

Email: foia@fca.org.uk

3 June 2019

Our Ref: FOI6425

Freedom of Information : Right to know request

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), dated 24 April 2019, for the following information:

"I am keen to understand [and ideally obtain a list of] how many FCA-regulated firms (a) have custody permissions (i.e. are covered by CASS) or (b) are non-bank credit institutions or engaged in lending."

Firstly, please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in responding to your request. I can confirm your request has now been considered and we have taken your request to be for the number of firms that a) have custody permissions or b) are non-bank credit institutions or engaged in lending.

For part a) of your request I can confirm, as at 24 May 2019, 1679 firms had custody permissions and so are considered a CASS firm. To be classed as a CASS firm a firm would need to hold one or more of the following regulated activities:

- Safeguarding and administering of assets (without arranging)
- Acting as trustee/depositary of a UCITS
- Acting as trustee/depositary of an authorised AIF
- Acting as trustee/depositary of an unauthorised AIF
- Managing an authorised AIF (where the firm is a Small AIFM)
- Managing an unauthorised AIF (where the firm is Small AIFM)

For part b) of your request, as at 24 May 2019, 4222 firms were non-bank credit institutions or engaged in lending. Non-bank lenders are classed as a firm that holds one or more of the following regulated activities:

- Entering into an RCA as lender (bill of sale) (where firm is not dual-regulated)
- Entering into an RCA as lender (home credit) (where firm is not dual-regulated)
- Entering into an RCA as lender (other) (where firm is not dual-regulated)
- Entering into RCA as lender (high-cost short-term) (where firm is not dual-regulated)

Further, you may like to be aware that as at 24 May 2019 there were 5001 firms who are considered non-bank credit institutions or engaged in lending including Building Societies, Friendly Societies and Credit Unions. To be classed as Building Societies, Friendly Societies and Credit Unions the firm would need to meet the following criteria:

- Accepting deposits
- Not have a primary category of:
 - o Bank (other than wholesale only)
 - o Wholesale only Bank

Your right to complain

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 sixty days 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.

Yours sincerely

Information Disclosure Team