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(By email)

20 February 2015

Our Ref: FOI3875

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:

"Please could I have the list of 56 firms with Interim permission P2P Lending permission (Loan based crowdfunding) and one fully authorised firm mentioned in paragraph 42 of the FCA Crowdfunding review document (<u>http://www.fca.org.uk/your-fca/documents/crowdfunding-review</u>)"

Your request has now been considered and we can confirm that we hold information that falls within the scope of your request.

Of the 56 firms mentioned in our publication, we can provide you with a list of 47 firms that currently hold interim permission to conduct P2P business, and this list is attached as Annex A.

An additional firm (Crowd2Fund Limited – FRN 623683) entered the market after 1 April 2014 and has since been granted full authorisation to operate a loan-based crowdfunding platform.

However, we are unable to provide you with the names of the remaining 9 firms, as:

- one was incorrectly categorised as a P2P firm; and
- the remaining eight firms are seeking to enter the market and their applications are currently being reviewed so they do not hold interim, or full, permission to conduct P2P business.

We consider that disclosure of the names of these firms would be likely to prejudice their commercial interests. As a result, we are prohibited from disclosing it to you under section 43 (Commercial Interests) of the Act. For the reasons set out in Annex B, we have determined that the public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure of the information falling within this exemption.

Further, to the extent that some of the information requested is (or contains) information that the FCA has received for the purpose of carrying out our functions under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 ("FMSA"), it is exempt from

disclosure under section 44 (Prohibitions on disclosure) of the Act for the reasons set out in Annex B.

Yours sincerely

Information Access Team Financial Conduct Authority

Your right to complain under the Fol Act

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: <u>www.ico.org.uk</u>