [New approach to ensure regulators and regulation support growth](#) and met with the main UK regulators in March 2025. The ✓ symbol denotes items mentioned in [Annex A: Key regulator pledges](#) in that policy paper.)

Initiative set out in our response to PM Letter	Complete	Key milestones in the first 6 months (January to June 2025)	Planned Next Step (July to December 2025)
Investment research		PS25/4	
Value for money framework (VFM) for workplace Defined Contribution (DC) pensions		CP24/16	Consultation paper on proposals to refine and further develop the VFM framework Q4
Growth research		Research competition winners announced Conference Commissioned follow on research Q2	Annual economics conference Q4
Remuneration reforms		CP24/23	Policy statement Q4
Commodity derivatives framework		PS25/1	
Unlocking capital investment and liquidity			
Prospectus (POP) regime reform		CP25/2 CP25/3	Policy statement Q3
Public offers and admission to trading (POAT) reform		CP25/2 CP25/3	Policy statements Q3
PISCES Sandbox to support trading in private markets		CP24/29 Interim Statement PS25/6 Sandbox opens for applications	Review applications from market operators to enter the PISCES Sandbox

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Targeted support for consumers with pensions and investments		<u>CP24/27</u> <u>CP25/17</u>	Working closely with key stakeholders from all relevant sectors to consider feedback Policy statement Q4
Simplified product information – A new framework for Consumer Composite Investments		<u>CP24/30</u> <u>CP25/9</u>	Policy statement Q4
Reduce conduct requirements for wholesale insurers		<u>CP25/12</u>	Policy statement Q4
Streamline asset management requirements		<u>Call for input</u>	Consulting on proposals early 2026
Consolidated tape (for bonds)		<u>Tender for provider commenced</u>	Select provider Q3 Completion of authorisation process Q4
Review capital requirements for specialised trading firms			Discussion paper Q4 Engagement paper Q1 2026
Accelerating digital innovation to enhance productivity			
Appoint new Executive leader for Payments and Digital Finance		New ED for Payments and Digital Finance and Managing Director PSR <u>appointed</u>	Working closely with government on a smooth transition as PSR is primarily consolidated with FCA
Accelerate adoption of securities settlement in one day (T+1)		<u>Welcomed the Accelerated Settlement Taskforce report</u>	Working with the Accelerated Settlement Taskforce to monitor market preparations
Progress Digital Securities Sandbox		<u>10 applicants accepted</u> (as of 30 June 2025)	
Roadmap for digital assets in the asset management industry		Problem statement and vision Q2	<u>Guardian report</u> Q3 Consultation paper Q4
Credit information: industry governance		Interim Working Group (IWG) final recommendations Q2	<u>Response to IWG recommendations</u> Q3 Completion of FCA transition activities Q3
Reform rules on online tools explaining pensions		Discussion period closed end February 2025	Publication of feedback and, if appropriate, consultation on proposals Q4

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Finalise our approach to pension dashboards		Pension providers start connecting to MAPS's dashboard ecosystem Q2, ahead of October 2026 deadline	
New open banking payment method: variable recurring payments (VRP)		FCA and PSR set out next steps for open banking Q1 Open Banking Limited launches public consultation on the multilateral agreement for VRP Q1 Open Banking Limited publishes recommendations on the commercial model for VRP Q2	Publication: Design of Future Entity for Open Banking Q3-Q4 VRP go live Q3-Q4
Open finance regulatory framework: SME lending 		Open finance policy sprint Q2	Open Finance Spring report Q3-Q4
Considering amending or removing the £100 contactless limits 		Engagement paper closed Q2	Consultation paper Q3 Policy statement Q4
New digital service standards (eg, speed up bereavement claims in insurance)		Consultation with industry body; engaging with potential pilot firm on a possible sandbox approach	Ongoing stakeholder engagement to explore and develop a useable solution
Reducing the regulatory burden			
Consumer Duty Call for Input Handbook rule review		FS25/2	Further statement on work program and progress Q3
Machine readable handbook		Finalised design and build of the Handbook website	Parallel run with existing handbook Q3 Transition to new Handbook Q4
Reduce reporting burden for firms 		CP25/8 PS25/3 CP25/16: Quarterly Consultation paper Chapters 3, 6 and 7 PS25/7	Handbook notice related to June QCP Q3

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Senior Managers and Certification Regime reform			Consultation paper Q3 Working with government on further (legislative) reforms of the regime
Remove expectation of Consumer Duty board champion		<u>Effective Q1</u>	
Look to Consumer Duty to address new consumer protection issues where appropriate		Internally embedded and externally referenced where relevant and appropriate in our consumer protection consultations For example: In <u>CP25/9</u> , on Consumer Composite Investments we asked for comments on our approach to the Duty, which is a key element of our proposals	Ongoing
Mortgage: simplify our responsible lending and advice requirements for mortgages ✓		<u>CP25/11</u> <u>DP25/2</u>	Policy Statement Q3 Consider next steps based on feedback from <u>DP25/2</u> .
Mortgage: remove outdated guidance ✓		<u>CP25/11</u> <u>CP25/6</u>	Policy Statement Q3
Mortgages: remove overlapping standards (eg, Mortgage Charter)		<u>CP25/11</u> <u>DP25/2</u> On-going monitoring of Mortgage Charter	Policy Statement Q3
Making it easier for firms to start up and grow			
Improve authorisations performance		<u>Authorisations operating service metrics 2024/25 Q4</u>	

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Further digitise our authorisations process		Percentage of forms submitted via the digital platform: As of end of January: 8% As of end of March: 14% As of end of June: 27%	Continue programme delivery
A dedicated case officer to every firm in our regulatory sandbox ✓		Effective Q1	
50% more dedicated supervisors for more early and high growth firms ✓			Supervisors in post by September 2025
Extend our pre-application support service to all wholesale, payments and crypto firms ✓		Effective Q1	
'Minded to approve' approach to promising start-ups ✓		System improvements and training on 'minded to approve' rolled out	Approach fully embedded by Q3
Develop legislative framework enabling firms to conduct limited regulated activities with streamlined conditions		Proposals put to HMT, discussions continuing	
Improving our exports and inward investment			
Promote the UK's financial services internationally		Working with HMT, other government departments, regulators and stakeholders to determine the structure and aims of the new service	Supporting the government in launching the service progressively over the period
Establish a presence in the US		<u>In post</u> beginning Q2	
Establish a presence in the APAC regions		FCA's director – Asia-Pacific <u>appointed</u>	Director, Asia-Pacific in post Q3, based in Australia Additional posts in Asia-Pacific region established Q4

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Certainty and Predictability			
Provide clarity on motor finance redress		Engagement with stakeholders on issues to consider if we were to decide to introduce a redress scheme following the outcome of the Supreme Court judgment	Provide update on next steps within six weeks after judgement Q3
Reforms to redress framework		Extensive engagement with stakeholders, and joint working between FCA, FOS and HMT on policy development	Policy Statement Q3 Response to Redress Call for Input

We also set out the progress of some additional activities relevant to growth:

Initiative	Complete	Key milestones in the first 6 months (January to June 2025)	Planned Next Step (July to December 2025)
Embrace a digital first approach		<u>Joint letter</u> to trade associations Q1 <u>Joint Industry roundtable</u> with ICO Q2	AI Roundtable for smaller firms
Move from 43 portfolio letters to fewer financial market reports		Communicated removal of Dear CEO portfolio strategy letters April 2025	Forum to agree FCA market priorities to be held October 2025 Content of external financial market reports to be tested with firms Q4 with staged publication following in Spring 2026
My FCA		Launched 31 March 2025	
Strengthening Transparency of Regulators		Discussing potential changes to our Authorisations operating service metrics with HMT which will improve transparency and be more stretching for some of our processes	



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