2 November 2020 Our Ref: FOI7708

Dear

Thank you for your email of 7 October 2020 about FCA investigations.

The information contained in this response is correct as at 20 October 2020.

We are handling your email as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and our response to each question posed is below.

As you may be aware, the Financial Conduct Authority is the conduct regulator for nearly 60,000 financial services firms and financial markets in the UK and the prudential supervisor for 49,000 firms, setting specific standards for 19,000 firms. We publish the number of firms that we authorise in our yearly business plan that can be found on our <u>website</u>.

We will open investigations where we believe that serious misconduct has occurred. More information regarding approach to Enforcement can be found <u>here</u>.

Our approach during the pandemic has not changed. We continue to open investigations, where we suspect serious misconduct has occurred, to find out what happened, to determine what action to take, including whether to take enforcement action. Opening an investigation does not mean that misconduct has occurred or that any individual is guilty of misconduct. We close investigations if we find that there has been no serious misconduct.

BBLS, CBILS and CLBILS are all schemes introduced by the government since March 2020 to support businesses affected by coronavirus (Covid-19). Please see more information we have published on Business Interruption Loan Scheme <u>here.</u>

1. The number of investigations the FCA has opened and/or completed into the UK's Bounce Back Loan Scheme

We have not opened investigations into the UK's Bounce Back Loan Scheme.

2. The number of investigations the FCA has opened and/or completed into the UK's Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS) program?

We have not opened investigations into the UK's CBILS program.

3. The number of investigations the FCA has opened and/or completed into the UK's Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CLBILS) program?

We have not opened investigations into the UK's CLBILS program.

4. The name of any borrower and the value of the loan under each of the three schemes (BBLS, CBILS, CLBILS) that is being investigated?

As stated we have not opened investigations into the BBLS, CBIS OR CLBILS programs.

Your right to complain under FOIA

If you are unhappy with the decision we have made about your request, you have the right to request an internal review. To do so, please contact us within 40 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 by phone or on their website at:

Telephone: 0303 123 1113 Website: <u>www.ico.org.uk</u>

Yours sincerely,

Information Disclosure Team

