

# Risk Committee Terms of Reference

# **Document Control**

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# 1. Purpose

The Risk Committee is a Committee of the Board of Directors, responsible for reviewing and monitoring Harpenden Building Society's Risk Management Framework, Risk Appetite and internal control systems and, at least annually, carrying out a review of their effectiveness, and reporting on that review in the Annual Report and Accounts.

The Committee performs its role by:

- Ensuring that the accountability and responsibility for managing risk is clearly defined;
- Determining the nature and extent of the top risks of Harpenden Building Society;
- Ensuring processes are in place to consistently identify, measure, assess, monitor and control risks;
- Ensuring that Harpenden Building Society is compliant with regulatory requirements;
- Ensuring that adequate capital is allocated to support Harpenden Building Society's key
  risk exposures, both to ensure regulatory compliance and the achievement of strategic
  objectives.

# 2. Membership

Members of the Committee are appointed by the Board and shall comprise four members all of whom shall be non-executive directors. The Chair of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board from amongst the Non-Executive Directors but shall not be the Chair of the Board and who is also not a member.

Only members of the Committee have the right to attend meetings. However, other individuals, such as the Chief Executive, the Finance Director, other members of the Senior Management Team and external advisors may be invited to attend for all or any part of any meeting, as and when appropriate and necessary.

In the absence of the Committee Chair the appointed deputy shall chair the meeting.

All new members of the Committee will be informed of the role of the Committee, their responsibilities and will be provided with the ongoing support and training required by role.

At least one member of the Committee shall also be a member of the Audit & Compliance Committee.



| Role                          | Status                 | Deputy                 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Non-Executive Director, Chair | Member                 | Non-Executive Director |
| Vice Chair                    | Member                 | not applicable         |
| Non-Executive Director        | Member                 | Not applicable         |
| Non-Executive Director        | Member                 | Not applicable         |
| Chief Executive               | Non-voting<br>attendee | Not applicable         |
| Finance Director              | Non-voting<br>attendee | Not applicable         |
| Chief Risk Officer            | Non-voting<br>attendee | Not applicable         |
| Society Secretary             | Secretary              | Not applicable         |

# 3. Quorum

The quorum will be reviewed on an annual basis and is currently two members.

Quorum requirements should be reviewed annually to reflect any changes in Board membership or roles and responsibilities. A meeting can only be deemed quorate if all members have been invited to attend.

# 4. Authority

The Board is responsible for determining the nature and extent of the principal risks it is willing to take in achieving its strategic objectives. While the Board is ultimately responsible for risk and governance throughout the business, the Board Risk Committee provides focused support and advice on risk and governance.

The Board has delegated responsibility for the design and oversight of appropriate risk management systems to the Board Risk Committee. The Committee reviews Harpenden Building Society's Risk Management Framework along with its associated risk management and internal control policies.

The Board Risk Committee will approve the Terms of Reference for management committees at least annually.

The Terms of Reference of the Committee and any material amendments must be approved by the Board.

## 4.1 Exceptions

The Committee will review and approve exceptions to policy under its authority as prescribed by the specific policy in question (see section 5 below). Policy dispensations are submitted in writing to the Committee for approval, stating:

- The relevant policy or specific requirement(s) for which the dispensation is being requested
- What is being done instead of following the policy (i.e. the variation)



- An impact assessment of the dispensation
- The requested time period for the dispensation. Policy breaches or agreed exceptions are to be reported to the Committee through the relevant management information report as prescribed by the policy in question.

# 4.2 Voting

Each member of the Committee is entitled to a single vote, which can be cast either in person at the meeting, or by email prior to the meeting addressed to the Chair of the Committee. Approval requires a simple majority. In the event of an even split vote, the Chair or acting deputy has the option to exercise a casting vote. Committee members may not delegate their vote to a deputy, and invited guests attending the committee are not entitled to vote.

## 5. Responsibilities

| Responsibility                    | Details   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Main Purpose                      | <ul> <li>The Board Risk Committee provides focused support and advice on risk to the Board, including:</li> <li>providing advice on future risk strategy, including determination of Board Risk appetite, and ensuring the business strategy is aligned with the agreed appetite for risk;</li> <li>providing oversight and advice in relation to current and potential future risk exposures;</li> <li>ensuring that the processes for identifying and managing risks are fit for purpose and implemented appropriately by management;</li> <li>ensuring adequate capital is maintained for the Society's key risk exposures, both to ensure regulatory compliance and the achievement of its strategic objective;</li> <li>challenging and providing oversight of the design and execution of stress and scenario testing;</li> <li>challenging and providing oversight of due diligence on risk issues relating to material transactions and strategic proposals;</li> <li>providing advice, oversight and challenge necessary to embed and maintain a supportive risk culture throughout the Society</li> </ul> |
| Board Risk Appetite<br>and Policy | Oversee the development and implementation of the Board's<br>Risk Appetite Statement to ensure it remains fit for purpose,<br>relevant to the business model and in line with regulatory,<br>corporate governance and industry best practice. The Risk<br>Appetite Statement will include quantitative and qualitative<br>metrics. Recommend for approval to the Board.   |



| Responsibility                              | Details   |
|---|---|
|   | Oversee the development, implementation and maintenance of<br>the Risk Management Framework, including processes for<br>identifying, assessing, monitoring and reporting on risks.  |
| Risk Policies and                           | Ensure the accountability and responsibility for managing risk effectively is clearly defined in the Risk Management Framework.   |
| Processes                                   | Review the Individual Capital Adequacy Assessment Process,<br>Internal Liquidity Adequacy Assessment Process document and<br>associated appendices and recommend for approval to the<br>Board.                                    |
|   | Review the Recovery Pack.   |
|   | Monitor compliance with risk appetite thresholds/targets and policies.  |
| Risk Monitoring and<br>Reporting            | Review Risk Management Information dashboards from the Executive Committees. Review and approve the Chief Risk Officer report on the Society's risk exposures, including the assessment of the organisation's top risk exposures. |
|   | Challenge how the risks should be managed or mitigated to<br>reduce the likelihood of their incidence or their impact. Review<br>and approve the project risk reports for the Board approved<br>projects.                         |
| Regulatory<br>Compliance Oversight          | Monitor the arrangements made by management to ensure<br>compliance with requirements and standards under the<br>regulatory system.   |
| Emerging Risks                              | Monitor significant emerging risks and significant changes in exposures to existing risks, e.g. horizon scanning.   |
|   | Re-evaluate on annual basis validity of the main Risk Categories.<br>Review the results and take required actions for reverse stress  |
| Stress and Scenario<br>Tests                | testing on the Society's Business Model and help to design<br>measures to prevent or mitigate the risk of business<br>vulnerabilities.  |
| Risk Culture                                | Ensure that appropriate culture and reward systems have been embedded throughout the organisation.  |
| Management<br>Committee Oversight           | Receive minutes from the Management Committees.   |
| Responsibility                              | Details   |
| Reporting and<br>Disclosure<br>Requirements | Take responsibility for external communication on risk<br>management and internal control, via formal sign-off of the<br>Board Risk Report and other risk related sections within the<br>Annual Financial Statements.             |



|  | wear reputation, national recognition  |
|--|--|
|  | Review the annual Risk, Governance and Control Effectiveness                                     |
|  | Report.  |
| <b>Risk Management</b> Ensure that adequate resources are allocated to the |  |
| Resource   | management of all material risks.  |
|  |  |
|  | Consider its own performance, noting its conclusions in minutes that are submitted to the Board. |
| Other  |  |
|  | Review Committee Terms of Reference prior to submission to                                       |
|  | the Board for approval.  |

In carrying out their risk governance responsibilities, the Risk Committee should have regard to any relevant advice from the Audit Committee or internal audit function concerning the effectiveness of its current control framework. In addition, they should remain alert to the possible need for expert advice and support on any risk issue, taking action to ensure that they receive such advice and support as may be necessary to meet their responsibilities effectively.

# 6. Meeting Frequency

Meetings shall be held at least four times a year. Additional meetings may be convened following consultation with the Chair and provided that the quorate requirements are applied.

The Board may request meetings on specific areas of interest.

Meetings of the Committee are scheduled annually in advance by the Society Secretary, in conjunction with the Committee Chair.

## 7. Secretariat

The Society Secretary will act as secretary for the Committee and be responsible for maintaining the meeting minutes. The Secretary will ensure that all follow-up actions are appropriately assigned and monitored.

The Secretary will ensure that all items included within the Terms of Reference are covered as standard agenda items in Committee meetings. The Secretary in conjunction with the Chief Risk Officer and the Chair will draw up an agenda which shall be circulated prior to each meeting to each member of the Committee and to any other attendees.

The Secretary will make a best endeavour to collate and circulate relevant reports to the Committee members and other attendees in 5 days before the meeting to enable papers to be reviewed.

An effectiveness review of the Committee will be performed annually, including a review of meeting content, Terms of Reference and composition. Changes or improvements to the effectiveness of the Committee will be recommended to the Board for implementation.

## 8. Minutes & Reports



Committee decisions and discussions will be evidenced by minutes maintained by the Committee secretary and after approval by the Chair will be circulated to the Committee members and nominated attendees within 5 days of the meeting to allow completion of actions. In addition a summary report, including areas for action or improvement, and copies of minutes will be presented by the Chair of the Committee or their deputy to the Board at its next meeting.

# 9. Other Matters

The Committee has access to sufficient resources, including the Society Secretary, to carry out its duties including authority from the Board to obtain, at the Society's expenses, legal or professional advice on any matters within its terms of reference.

The Committee gives due consideration to laws and regulations, Codes of Practice and any other Rules, as appropriate.

| Date       | Version   | Author                            | Comments  |
|------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 30.01.2019 | V2019 1.0 | Roy Badcock, Society<br>Secretary | New Terms of Reference format<br>developed for Society  |
| 08.02.2019 | V2019 1.1 | Roy Badcock, Society<br>Secretary | Updated following review by the Chief<br>Risk Officer   |
| 28.02.2019 | V2019 1.2 | Roy Badcock, Society<br>Secretary | Reviewed following feedback from<br>Internal Audit (no changes identified for<br>the new version) |
| 19.03.2019 | V2019 1.3 | Roy Badcock, Society<br>Secretary | Updated following feedback from Mark<br>Willis  |
| 13.08.2019 | V1.4      | Roy Badcock, Society<br>Secretary | Version following feedback at the July 2019 Risk Committee Meeting.                               |
| 26.09.2019 | V1.5      | Roy Badcock, Society<br>Secretary | Updated following feedback from Board meeting on 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2019                  |
| 26.09.2019 | V1.6      | Roy Badcock, Society<br>Secretary | Clean version of v1.5.  |

## **10. Document Version History**