

GUERNSEY STATUTORY INSTRUMENT

2008 No. 4

**The Insurance Business (Bailiwick of Guernsey) (Amendment)
Regulations, 2008**

<i>Made</i>	21 st January, 2008
<i>Laid before the States</i>	, 2008
<i>Coming into operation</i>	23 rd January, 2008

THE POLICY COUNCIL, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by paragraph 7 of Schedule 7 to the Insurance Business (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2002^a, and after consultation with the Guernsey Financial Services Commission and with agreement of the Policy and Finance Committee of the States of Alderney and the General Purposes and Advisory Committee of the Chief Pleas of Sark, hereby makes the following regulations:-

Amendment to Schedule 7 to the Insurance Business (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2002.

1. For Schedule 7 to the Insurance Business (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2002, substitute the following -

"SCHEDULE 7

MINIMUM CRITERIA FOR LICENSING

Integrity and skill.

1. (1) The business of the applicant or licensee is or, in the case of a person who is not yet carrying on business regulated by this Law, will be carried on -

^a No. XXI of 2002; amended by the Machinery of Government (Transfer of Functions) (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2003.

- (a) with prudence and integrity,
- (b) with professional skill appropriate to the nature and scale of his activities, and
- (c) in a manner which will not tend to bring the Bailiwick into disrepute as an international finance centre.

(2) In conducting his business, the applicant or licensee shall at all times act in accordance with the following documents –

- (a) issued by the Commission,
 - (i) the Principles of Conduct of Finance Business, and,
 - (ii) any rules, codes, guidance, principles and instructions issued from time to time under this Law and any other enactment as may be applicable to him, and
- (b) any guidance notes or international standards issued by a body recognised by the Commission relating to insurance and regulation which are identified in a code issued under this Law.

Economic benefit.

2. Repealed.

Fit and proper persons.

3. (1) The applicant or licensee is a fit and proper person to hold a licence of the description in question and every person who is, or is to be, a director, controller, partner, manager or general representative of the applicant or licensee is a fit and proper person to hold that position.

(2) In determining whether a person is a fit and proper person to hold a licence or a particular position, regard shall be had to -

- (a) his probity, competence, experience and soundness of judgment for fulfilling the responsibilities of a licensee or (as the case may be) of that position,
- (b) the diligence with which he is fulfilling or likely to fulfil those responsibilities,
- (c) whether the interests of clients or policyholders (or potential clients or policyholders) of the applicant or licensee, the interests of any other persons or the reputation of the Bailiwick as a finance centre are, or are likely to be, in any way jeopardised by his holding a licence or that position,
- (d) his educational and professional qualifications, his membership of professional or other relevant bodies and any evidence of his continuing professional education or development,
- (e) his knowledge and understanding of the legal and professional obligations to be assumed or undertaken,
- (f) his policies, procedures and controls for the vetting of clients and his record of compliance with any provision contained in or made under -
 - (i) the Criminal Justice (Fraud Investigation) (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 1991,

- (ii) the Criminal Justice (Proceeds of Crime) (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 1999,
 - (iii) the Drug Trafficking (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2000,
 - (iv) the Terrorism and Crime (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2002,
 - (v) the Disclosure (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2007,
 - (vi) the Transfer of Funds (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2007, the Transfer of Funds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2007 and the Transfer of Funds (Sark) Ordinance, 2007,
 - (vii) any legislation implementing European Community or United Nations sanctions and applicable in the Bailiwick, or
 - (viii) any other enactment prescribed for the purposes hereof by regulation of the Commission, and
- (g) his policies, procedures and controls to comply with any rules, codes, guidance, principles and instructions referenced under paragraph 1(2).

(3) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provisions, regard may be had to the previous conduct and activities of the person in question and, in particular, to any evidence that he has -

- (a) committed any offence, and in particular any offence involving fraud or other dishonesty or involving violence,

- (b) contravened any provision contained in or made under –
 - (i) this Law,
 - (ii) the regulatory Laws,
 - (iii) any enactment relating to money laundering or terrorist financing (including, for the avoidance of doubt, rules, instructions and guidance issued by the Commission in relation thereto), or
 - (iv) any other enactment appearing to the Commission to be designed for protecting members of the public against financial loss due to -
 - (A) dishonesty, incompetence or malpractice by persons concerned in the provision of regulated activities (within the meaning of the Regulation of Fiduciaries, Administration Businesses and Company Directors, etc (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2000), banking, insurance, investment or other financial services, or
 - (B) the conduct of discharged or undischarged bankrupts or persons who are otherwise insolvent (including persons who have been declared in a state of "désastre"),
- (c) engaged in any business practices (whether unlawful or not) -
 - (i) appearing to the Commission to be deceitful or

oppressive or otherwise improper, or

(ii) which otherwise reflect discredit on his method of conducting business or his suitability to carry on business regulated by this Law, or

(d) engaged in or been associated with any other business practices or otherwise conducted himself in such a way as to cast doubt on his competence and soundness of judgement.

(4) For the purposes of this paragraph and for the avoidance of doubt,

(a) “conduct and activities” includes any conduct, activity or omission in any jurisdiction,

(b) “offence” includes an offence under the law of another jurisdiction which would be an offence in the Bailiwick if the conduct, activity or omission constituting the offence occurred in the Bailiwick, and

(c) “enactment” includes any primary or secondary legislation of any jurisdiction in the British Islands or elsewhere.

Business to be directed by at least two individuals.

4. (1) At least two individuals who are –

(a) of appropriate standing and experience, and

(b) sufficiently independent of each other,

shall effectively direct the business of the applicant or licensee.

(2) For the purposes of subparagraph (1), an individual is sufficiently independent of another where, in the opinion of the Commission, that individual would not be unduly influenced by that other individual.

Position of board of directors.

5. (1) In the case of an applicant or licensee -

- (a) which is a Guernsey company or an Alderney company, and
- (b) which wishes to be licensed under section 7 or (as the case may be) which is licensed under section 7 as an insurer,

the directors shall include at least one director -

- (i) who is not an associate (other than a director) of, or associated party (other than a director) in relation to, the company, and
- (ii) who is not responsible for the management of the company's business.

(2) The Commission may in its absolute discretion, in any particular case, by written notice waive all or any of the requirements of this paragraph.

Business to be conducted in prudent manner.

6. (1) The applicant or licensee conducts or, in the case of a person who is not yet carrying on business regulated by this Law, will conduct his business in a prudent manner.

(2) Without prejudice to subparagraph (1) and subject to subparagraph (4), an applicant or licensee shall not be regarded as conducting his business in a prudent manner unless -

(a) he maintains or, as the case may be, will maintain -

(i) a capital base, and

(ii) insurance cover,

of an amount which the Commission considers appropriate,

(b) he maintains or, as the case may be, will maintain adequate liquidity, having regard to -

(i) the relationship between his liquid assets and his actual and contingent liabilities,

(ii) the times at which those liabilities will or may fall due and his assets will mature,

(iii) the nature and scale of his operations,

(iv) the risks inherent in those operations and (where the person is a company) in the operations of any other company in the same group so far as capable of affecting the company, and

(v) any other factors appearing to the Commission to be relevant,

(c) he makes or, as the case may be, will make adequate provision for –

- (i) depreciation or diminution in the value of his assets (including provision for bad or doubtful debts),
 - (ii) liabilities which will or may fall to be discharged by him, and
 - (iii) losses which he will or may incur,
- (d) he maintains or, as the case may be, will maintain -
- (i) adequate accounting and other records of his business, and
 - (ii) adequate systems of control of his business and records.

(3) Without prejudice to the generality of subparagraphs (1) and (2), in determining whether an applicant or licensee is to be regarded as conducting his business in a prudent manner, the Commission shall also have regard to the following -

- (a) whether the applicant or licensee has staff of adequate number, skills, knowledge and experience to undertake and fulfil their duties,
 - (b) the systems of control and record keeping of the applicant or licensee for business undertaken or contemplated and the provision made by him for the proper maintenance and development of such systems, and
 - (c) the complaints history of the applicant or licensee.
- (4) For the purposes of -

- (a) subparagraph 2(a), an appropriate amount is -
 - (i) an amount commensurate with the nature and scale of his operations, and
 - (ii) an amount and nature sufficient to safeguard the interests of his clients and policyholders, having regard to -
 - (A) the nature and scale of his operations,
 - (B) the risks inherent in those operations and (where the person is a company) in the operations of any other company in the same group so far as capable of affecting the company, and
 - (C) any other factors appearing to the Commission to be relevant,
- (b) subparagraph 2(b), in considering the liquid assets of an applicant or licensee, the Commission may, to such extent as it thinks appropriate, take into account -
 - (i) the assets of the applicant or licensee, and
 - (ii) the facilities which are available to him, which are capable of providing liquidity within a reasonable period, and
- (c) subparagraph 2(d) -

- (i) records and systems shall not be regarded as adequate unless they are such as to enable –
 - (A) the business of the applicant or licensee to be prudently managed, and
 - (B) the applicant or licensee to comply with the duties imposed on him by or under this Law or any enactment listed in paragraph 3(2)(f), and
- (ii) where the applicant or licensee is a company, in determining whether those systems are adequate the Commission shall (without limitation) have regard to the functions and responsibilities in respect of them of any of the company's directors.

Information required by the Commission.

6A. The applicant, licensee and any person who is, or is to be, a director, controller, partner, manager or general representative of the applicant or licensee, shall supply such information as the Commission may reasonably require for the purpose of assessing compliance with the minimum criteria for licensing set out in this Schedule.

Power to make regulations.

7. The Committee may, in accordance with section 86, make regulations amending the provisions of this Schedule."

Interpretation.

2. (1) In these Regulations, unless the context requires otherwise, "**enactment**" means any Law, Ordinance, and any subordinate legislation made thereunder.

(2) Any reference in these Regulations to an enactment is a reference thereto as from time to time amended, re-enacted (with or without modification), extended or applied.

Citation and commencement.

3. (1) These Regulations may be cited as the Insurance Business (Bailiwick of Guernsey) (Amendment) Regulations, 2008 and shall come into force on the 23rd day of January, 2008.

Dated this 21st day of January, 2008

DEPUTY M.W. TORODE

Chief Minister

For and on behalf of the Policy Council

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the minimum criteria for licensing in respect of applicants or licensees or of partners, directors, controllers, managers or general representatives of an applicant or licensee licensed under the Insurance Business (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2002.