

Gibraltar Financial Services Commission (GFSC) Referral Policy of Company Names

This policy covers the GFSC's approach to sensitive words, i.e. those that need to be referred to the GFSC prior to being proposed as a business name to Companies House. These are words generally reserved and are used to describe entities that provide financial or professional services that fall within the regulatory remit of the GFSC.

To avoid misuse of these sensitive words, and potentially misleading consumers should these words be used by a business that **does not** provide financial or professional services, the proposed use of the sensitive word should be referred to the GFSC (unless a relevant undertaking is provided - please see below tables for further details).

The below tables set out examples of what are considered sensitive words that should be referred to the GFSC for consideration and those that can be referred directly to Companies House with the relevant undertaking.

If the GFSC becomes aware of a word (which does not appear in this policy) which in its view poses a risk that the public may be misled or deceived by the use of this word, the GFSC may object to the use of such.

Please note that this list of sensitive words is not exhaustive.

Sensitive words which require GFSC consideration and the relevant Permission/Authorisation/Registration

The use of the following words, or their foreign equivalent, should be referred to the GFSC for consideration and require a "no objections" from the GFSC prior to using the word. However please note that the GFSC will not be in a position to consider a company name using any of the below sensitive words until a full permission is granted by the GFSC to carry out a regulated activity:

Asset Management	Initial Coin Offering (ICO)
Bank	Initial Exchange Offering (IEO)
Block/Blockchain	Initial Token Offering (ITO)
Bureau	Mortgage
Building society	Nominee(s)
Capital	Open-Ended Investment Company (OEIC)
Company Manager/Company Management	Pension(s)
Crypto Assets Service Providers (CASPs)	Portfolio Management
Custodian	QNUPS
Depository	QROPS
Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT)	Regulated Market
E-money	Security Token Offering (STO)
Electronic money	Secretaries
Exchange	Stock Exchange
Fiduciary(ies)	Token
Foundation Councillor	Trust
Reinsurance	Trustees
Insurance	Virtual Assets Service Providers (VASP)
Assurance	

The relevant Companies House activity codes under this part would be Sections:

- K on Financial and Insurance Activities (all are applicable except for activity codes 64200 – 64209, 64303, 64910, 64991, 64992 & 66210); and
- M on Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities (only activity codes 69201, 69202, 69203 & 70221).

Sensitive Words which require GFSC consideration

The use of the following words, or their foreign equivalent, require the consideration of the GFSC. The GFSC will not be in a position to consider a company name using any of the below words until the directors of the company provide an undertaking that the firm will not conduct any activity that requires authorisation from or registration with the GFSC. Where a firm intends to carry out activity that requires authorisation from or registration with the GFSC, consent for the sensitive word may only be sought from the GFSC once an application has been submitted:

Asset Backed Security(ies)	Pre-paid
Brokers	Regtech
Credit	Smart Contracts
Cryptocurrency	Virtual Assets
Crypto Assets	Wealth Management
Initial Public Offering (IPO)	Fund*
Lend/Lending	Protected Cell Company (PCC)*
Listing	

*Where a firm intends to use the word “Fund” or “PCC” and intends to carry out regulated activity that requires authorisation from or registration with the GFSC, consent for the use of the sensitive word may be sought prior to the application being submitted. The directors or legal representatives of the firm will be required to provide a written undertaking to the GFSC confirming that the firm will not conduct regulated activity or market the firm prior to obtaining the required authorisation and/or submitting the required registration.

The relevant Companies House activity codes under this part would be Sections:

- K on Financial and Insurance Activities (all are applicable except for activity codes 64200 – 64209, 64303, 64910, 64991, 64992 & 66210); and
- M on Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities (only activity codes 69201, 69202, 69203 & 70221).

Sensitive Words which do not require referral to the GFSC

The use of the following words, or their foreign equivalent, do not require the consent or consideration of the GFSC as long as the firm provides an explanation of its activities to Companies House and provides them with an undertaking that no activity that requires authorisation from or registration with the GFSC will be carried out by the firm. Where a firm intends to carry out activity that requires authorisation from or registration with the GFSC, consent for the sensitive word may only be sought from the GFSC once an application has been submitted:

Altcoins	Investor(s)
Asset(s)	Investment(s)
Bond(s)	Investment trust
Card	Life

Cash	Loan
Coin	Margin Trading
Commodities	Money
Decentralised Finance (or DeFi)	Money Market
Decentralised Application (or dApp)	Options
Deposit	Payment(s)
Derivatives	Peer to Peer (P2P)
Invest	
Director(s)	Savings
Equities	Securities
Finance	Spread(s)
Financial	Swaps
Fintech	Wealth
Forex	
Foreign Exchange (FX)	
Futures	

The relevant Companies House activity codes under this part would be all Sections in their entirety except for:

- K on Financial and Insurance Activities (all are applicable except for activity codes 64200 – 64209, 64303, 64910, 64991, 64992 & 66210); and
- M on Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities (only activity codes 69201, 69202, 69203 & 70221).