MFSA

MALTA FINANCIAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Circular to the industry on the Survey by UK's Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA") for EEA firms passporting into the UK

The United Kingdom's Financial Conduct Authority is inviting EEA firms and funds passporting into the UK to respond to a survey relating to the UK's withdrawal from the European Union.

In December 2017 the UK Government announced that if necessary it will legislate to provide a temporary permission scheme for EEA firms and funds passporting into the UK. EEA firms and funds which receive a temporary permission would be able to take on new business and fulfil existing contracts with UK customers for a period of time after exit day, while seeking full authorisation in the UK after the UK's withdrawal from the EU.

Firms and funds that would be authorised in the UK by the FCA will need to notify the FCA before the UK exits the European Union of their desire to benefit from the regime. It is anticipated that this notification will be a relatively simple process and it will not require the submission of an application for authorisation in the UK prior to exit day. Further details on these proposals, and how the scheme will operate will be provided by the FCA in due course.

To help inform these communications the FCA is inviting EEA Firms and funds, including those licensed in Malta which currently passport into the United Kingdom either via a branch or on a cross-border services basis to complete the following <u>survey</u>. The survey can also be found on the FCA's website. It includes questions covering contact details, the directives firms are passporting in to the UK under and firms' intentions about accessing the UK market following the UK's exit from the EU. It should take no more than 15 minutes to complete.

A copy of the FCA's briefing may be accessed through the following <u>link</u>. Please note that survey closes on **11 May 2018**.

Communications Unit Malta Financial Services Authority 24 April 2018