

The IFA's Guide to the FSA Handbook

Published by City & Financial Publishing
and endorsed by the Association of
Independent Advisers



"We at the FSA provide industry training and guidance but we also welcome initiatives from others designed to improve skills and knowledge within the industry and awareness of our main objectives. The Association of Independent Financial Advisers is well placed to develop a publication such as this and I warmly recommend the guide to IFAs and their advisers."

John Tiner
Managing Director, Consumer
Investment and Insurance
Directorate, FSA

This new publication provides commentary and interpretation on key aspects of the FSA Handbook for the independent financial adviser market as well as others such as those professional advisers that fall under the Designated Professional Bodies category and those who lack a dedicated compliance resource.

The book has been compiled by a team of leading IFA advisers, consultants and IFAs themselves to ensure that it provides comprehensive coverage and a single source solution to compliance related queries.

The book also addresses two issues of frequent concern to the IFA, the OPRA Regulations and the Data Protection Act.

Open up for more information 

Dear Colleague

The FSA's decision to produce an all-embracing handbook of rules, for the entire financial services sector, inevitably resulted in a tome of such magnitude that a paper version would take up the entire shelf space in most IFA offices.

As the FSA began producing their individual sourcebooks, it became apparent to AIFA that many of our member firms might experience difficulties in locating and interpreting the rules and guidance that applied to IFAs. Following N2, our suspicions were confirmed when our technical help-line was inundated with queries about the new rulebook.

We felt that the solution would be to produce a condensed version of the FSA Handbook, which focused solely on those elements applicable to IFA businesses. City & Financial Publishing — who already had extensive experience in this field — was the natural partner to turn the concept into reality.

The *IFA's Guide to the FSA Handbook* is not a substitute for the *FSA Handbook*. Its objective is to extract and clarify the key areas which apply to IFAs and, where appropriate, to cross-refer to the full FSA text. It is particularly aimed at the smaller IFA firms who do not have dedicated full-time compliance staff. It will also be of value to those advisers who fall under the Designated Professional Body category.

The guide includes sections covering the FSA's requirements for high level standards, business standards, regulatory processes and the redress system. In addition, we decided to use this opportunity to include a few additional chapters relating to subjects on which AIFA's member firms have requested information or guidance. These include the Data Protection Act and OPRA regulations.

I am sure that IFAs and other professional advisers will find this book a useful, informative and time-saving asset to their businesses.

Fay Goddard
Director of Policy
Association of Independent Financial Advisers

The IFA's Guide to the FSA Handbook has been designed to provide the user with clear and accurate interpretation of and comment on the FSA's regime for the IFA/DPB market. Each of the contributors are well known to the IFA sector.

Consultant Editor: **Linda Chandler**, *AIFA*

Foreword: **John Tiner**, *FSA*

Introduction: **Fay Goddard**, *AIFA*

High Level Standards: **Patrick Storey**, *Grant Thornton*

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Authorisation

Diane Mosley, *Bond Pearce*

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Julian Korek, *RSM Robson Rhodes*

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Phil Ryley, *TLT Solicitors*; **John Virgo**, *Guildhall Chambers*

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Complaint Handling

Adam Samuel, *Consultant*

Fees

Simon Williamson, *Aspey Williamson*

Data Protection Act

Caroline Egan, *Hammonds*

OPRA Regulations

Rachel Vahey, *Scottish Equitable*

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Who needs this book?

- All IFAs
- Professional advisers to the IFA market
- DPB practitioners
- Directors of smaller regulated firms
- Anyone requiring a straightforward introduction to the FSA regime

Why buy this book?

- Endorsed by the Association of Independent Financial Advisers
- Easy to use concise reference book to the rules
- Full of practical guidance
- Contributions from some of the leading IFA advisers in the UK
- Essential reading for the IFA market