



Provisioning Guidelines for Credit Unions Anna Marie Finnegan

Background

- Provisioning Guidelines for Credit Unions (the Guidelines) were issued in April 2018.
- Purpose of the Guidelines is to support credit unions in developing and implementing an appropriate provisioning framework.
- Appropriate provisioning framework is essential for:
 - The recognition of loan losses as early as possible;
 - The adoption of a conservative and comparable approach to the measurement and recognition of provisions; and
 - Appropriate disclosures to support members' understanding of the performance of the loan book.
- Guidelines are applicable for all credit unions.

Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102)

- Accounting standard applicable to credit unions has applied since financial year-end 2016.
- FRS 102 adopts an incurred loss approach to provisioning.
- Section 11 outlines requirements in relation to provisioning.
- Objective evidence of impairment required to recognise a provision.
- Examples provided in FRS 102 of objective evidence of impairment include:
 - (i) financial difficulty of borrower;
 - (ii) breach of contract.
- Guidelines do not replace or over-ride the requirements of FRS 102.

Overview of Guidelines

- ■Guidelines cover a number of areas including:
 - Responsibilities in the Credit Union for Provisioning;
 - Provisioning Policy;
 - Guidelines for Assessing Impairment;
 - Guidelines for Calculating Impairment Provisions; and
 - Central Bank Supervisory Expectations.



Overview of Guidelines

- Guidelines have been incorporated into the Lending Chapter of the Credit Union Handbook- Chapter 13A.
- Specific queries on the Guidelines can be sent to rcu@centralbank.ie- please include 'Provisioning Guidelines' in subject header.

