Connect User Guide

Recognition of a qualifying Standalone Overseas Collective Investment Scheme under the Overseas Funds Regime (OFR) (TMPR Scheme)

This user guide will help you:

 Apply for recognition of a qualifying Standalone Overseas Collective Investment Scheme in the Temporary Marketing Permissions Regime (TMPR) to the Overseas Funds Regime (OFR)

Important information to note:



A Standalone scheme is a scheme that:

- does not have two or more sub-funds and;
- it's fund rules or instruments of incorporation do not enable it to have two or more sub-funds.

This application is appropriate for firms that meet the following condition:

 An existing Operator/ Fund Management Company of a standalone scheme in TMPR that has been assigned their landing slot to migrate their Recognised EEA (European Economic Area) UCITS (excluding money market funds) to the OFR.

How to submit the application on Connect for recognition of a qualifying Standalone Overseas Collective Investment Scheme under OFR

You will need to log into **Connect** to make your application.

We recommend that you use Chrome to access **Connect** when drafting applications as the system has been optimised for this specific browser.

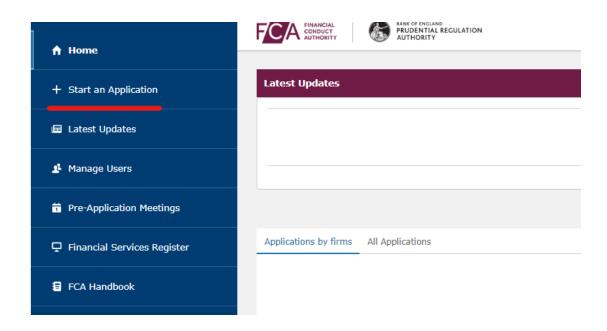
Avoid opening the same application in multiple tabs and ensure you have saved and closed the application before getting other users to review.

Please ensure that the scheme operator has completed an enrolment application. If an enrolment application has not been completed, you will not be able to access the relevant application form. Further details and a how to guide on enrolment, can be found <a href="https://example.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.com/here.co

Click <u>here</u> to log into **Connect.**

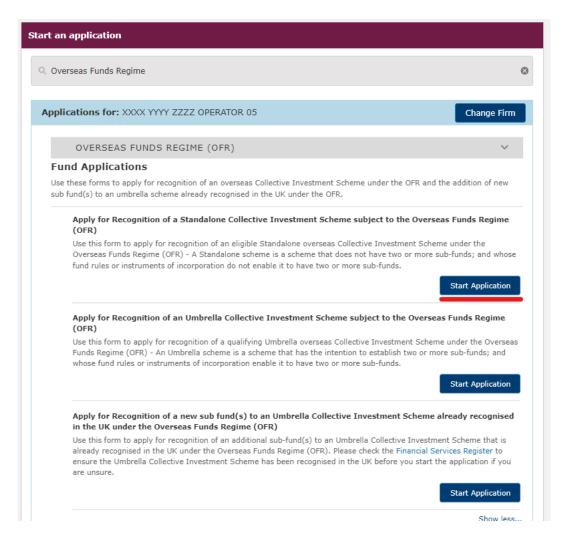
Locating the Form

When you first log into **Connect**, you will start on the Home Screen, click on "**Start an Application**".

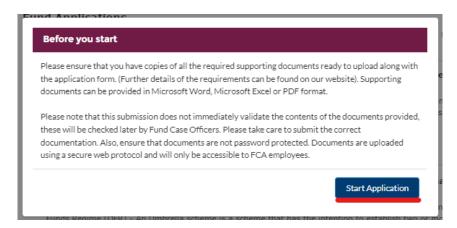


Next, search for "Overseas Funds Regime" using the search bar or scroll down the page.

Select "Start Application" to display the Standalone Scheme application form.



A "Before you start" pop up window will appear. Please read the information before you proceed.



Then click "Start Application" within the pop-up window.

Important information to note:

Before applying for recognition of a Scheme in TMPR, check the <u>Financial</u> <u>Services Register</u> first and ensure all the Scheme details and linked firms are correct. If they are not, please submit a <u>TMPR CH</u> form before starting the application. If you do not do this, and details are incorrect in the application, you will need to delete your application and re-start.



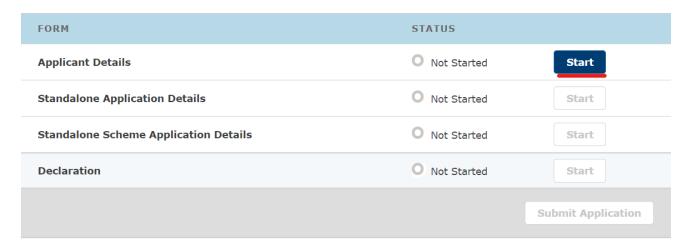
There are **4 sections** within the Recognition Application:

- 1) "Applicant Details"
- 2) "Standalone Application Details"
- 3) "Standalone Scheme Application Details"
- 4) "Declaration"

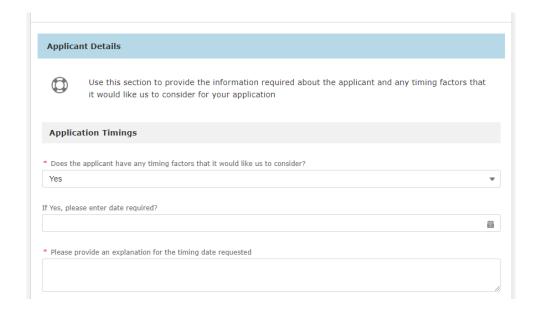
You will see the "Application Reference Number" at the top of the application as well as the "Checklist" button. The "Submit Application" button will be greyed out until all four sections have been marked as "Complete".



Click "Start" to enter "Applicant Details".



Within the "Application Timings" section, please let us know if there are any timing factors that you would like the **Case Officer** to take into account. For example, if you would like a decision by a certain date, please indicate this here.

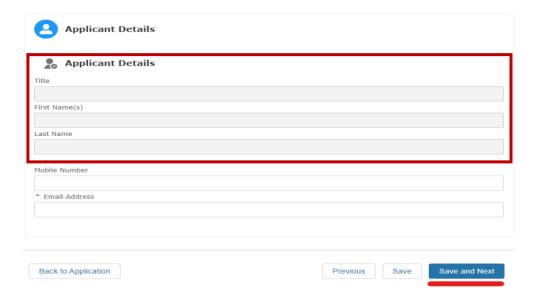


If there are timing factors to consider, select "Yes" and enter further information where relevant in the text boxes provided.

Please note that the case officer will review the application within **2 months** and consider any timing factors where possible.

"Applicant Details" will be prepopulated with details from your user profile. The contact detail fields are editable, so you can review and amend where needed.

The grey fields in this section cannot be amended in the form.



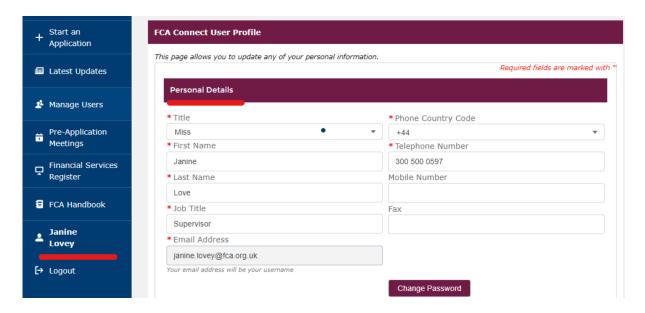
Then click "Save and Next".



To change the information in the grey fields, you will need to select the **personal details** icon from the Connect sidebar to edit the details.

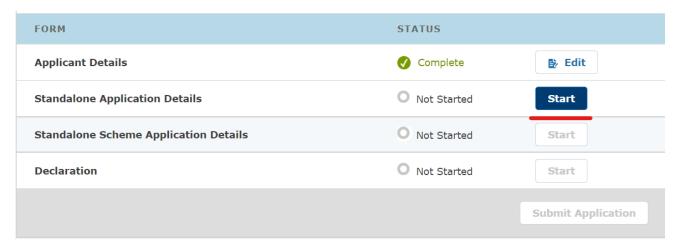
If your email address has changed, you will need to create a new account as this is permanently linked to your account.

• In the event of the above, please ensure that your **Principal User (PU)** removes the old account and adds the new one with the correct email.



2 Standalone Application Details

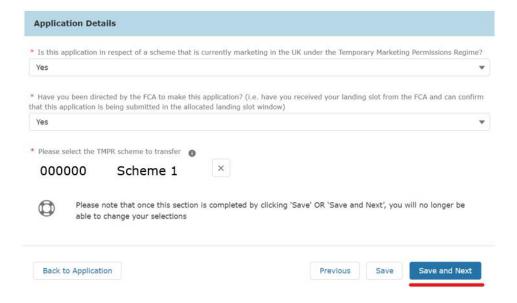
Click "Start" to enter "Standalone Application Details".



Within "Application Details" you will have the option to decide if you are looking to make an application for either, a new scheme not known to the FCA or one currently marketing in the UK under the Temporary Marketing Permissions Regime (TMPR).

Select "Yes" in the first and second box. Then select the scheme you are looking to make the notification for.

If you select "No" to the landing slot question, you will not be able to proceed with the application.





Important information to note:

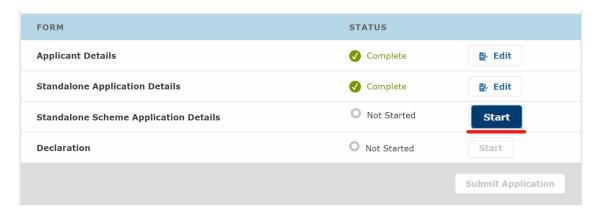
Once you click "Save and Next" in this section, you cannot go back and make amendments so please ensure all information is accurate.

If you cannot see the Scheme you are looking to transfer, please review the "Fund Search" of the <u>FS Fund Register</u> and ensure your firm is the named Operator/Management Company under TMPR. If you need further assistance, please email recognisedcis@fca.org.uk.



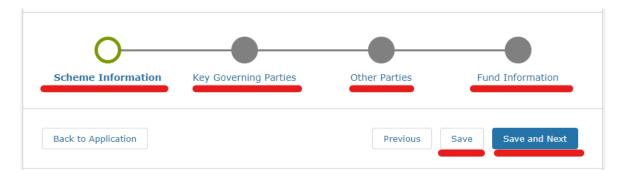
Standalone Scheme Application Details

Click "Start" to enter "Standalone Scheme Application Details".

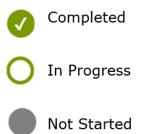


There are four pages to complete:

Scheme information, Key Governing Parties, Other Parties and Fund Information.



Page Status Key:





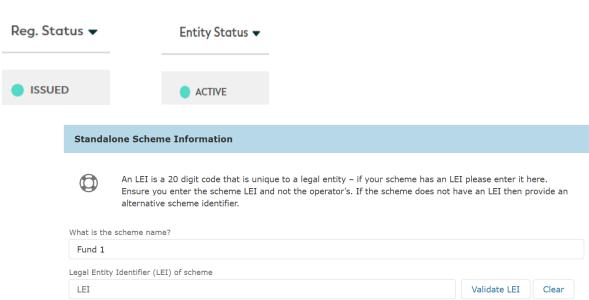
You can navigate between each page, however, please ensure that you "Save" before moving to avoid losing the information entered.

Standalone Scheme Information

On this page, you will be asked to add the details of the Scheme's LEI.



Where a **Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)** is provided, please note that the following sections will cross validate the **LEI** with **GLEIF**. To ensure successful validation, the Entities status must show as "Active" and the Reg. Status as "Issued".



You can <u>either</u> use the LEI of the Scheme by entering the 20-character code, clicking "Validate LEI" and "Confirm" on the pop-up box that follows:



<u>Or</u> by <u>Manually</u> entering the Name and Alternative Scheme Identifier from the drop-down options by confirming the Scheme **could not be found** via the <u>LEI</u> search.



Please note you cannot progress to the next section of the application if you have entered an **LEI** and an alternative identifier. Where the scheme has an **LEI** please use this.

There will be several sections to complete within this page, some important sections include the following: -



The scheme (and all associated sub funds) must have been authorised/approved by your Home State Regulator for you to make this application. The scheme (and all associated sub funds) must also meet the criteria set out in the HMT issued designation order (e.g., the scheme must be domiciled in an approved country or territory and of a description specified in the regulations).

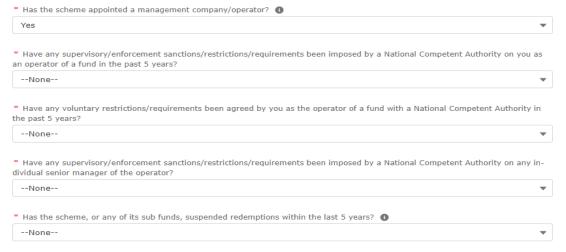
 Confirmation that the scheme is authorised by your home state regulator and meets the criteria set out in the designation order.



An operator of a recognised Overseas Funds Regime scheme must make explicit disclosures about a UK investors right to redress. For further information on these disclosures please review COLL Chapter 9. These disclosures need to be contained in the scheme documents/draft documents prior to submission of the application. Please reference both the page numbers and the document that this disclosure is contained within.

 The page(s) of the prospectus/UK supplement which details the redress disclosure required by COLL 9.

The following options will only appear if you confirm that the scheme has appointed a management company/ operator. If you select "Yes" to any of the questions, a text box will appear for you to add further information.

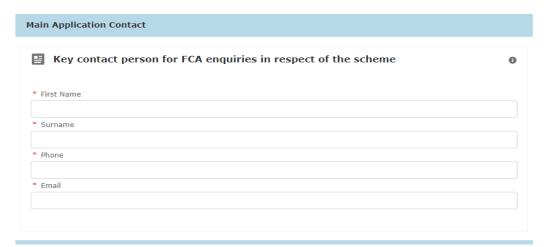


Lastly on this page, there is the "Additional Requirements under s271E FSMA". If there are no additional requirements in the designation order, please enter n/a. Once completed, click "Save and Next" to continue.



Key Governing Parties

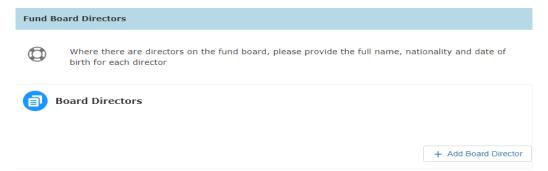
This page will gather information on the key parties in relation to the scheme.



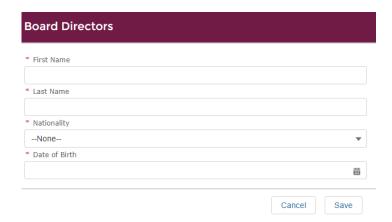


The **Main Application contact** should be able to answer our questions about the Scheme for the duration of the application review period.

The **Fund Board Directors** section should only be populated where the scheme is **self-managed**.



Click on "Add Board Director" to open the pop-up window displayed below.

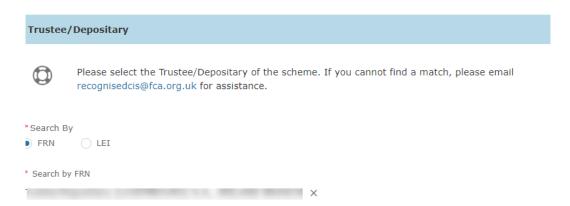


Click "Save" to exit this pop up and lastly, click "Save and Next" to continue.

If an error is made or you want to delete the individual, you can click on the "Edit" or "Delete" buttons.



For both the **Trustee/Depositary** and **UK Facilities Agent**, you can use either an **FRN** or **LEI**. Please use the **FRN** principally whenever possible.



For the **UK Facilities Agent**, you will need to confirm whether facilities are supplied to UK investors via **electronic** or **physical** means.



If you choose **electronic means**, you will need to provide the relevant **website URL** where these facilities are supplied.

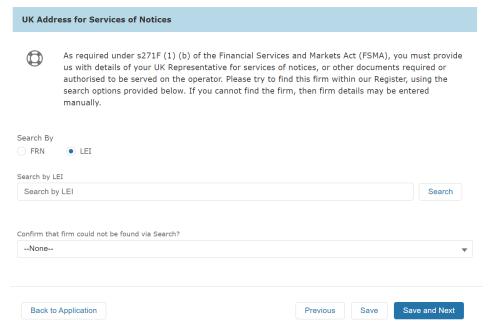


If you choose **physical means**, you will be prompted to confirm whether the address is the same as the one displayed, or if the facilities are provided from a different address.

By Selecting "No", you will have the option to manually provide the address details at which the UK facilities requirements are supplied.



For **UK Address for Services of Notices**, where the UK firm cannot be found by FRN or LEI, there is the option to manually enter the firm details by selecting **"Yes"** in the last drop-down box.

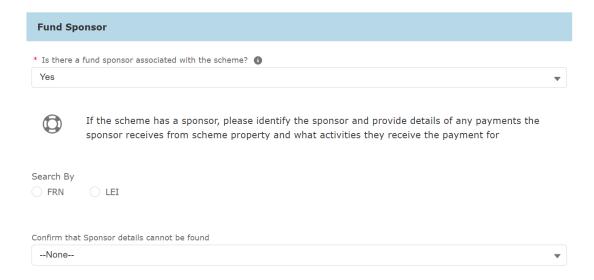


Once all mandatory fields are completed, click "Save and Next".

Other Parties

If there is a **Fund Sponsor** associated with the scheme, you will be able to search the sponsor with an **FRN** or **LEI** as well as manually entering the details.

 A Fund Sponsor is an entity that is involved in the manufacturing or formation of the fund and normally promotes/introduces investors to the fund

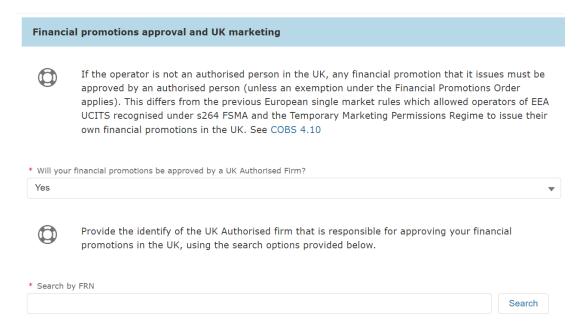


Unless a financial promotions order exemption applies, the Scheme's Financial Promotions must be approved by a **UK Authorised firm**.

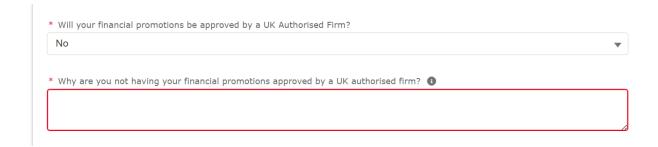
You will be able to select the firm using their FCA issued **FRN**. **FRN's** can be found on the **FS Register** by searching the firm's name.



This differs from the previous European single market rules which allowed operators of EEA UCITS to issue their own financial promotions in the UK. Please see COBS 4.10.

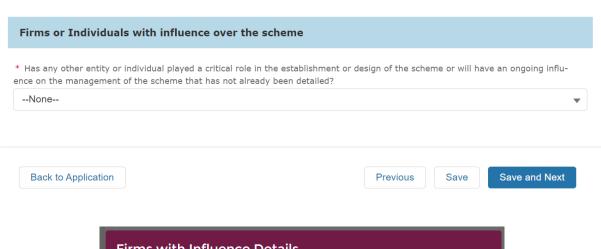


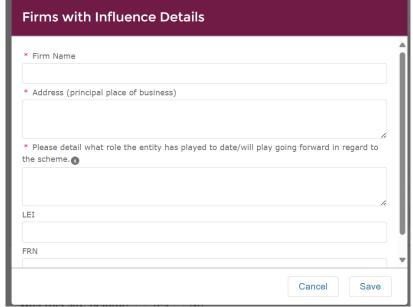
If you select "No", you will be required to provide further information as to why your financial promotions are not being approved and if you are relying on a Financial Promotions Order exemption, state which one.

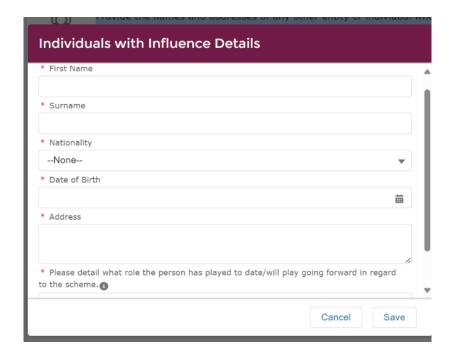


You will need to provide the names and addresses of any other entities or individuals who will have an ongoing influence on the management of the scheme or has played a critical role in the establishment or design of the scheme, that has not already been detailed and the role they have/will play in the scheme.

Do <u>not</u> include names of delegated investment managers here, this will be asked for later in the application form.







If you need to amend or delete the information provided against a **Firm** or **Individual**, you can do so by clicking the buttons provided.

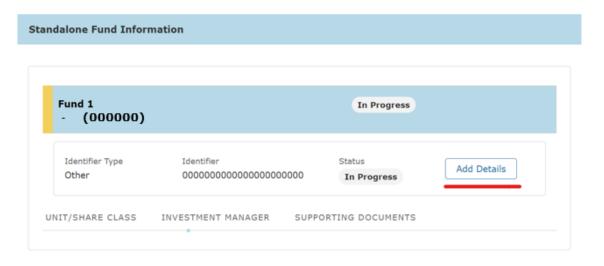


If you click "delete all" there will be a further warning to confirm the request.

Standalone Fund Information

You will see the Scheme's name alongside it's PRN in the blue banner.

Click on "Add Details" to open the "Basic Details" window.



The **Basic Details** window will have four tabs.

- Basic Details
- Master Fund Details
- Objectives, Policy, and Strategy
- Latest Fund Valuations

You will be able to click each tab individually and re-visit previous sections.



Before exiting the window, please ensure you always hit "quick save" to store the information entered. When you have completed all the sections, click "Submit".

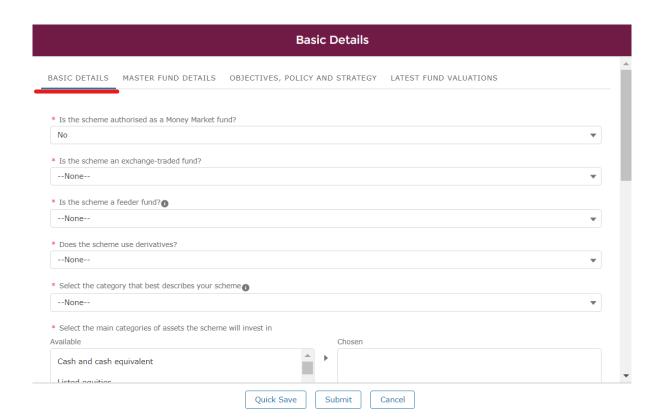




Important information to note:

Money market funds are not currently eligible for OFR.

There will be several important fields to complete, please ensure that you review each question with care and review our OFR policy statement to ensure the information entered is correctly captured.



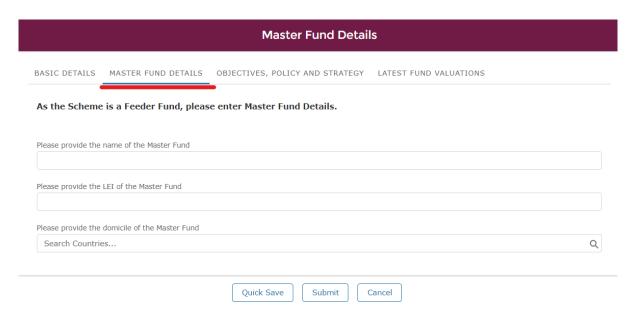
If the fund is an Exchange Traded Fund (ETF), for the dealing frequency question, please select daily.



Please ensure that for the question below the annual management charge (AMC) you enter is the percentage of the overall AMC the operator retains. If you pay away part of the AMC to other parties (i.e., 15% of the fee goes to the investment manager), then the AMC = 85%

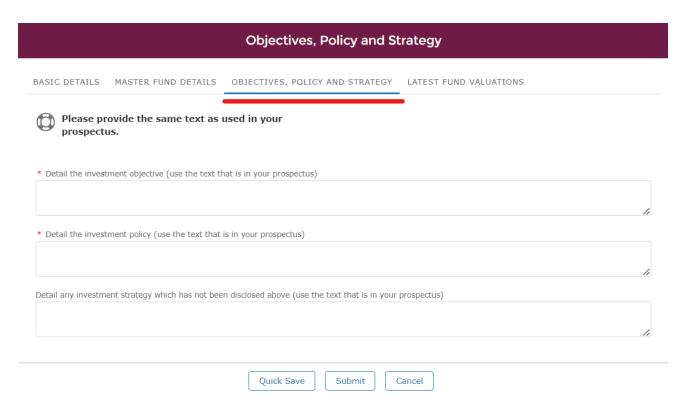


The "Master Fund Details" page is only available if you have confirmed the fund is a "Feeder fund" in "Basic details".

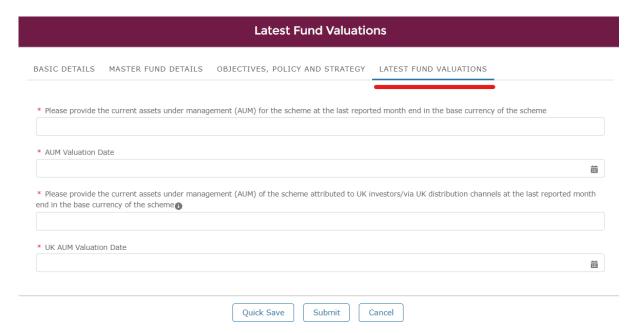


The first two boxes of the "Objectives, Policy and Strategy" page are mandatory and have extended word limits, however if this is reached, please detail the page of the **prospectus** where the information is listed.

The information added should be the scheme's current investment objective, policy, (and strategy if relevant).



On the "Latest fund valuations" page, for the final two questions, please make best-efforts to answer these - if you do not know the exact figure/dates, please put the best-efforts approximate figure/date.



Once completed when you click "Submit", the window will close.

At the top of the application page, the "Saved" message will pop up.



You will also be able to check if the details have been saved as next to "Add Details" the status will show "Completed".

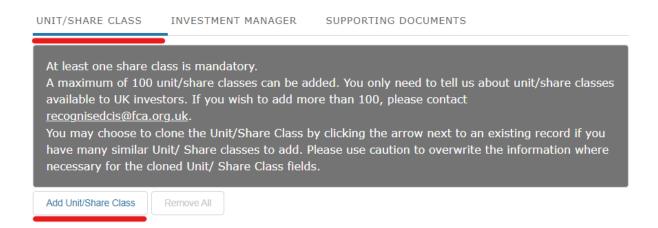
Completed Add Details

If any of the sections have been missed or the window does not successfully complete all the validation checks, the relevant tab will be highlighted in **red**, and it will display an **"Error"** message at the top.



Unit/Share Class

Next, click on the "Unit/Share Class" tab and then click on "Add Unit/Share Class".

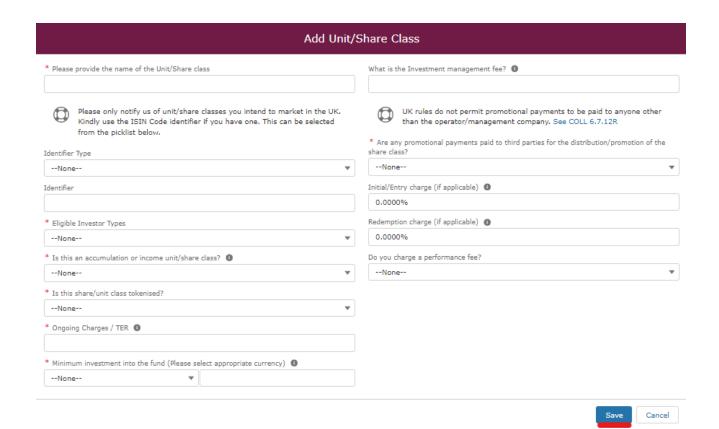




Please note, you are only required to provide the details of the **Unit/Share classes** that will be marketed to investors in the UK. You do not need to provide the details for **all** the **Unit/Share classes** issued by the sub fund(s).

A window will pop up, enter the relevant information, ensuring all mandatory fields are completed and then click "Save".

We want to know what costs apply to the end UK investor. Please provide the details that you use on the KIID.



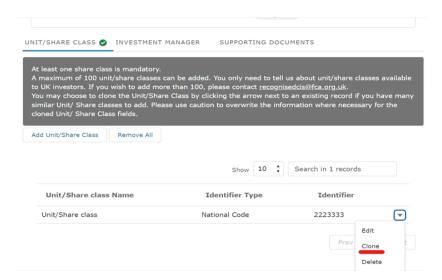


For **ETFs**, If you are aware of any increased charges that UK investors are subject to – please use the increased figure.



To clone an existing **Unit/Share class**, click on the arrow next to the existing share class details to display the drop-down menu. Then select "clone" to proceed.

Please note that you can use the "Clone" feature to assist you filling in Funds with similar **Unit/ Share Class** details, where applicable. Please use caution to ensure that you overwrite any fields that must be amended to ensure that you are submitting the correct and accurate version of each unit/share class.



A validation check will run to ensure that **Unit/Share classes** do not have the same name to avoid duplication errors.

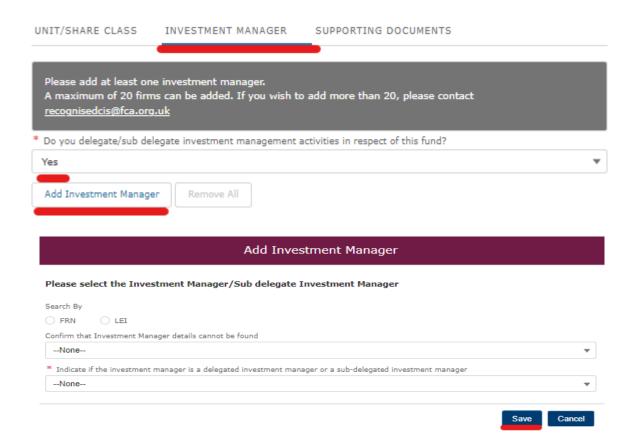
You are also able to search through the **Unit/Share Classes** that you have added using the search box by entering the name and identifier.



When adding the KIIDs for each **Unit/Share Class**, please note you can add them in one document, for example, if there are 20 Unit/Share Classes, upload **one** word document with all **20** KIIDs copy and pasted into this document.

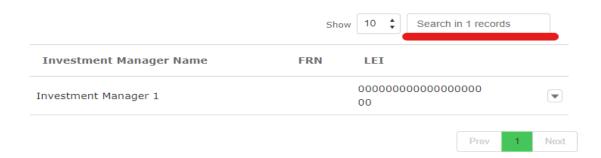
Investment Manager

Under "Investment Manager", you will be able to add firms using their LEI and FRN details as well as confirming if they are a delegate/sub delegate in relation to the scheme. No more than 20 firms can be added.



Once Completed, you can exit this window by clicking "Save".

You can add up to 20 firms and you are also able to search through the **Investment Managers** you have added by using the search box and entering the name and or **LEI/FRN**.

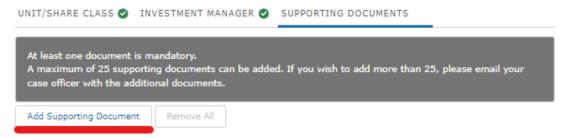


After adding an **Investment Manager**, if you need to edit or delete the firm, you can do so by clicking the arrow and selecting from the drop down.

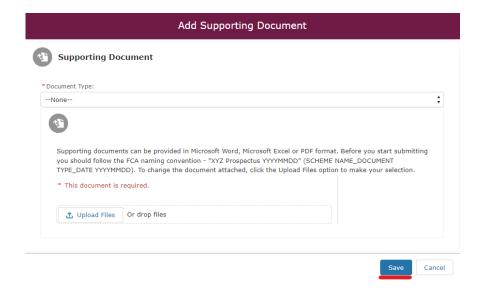


Supporting Documents

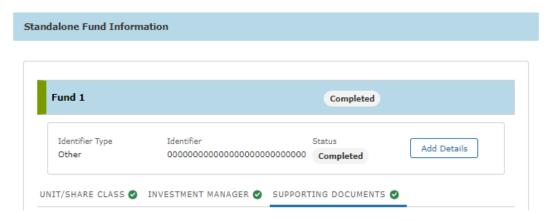
Lastly, you will need to add the **supporting Documents** applicable to the Scheme. You can do so by clicking "Add Supporting Document".



Please ensure that all documents uploaded are named in line with the convention as displayed in the pop-up window.



Once all 4 sub-sections have been completed, the indicator will show as "Green" against the Fund and you can then click "save and next".





Click "Start" to enter "Declaration".

FORM	STATUS	
Applicant Details	⊘ Complete	₽ Edit
Standalone Application Details	⊘ Complete	₽ Edit
Standalone Scheme Application Details	⊘ Complete	₽ Edit
Declaration	O Not Started	Start
		Submit Application

Ensure you have read and understood the "Declaration".

Declaration

This application or notification must be submitted by a person of appropriate seniority within the notifying firm or on behalf of the notifying firm.

By submitting this application or notification I confirm that:

The information in this application or notification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief and that I have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that this is the case. I also certify that any document included or appended to this application is a true copy of the original. I have read any notes that accompanied the form.

I am aware that if I knowingly or recklessly provide information that is false and misleading in a material particular in this application or notification, I will contravene a legislative requirement and may be the subject of enforcement action.

I will notify the FCA immediately if there is a material change to the information provided in this form. For the purposes of complying with data protection legislation, please read our privacy notices:

FCA's privacy notice https://www.fca.org.uk/data-protection

Bank of England's privacy notice https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/prudential-regulation/authorisations

These notices will tell you what to expect when the FCA and/or the Bank of England collects personal information, including how and why we use your personal information and who to contact if you have any queries or wish to exercise your rights.

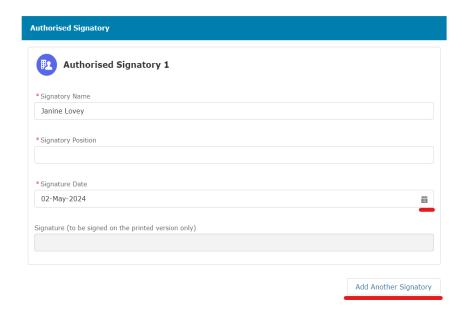
Review & Confirmation

* I confirm that a permanent copy of this application, signed by myself and the signatories, will be retained for an appropriate period, for inspection at the FCA/PRA's request.

To confirm you have read the "**Declaration**", tick the box, and add details to the "**Authorised Signatory**" section.

Authorised Signatory

This section will be completed partially within the form and with the expectation that it will be printed, signed by the authorised Signatory, and then stored.





- The **Signature Date** must be the date of submission.
- Additional Signatories can be added by clicking "Add Another Signatory"
- An Authorised Signatory can be an employee or senior manager at the firm with sufficient authority to submit the application.

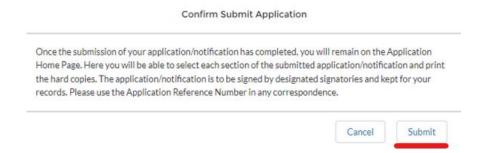
Then click "Save and Next".



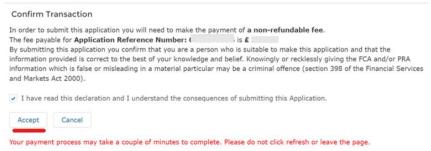
Before you submit your application, check to confirm that all sections are marked as **Complete** in the **"Status"** column.



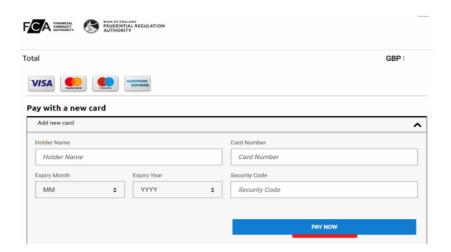
Then click "Submit Application". A pop-up window will appear. Please read the contents and click "Submit".



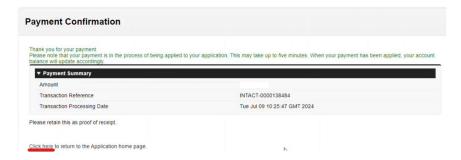
Please read the details of the "Confirm Transaction" section and then click "Accept".



The payment screen will follow, please enter payment details, and click on "Pay Now".



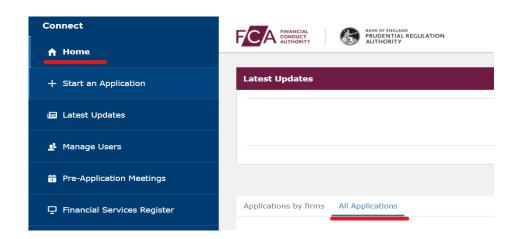
The payment Confirmation screen is then displayed. Click on "Click Here" to return to the application home page.



A confirmation email will be sent to you to confirm payment and another email to confirm receipt of the application.



If you need to re-visit or download your application, you can do so via the "Home" Button and Clicking on the relevant Application under "Application Number" and lastly, "View Application".



You can then re-open the application by clicking "View Application" or "Download Application" for a PDF copy.

