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MFSA publishes consultation feedback regarding the establishment of a new regulatory framework for FinTechs

- Positive feedback received on Pillar 1 of the FinTech Strategy, with industry players showing keen interest to collaborate
- Rule establishing the MFSA FinTech Regulatory Sandbox now issued for consultation to the public
- MFSA will be implementing initiatives presented to foster financial innovation while containing any associated risks

Today the MFSA published a <u>Feedback Statement</u> following a <u>Consultation Document on Pillar 1 of the FinTech Strategy – Regulations</u>. The Feedback Statement provides the MFSA's position in relation to the proposed initiatives within the Consultation Document, namely the implementation of the MFSA FinTech Regulatory Sandbox. It also provides an update on the other strategic objectives presented within Pillar 1 of the MFSA's FinTech Strategy.

As an annex to the Feedback Statement, the Authority has also published the proposed MFSA Rule establishing its FinTech Regulatory Sandbox. This Rule is open for consultation to the public until 7 February 2020, until which date, interested parties are invited to submit their feedback by sending an email to fintech@mfsa.mt.

MFSA's Chief Officer Strategy, Policy and Innovation, Christopher P. Buttigieg, welcomed the substantial and generally positive feedback received from the industry. "The FinTech Strategy is an essential tool to establish Malta as an international FinTech Hub," he said. "Consultation with all stakeholders is crucial for its success. The Authority has taken onboard the comments received and proposed some changes to the overall structure of the Sandbox. We look forward to receiving further feedback on the Rule proposed and we will implement the initiatives presented to foster technology-enabled financial innovation, while containing the associated risks to consumers and the financial system."

The MFSA reiterates its commitment to focus its efforts towards the implementation of the FinTech Strategy and intends to launch its FinTech Regulatory Sandbox following the consultation period on the proposed Rule.





About MFSA

The Malta Financial Services Authority (MFSA) is the single regulator of financial services in Malta, covering banks, insurance companies, investment services, trusts and pensions. As of last year, the MFSA became the first European regulator to develop a framework to regulate virtual financial assets. The MFSA's mission, as enshrined in its Vision 2021, is to enhance its position as an independent, proactive and trustworthy supervisory authority with the main purpose of safeguarding the integrity of markets and maintaining stability within the financial sector, for the benefit and protection of consumers. Over 2,300 entities are licensed by the MFSA to operate in the financial services sector, which makes up 11% of the Maltese Gross Domestic Product.



@MFSA publishes consultation feedback on the new regulatory framework for #FinTechs