

Telephone: 020 7066 8080  
Email: [foi@fca.org.uk](mailto:foi@fca.org.uk)

(By email)

13 February 2015

Our Ref: FOI3864

### **Freedom of Information : Right to know request**

We refer to your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), for the following information:

*"I would like to know, since the FCA began to regulate consumer credit in April 2014, how many applications for full authorisation from consumer credit firms has the FCA:*

- a) Received*
- b) Approved*
- c) Rejected*

*I would like this data broken down into:*

- (i) applications for authorisation,*
- (ii) applications for principal status, and*
- (iii) applications for appointed representative status."*

Your request has now been considered and the relevant information is provided below.

Please note that the data covers the period 1 April 2014 to 26 January 2015 and includes all new applications with full or limited permissions as well as applications for variation of permission.

The figures in the table below are mutually exclusive and show 'Withdrawn' applications, as this is a separate type of outcome the FCA captures alongside 'Approved' and 'Rejected'. Any remaining applications are deemed 'Applications in Progress'.

We have not quoted a separate number for *(ii) applications for principal status*. These are included in *(i)* as any authorised firm could appoint appointed representatives or use agents (see [CONC 14](#) of the FCA Handbook). While the FCA would expect any applicant to state their intentions in their application, or any authorised firm intending to amend their business model to notify us of that intention and to provide appropriate details, there is no distinct "principal status" for which a firm can be approved.

It is worth noting that from March we intend to start publishing data on credit authorisations (which will also include data on the outcome of application periods).

	Applications Received	Applications Approved	Applications Rejected	Applications Withdrawn	Applications In progress
New Authorisations	10,829	4,362	14	736	5,717
Appointed Representatives	7,884	7,857	n/a	n/a	27

Yours sincerely

Information Access Team  
Financial Conduct Authority