

**30 July 2018**

**MEDIA INFORMATION**

### **Polish Credit Union (UK) Limited: FSCS to protect 600 members**

The Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) has stepped in to protect members of Polish Credit Union (UK) Limited, which has stopped trading and is now in default. This means the Credit Union cannot repay deposits to its 600 members.

FSCS will compensate the vast majority of members within seven days. Using the credit union's records, FSCS will send payments out automatically.

People with up to £1,000 in their account will receive a letter to get cash over the counter at their local Post Office. Anyone with more than this will receive a cheque for their balance direct from FSCS.

FSCS protects up to £85,000 of savings – double that for joint accounts. It has come to the aid of more than 4.5m people since 2001, while paying out over £26bn in compensation. FSCS expects the total pay-out for Polish Credit Union (UK) Limited members to be £300,000.

Alex Kuczynski, Director of Corporate Affairs at FSCS, said:

“FSCS is here to protect members of Polish Credit Union (UK) Limited. Your savings are protected up to £85,000, and joint accounts are covered for £170,000. You should get your money back within seven days. The process is automatic too, so you won't have to apply for compensation.”

For more information on how FSCS helps people with current or savings accounts in banks, building societies and credit unions, please visit <http://www.fscs.org.uk/what-we-cover/compensation-limits/deposit-limits/>

Any queries about Polish Credit Union (UK) Limited can be directed to Dean Watson and Paul Stanley of Begbies Traynor who have been appointed as joint administrators.

You can contact the joint administrators by telephone 020 8840 3423/0161 837 1700 or email [PolishCU@begbies-traynor.com](mailto:PolishCU@begbies-traynor.com)

#### **Media enquiries**

Bhavik Depala  
T: 020 7375 8631

Suzette Browne  
T: 020 7375 8633

E: [publicrelations@fscs.org.uk](mailto:publicrelations@fscs.org.uk)

#### **Notes:**

- For more information on deposits protection please visit our [questions and answers page](#).
- Polish Credit Union (UK) Limited was declared in default on 30 July 2018 with 600 members.

#### **Notes to editors:**

## 1. About FSCS

FSCS is the UK's statutory compensation scheme for customers of authorised financial services firms. It was set up by Government in 2001 and is funded by the financial services industry. FSCS protects deposits, investment business, home finance (mortgage) advice, general insurance, insurance broking and debt management. FSCS can pay for financial loss if a firm is unable, or likely to be unable, to pay claims against it. The following limits apply:

- Deposits: £85,000 per person per authorised deposit-taker (for claims against firms declared in default from 30 Jan. 2017). For more details visit our [Deposit Limits](#) page.
- Investments and home finance: £50,000 per person per firm (for claims against firms declared in default from 1 Jan. 2010). For more details visit our [Investment Limits](#) and [Home Finance Limits](#) pages.
- General insurance advice and arranging claims: 90% of the claim is protected with no upper limit. Compulsory insurance is 100% (for business conducted on or after 14 Jan. 2005). For more details visit our [Insurance Limits](#) page.
- Debt management: £50,000 per person per firm (for claims against firms declared in default from 1 April 2018). For more details visit our [Debt Management](#) page.

FSCS is an independent body, set up under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (FSMA), and does not charge individual consumers for using its services.

## 2. Declaring a firm in default

Before FSCS can pay compensation it must be satisfied that a firm does not have sufficient assets to meet claims. It describes this as being 'in default'. The Scheme will declare a firm in default if:

- it has received at least one claim; and
- it is satisfied that the firm is unable (or likely to be unable) to pay claims against it.

FSCS is required to do this before it can pay compensation to eligible claimants.

Declaring a firm in default allows consumers who believe they may have lost money as a result of their dealings with that firm to apply to the Scheme.

## 3. Authorised firms

Dealing with a Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) or Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) authorised firms gives consumers access to the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) and FSCS. Consumers can check that the firm they are dealing with is authorised by using the FCA's Financial Services Register found here: <http://www.fca.org.uk/firms/systems-reporting/register>

## 4. Broadcast media

An ISDN line is available if you are interested in arranging a radio interview with FSCS's CEO or a member of the Executive Team. Please get in touch with our public relations team [publicrelations@fscs.org.uk](mailto:publicrelations@fscs.org.uk) to arrange a suitable time and date.