

Via Email

24 December 2018

Our Ref: FOI6055

Dear

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

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), dated 22 October 2018 for the following information. Your request has been numbered for ease of reference.

1. *"How many financial advisers there are in the UK?"*
2. *How many of these are female?"*
3. *How many financial advisers specialise in Equity Release?"*
4. *How many of these are female?"*

Please accept our sincerest apologies for the delay in responding to you.

Your request has been considered and the response is detailed below;

1. We published the number of advisers in Table 11 in the underlying data for the Data Bulletin in June:  
<https://www.fca.org.uk/data/data-bulletin-issue-13>

**Table 11: Retail investment adviser staff**

Type of firm	Number of firms	Number of adviser staff
Financial Adviser	5,281	26,311
Bank and Building Society	33	3,347
Investment Manager	226	2,131
Stockbroker	39	1,862
Other firms	288	1,555
Total	5,867	35,206

2. We do not have a breakdown of how many financial advisers are female. However, using the proportion of CF30s as a proxy, as at 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018, there were 10,555 females holding the CF30 in the UK. For a full definition of the CF30 function, please visit:  
<https://www.handbook.fca.org.uk/handbook/SUP/10A/10.html>.

Please note; We do not request Gender information on Approved Persons Applications and gender data is not stored. Salutation (outlined below) has been used as a proxy and therefore data might not be 100% accurate;

List of Female salutations:

Mrs  
Miss  
Ms  
Lady

Dame  
Marquess

3. We are not able to provide the figures for those Financial Advisers specialising in Equity Release as we do not hold the information requested.
4. As mentioned in Point 2 above, we do not request gender information and as per Point 3, we do not hold information specifically in relation to Financial Advisers specialising in Equity Release, therefore are unable to provide this information.

If you are unhappy with the decision made in relation to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. If you wish to exercise this right you should contact us within three months of the date of this response.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you also have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. Telephone: 01625 545 700. Website: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

Yours sincerely

Information Disclosure Team  
Financial Conduct Authority