With-Profits Independent Person

Role Holder:	Alison Carr
Senior Management Function	SMF15 Chair of the With-Profits Committee function
Key Function	N/A
FRN	147672
IRN	AEC01078

Role main purpose:

The Independent Person's role is to consider all aspects of the management of and the exercise of discretion in respect of both the 90:10 With-Profits Fund and the 100:0 With-Profits Fund and to provide the ZAL Board with an independent opinion on whether these decisions were appropriate having regard to regulation and industry best practice.

SMF15 - The Chair of the With-Profits Committee function is the function of acting in the capacity of independent person appointed to perform the With-Profits Advisory Arrangement.

Reporting lines:

The independent person appointed to perform the with-profits advisory arrangement acts in an advisory capacity to inform the decision-making of the ZAL Board.

Ref	Prescribed Responsibility	Shared
	None	

Ref	Overall Responsibility		Shared
33	With-Profits Advisory	Responsible for the role of the With-Profits Advisory Arrangement (in accordance with section	
	Arrangement	COBS 20.5 of the FCA Handbook).	

Ref	Other Responsibility		Shared
	None		

	Additional information about responsibilities			
33	Report and Advice	Responsible to assess, report on, and provide clear advice and, where appropriate, recommendations to the firm's governing body on: a) the way in which each with-profits fund is managed by the firm and whether this is properly reflected in the PPFM; b) whether the firm is complying with the principles and practices set out in the PPFM; c) whether the firm has addressed effectively the conflicting rights and interests of with-profits policyholders and other policyholders or stakeholders including, if applicable, shareholders, in a way that is consistent with FCA Principle 6 (treating customers fairly); d) any other issues with which the firm's governing body or advisory arrangement considers with-profits policyholders might reasonably expect the advisory arrangements to be involved		
33	With-Profits Advisory Arrangement	Responsible to: a) decide on the specific matters it will consider in order to enable it to carry out its role as appropriate to the particular circumstances of the with-profits fund(s); b) give appropriate consideration to the following non-exhaustive list of specific matters: i. the identification of surplus and excess surplus, the merits of its distribution or retention and the proposed distribution policy; ii. how bonus rates, smoothing and, if relevant, market value reductions have been calculated and applied; iii. the relative interests of policyholders with and without valuable guarantees; iv. the firm's with-profits customer communications such as annual policyholder statements and product literature and whether the advisory arrangement wishes to make a statement or report to with-profits policyholders in addition to the annual report made by a firm; v. any significant changes to the risk or investment profile of the with-profits fund including the management of material illiquid investments and the firm's obligations in relation to strategic investments; vi. the firm's strategy for future sales supported by the assets of the with-profits fund and its impact on surplus; vii. the impact of any management actions planned or implemented; viii. relevant management information such as customer complaints data (but not necessarily information relating to individual customer complaints);		

		 ix. the drafting, review, updating of and compliance with run-off plans, court schemes and similar matters; x. the costs incurred in operating the with-profits fund; xi. the identification and extent of the firm's with-profits funds, with particular regard to the considerations as to whether a part of the with-profits fund constitutes a separate with-profits fund; xii. the use and purpose of, and terms under which, support assets are available to the 		
		with-profits fund. c) to provide the ZAL Board with an independent opinion on the effect of any of the above matters on the with-profits funds		
33	With-Profits Actuary	Responsible to: a) advise the governing body on the suitability of candidates proposed for appointment as the With-Profits Actuary; b) assess the performance of the With-Profits Actuary at least annually, and report its view to the governing body of the firm.		
33	Industry developments	Responsible for advising on industry developments that may have an effect on the with-profits funds.		
33	Policyholder Communications	Responsible for reviewing policyholder communications and for providing an independent opinion on whether they are clear, fair and not misleading.		
33	PPFM	Responsible for reviewing any proposed changes to the PPFM and for providing the ZAL Board with an independent opinion on the effect of the proposals.		
33	Reporting	Responsible for reporting annually to the ZAL Board on whether: Conflicts of interest between policyholders and shareholders, or between groups of policyholders, have been addressed Policyholders have been treated fairly ZAL's management of each fund is consistent with the published Principles and Practices of Financial Management (PPFM).		
33	Review Reports	Responsible for: Reviewing the analyses and reports prepared by ZAL Finance or the With-Profits Actuary which impact on the with-profits funds. Reviewing the WPA's report on compliance with the PPFM, and the company's reports to customers, and for producing a report which provides the ZAL Board with an independent assessment on how the company has managed the funds.		

Supplementary information		
None		

Version	1.2	Date	11 March 2020
Date commenced in SMF15		29 October 2019	