



Banc Ceannais na hÉireann  
Central Bank of Ireland

Eurosystem

**DOCUMENTATION ON  
MONETARY POLICY  
INSTRUMENTS AND  
PROCEDURES -  
Valuation Haircuts Supplement**  
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# DOCUMENTATION ON MONETARY POLICY INSTRUMENTS AND PROCEDURES

## SUPPLEMENT

### on valuation haircuts applied in the implementation

### of the Eurosystem Monetary policy framework

issued by the Central Bank of Ireland (the “Bank”) on 25 January 2016 (as amended with effect from 5 August 2019)

(the “Valuation Haircuts Supplement”)

This Supplement is supplemental to, and should be read in conjunction with, the Bank’s Documentation on Monetary Policy Instruments and Procedures dated 5 August 2019, as the same may be amended, varied or further supplemented from time to time (the “MPIPs”).

All of the provisions of the MPIPs shall continue to apply unaltered unless otherwise provided for by this or any other Supplement. Terms defined in the MPIPs, unless the context otherwise requires, shall have the same meaning when used in this Supplement. The valuation haircuts in this Supplement are those that were adopted by the Governing Council of the ECB and set out in Guideline ECB/2015/35, as amended by Guideline ECB/2016/32, Guideline ECB/2018/4 and Guideline ECB/2019/12.

#### *Article 1*

#### **Valuation haircuts applied to eligible marketable assets**

1. In accordance with Title VI of Part Four of the MPIPs, marketable assets shall be subject to valuation haircuts, as defined in Article 2(103) of the MPIPs, at the levels set forth in Table 2 and Table 2a in the Annex to this Valuation Haircuts Supplement.
2. The valuation haircut for a specific asset depends on the following factors:
  - (a) the haircut category to which the asset is allocated, as defined in Article 2;
  - (b) the residual maturity or the weighted average life of the asset, as defined in Article 3;
  - (c) the coupon structure of the asset; and
  - (d) the credit quality step to which the asset is allocated.

## *Article 2*

### **Determination of haircut categories for marketable assets**

Eligible marketable assets shall be allocated to one of the five haircut categories, based on the type of issuer and/or the type of asset, as reflected in Table 1 in the Annex to this Valuation Haircuts Supplement:

- (a) debt instruments issued by central governments, ECB debt certificates and debt certificates issued by NCBs prior to the date of adoption of the euro in their respective Member State whose currency is the euro are included in haircut category I;
- (b) debt instruments issued by: (i) local and regional governments; (ii) entities which are credit institutions or non-credit institutions classified by the Eurosystem as agencies and which meet the quantitative criteria set out in Annex XIIa to Guideline (EU) 2015/510 (ECB/2014/60); (iii) multilateral development banks and international organisations; as well as UCITS compliant jumbo covered bonds, are included in haircut category II;
- (c) UCITS compliant covered bonds other than UCITS compliant jumbo covered bonds; other covered bonds; and debt instruments issued by (i) non-financial corporations, (ii) corporations in the government sector, and (iii) agencies which are non-credit institutions that do not meet the quantitative criteria set out in Annex XIIa to Guideline (EU) 2015/510 (ECB/2014/60), are included in haircut category III;
- (d) unsecured debt instruments issued by: (i) credit institutions; (ii) agencies which are credit institutions that do not meet the quantitative criteria set out in Annex XIIa to Guideline (EU) 2015/510 (ECB/2014/60); and (iii) financial corporations other than credit institutions, are included in haircut category IV;
- (e) asset-backed securities are included in haircut category V, regardless of the classification of the issuer.

## *Article 3*

### **Valuation haircuts for marketable assets**

1. The valuation haircuts for marketable assets allocated to haircut categories I to IV shall be determined based on:
  - (a) the allocation of the specific asset to credit quality step 1, 2 or 3;
  - (b) the residual maturity of the asset as detailed in paragraph 2;
  - (c) the coupon structure of the asset as detailed in paragraph 2.
2. For marketable assets allocated to haircut categories I to IV, the applicable valuation haircut shall depend on the residual maturity and coupon structure of the asset (fixed, zero, floating) as determined based on Table 2 in the Annex to this Valuation Haircuts Supplement. The relevant maturity for determining the valuation haircut to be applied shall be the residual maturity of the

asset, irrespective of the type of coupon structure. The following provisions shall apply with respect to the coupon structure:

- (a) floating coupons with a resetting period longer than one year shall be treated as fixed rate coupons;
  - (b) floating coupons that have a euro area inflation index as a reference rate shall be treated as fixed rate coupons;
  - (c) floating coupons with a floor that does not equal zero and/or floating coupons with a ceiling shall be treated as fixed rate coupons;
  - (d) the valuation haircut applied to assets that have more than one type of coupon structure shall solely depend on the coupon structure in place during the remaining life of the asset and shall equal the highest haircut applicable to a marketable asset with the same residual maturity and credit quality step. Any type of coupon structure in place during the remaining life of the asset may be considered for this purpose.
- 2a. The residual maturity for own-use covered bonds shall be defined as the maximum legal maturity, taking into account any extension rights for principal repayments contained in their terms and conditions. For the purposes of this paragraph, ‘own-use’ shall mean the submission or use by a counterparty of covered bonds that are issued or guaranteed by the counterparty itself or by any other entity with which that counterparty has close links as determined in accordance with Article 138 of the MPIPs.
3. For marketable assets allocated to haircut category V, regardless of their coupon structure, the valuation haircuts shall be determined based on the weighted average life of the asset as detailed in paragraphs 4 and 5. The valuation haircuts applicable to marketable assets in category V are laid down in Table 2a in the Annex to this Valuation Haircuts Supplement.
4. The weighted average life of the senior tranche of an asset-backed security shall be estimated as the weighted average time remaining until repayment of the expected cash flows for that tranche. For retained mobilised asset-backed securities, the calculation of the weighted average life shall assume that issuer call options will not be exercised.
5. For the purposes of paragraph 4, “retained mobilised asset-backed securities” shall mean asset-backed securities used in a percentage greater than 75% of the outstanding nominal amount by a counterparty that originated the asset-backed security or by entities closely linked to the originator. Such close links shall be determined in accordance with Article 138 of the MPIPs.

*Article 4*

**Additional valuation haircuts applied to specific types of marketable assets**

In addition to the valuation haircuts laid down in Article 3 of this Valuation Haircuts Supplement, the following additional valuation haircuts shall apply for specific types of marketable assets:

- (a) asset-backed securities, covered bonds and unsecured debt instruments issued by credit institutions that are theoretically valued in accordance with the rules contained in Article 134 of the MIPs shall be subject to an additional valuation haircut in the form of a valuation markdown of 5%;
- (b) own-use covered bonds shall be subject to an additional valuation haircut of (i) 8% applied to the value of the debt instruments allocated to credit quality steps 1 and 2, and (ii) 12% applied to the value of the debt instruments allocated to credit quality step 3;
- (c) for the purposes of paragraph (b), 'own-use' shall have the same meaning as defined in Article 3(2a).
- (d) if the additional valuation haircut referred to in paragraph (b) cannot be applied with respect to a collateral management system of the Bank, triparty agent, or TARGET2-Securities for autocollateralisation, the additional valuation haircut shall be applied in such systems or platform to the entire issuance value of the covered bonds that can be own used.

*Article 5*

**Valuation haircuts applied to eligible non-marketable assets**

1. Individual credit claims shall be subject to specific valuation haircuts determined according to the residual maturity, the credit quality step and the interest rate structure as laid down in Table 3 in the Annex to this Valuation Haircuts Supplement.
2. The following provisions shall apply with respect to the interest rate structure of credit claims:
  - (a) 'zero coupon' credit claims shall be treated as fixed rate credit claims;
  - (b) floating rate credit claims with a resetting period longer than one year shall be treated as fixed rate credit claims;
  - (c) floating rate credit claims with a ceiling shall be treated as fixed rate credit claims;
  - (d) floating rate credit claims with a resetting period of one year or less and with a floor, but without a ceiling, shall be treated as floating rate credit claims;
  - (e) the valuation haircut applied to a credit claim with more than one type of interest payment shall depend only on the interest payments during the remaining life of the credit claim. If there is more than one type of interest payment during the remaining life of the credit claim, the remaining interest payments shall be treated as fixed-rate payments, with the relevant maturity for the haircut being the residual maturity of the credit claim.

3. Non-marketable retail mortgage-backed debt instruments (including MBPNs) shall be subject to a valuation haircut of 31.5%.
4. Fixed-term deposits shall not be subject to valuation haircuts.
5. Each underlying credit claim included in the cover pool of a non-marketable debt instrument backed by eligible credit claims (hereinafter 'DECC') shall be subject to a valuation haircut applied at an individual level following the rules set out in paragraphs 1 to 2. The aggregate value of the underlying credit claims included in the cover pool after the application of valuation haircuts shall, at all times, remain equal to or above the value of the principal amount of the DECC that is outstanding. If the aggregate value falls below the threshold referred to in the previous sentence, the DECC shall be deemed ineligible.

Annex

**Table 1: Haircut categories for eligible marketable assets based on the type of issuer and/or type of asset**

Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV	Category V
<p>Debt instruments issued by central governments</p> <p>ECB debt certificates</p> <p>Debt certificates issued by national central banks (NCBs) prior to the date of adoption of the euro in their respective Member State</p>	<p>Debt instruments issued by local and regional governments</p> <p>Debt instruments issued by entities (credit institutions or non-credit institutions) classified by the Eurosystem as agencies and which meet the quantitative criteria set out in Annex XIIIa to Guideline (EU) 2015/510 (ECB/2014/60)</p> <p>Debt instruments issued by multilateral development banks and international organisations</p> <p>UCITS compliant jumbo covered bonds</p>	<p>UCITS compliant covered bonds other than UCITS compliant jumbo covered bonds</p> <p>Other covered bonds</p> <p>Debt instruments issued by non-financial corporations, corporations in the government sector and agencies which are non-credit institutions that do not meet the quantitative criteria set out in Annex XIIIa to Guideline (EU) 2015/510 (ECB/2014/60)</p>	<p>Unsecured debt instruments issued by credit institutions and agencies which are credit institutions that do not meet the quantitative criteria set out in Annex XIIIa to Guideline (EU) 2015/510 (ECB/2014/60)</p> <p>Unsecured debt instruments issued by financial corporations other than credit institutions</p>	<p>Asset-backed securities</p>

**Table 2: Valuation haircut levels applied to eligible marketable assets in haircut categories I to IV**

		Haircut categories											
Credit quality	Residual maturity (years)(*)	Category I			Category II			Category III			Category IV		
		fixed coupon	zero coupon	floating coupon	fixed coupon	zero coupon	floating coupon	fixed coupon	zero coupon	floating coupon	fixed coupon	zero coupon	floating coupon
Steps 1 and 2	[0-1)	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	7.5	7.5	7.5
	[1-3)	1.0	2.0	0.5	1.5	2.5	1.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	10.0	10.5	7.5
	[3-5)	1.5	2.5	0.5	2.5	3.5	1.0	3.0	4.5	1.0	13.0	13.5	7.5
	[5-7)	2.0	3.0	1.0	3.5	4.5	1.5	4.5	6.0	2.0	14.5	15.5	10.0
	[7-10)	3.0	4.0	1.5	4.5	6.5	2.5	6.0	8.0	3.0	16.5	18.0	13.0
	[10,∞)	5.0	7.0	2.0	8.0	10.5	3.5	9.0	13.0	4.5	20.0	25.5	14.5
		Haircut categories											
Credit quality	Residual maturity (years)(*)	Category I			Category II			Category III			Category IV		
		fixed coupon	zero coupon	floating coupon	fixed coupon	zero coupon	floating coupon	fixed coupon	zero coupon	floating coupon	fixed coupon	zero coupon	floating coupon
Step 3	[0-1)	6.0	6.0	6.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	13.0	13.0	13.0
	[1-3)	7.0	8.0	6.0	9.5	13.5	7.0	12.0	15.0	8.0	22.5	25.0	13.0
	[3-5)	9.0	10.0	6.0	13.5	18.5	7.0	16.5	22.0	8.0	28.0	32.5	13.0
	[5-7)	10.0	11.5	7.0	14.0	20.0	9.5	18.5	26.0	12.0	30.5	35.0	22.5
	[7-10)	11.5	13.0	9.0	16.0	24.5	13.5	19.0	28.0	16.5	31.0	37.0	28.0
	[10,∞)	13.0	16.0	10.0	19.0	29.5	14.0	19.5	30.0	18.5	31.5	38.0	30.5

\* i.e. [0- 1) residual maturity less than one year; [1-3) residual maturity equal to or greater than one year and less than three years, etc.



**Table 2a: Valuation haircut levels applied to eligible marketable assets in haircut category V**

		Category V
Credit quality	Weighted Average Life (WAL)*	Valuation haircut
Steps 1 and 2 (AAA to A-)	[0-1)	4.0
	[1-3)	4.5
	[3-5)	5.0
	[5-7)	9.0
	[7-10)	13.0
	[10, ∞)	20.0

\* '[0-1)' is to be interpreted as WAL less than one year, '[1-3)' as WAL equal to or greater than one year and less than three years, etc.

**Table 3: Valuation haircut levels applied to eligible credit claims with fixed or floating interest payments**

<b>Credit quality</b>	<b>Residual maturity (years) *</b>	<b>Fixed interest payment</b>	<b>Floating interest payment</b>
<b>Steps 1 and 2 (AAA to A-)</b>	[0-1)	12.0	12.0
	[1-3)	16.0	12.0
	[3-5)	21.0	12.0
	[5-7)	27.0	16.0
	[7-10)	35.0	21.0
	[10, ∞)	45.0	27.0
<b>Step 3 (BBB+ to BBB-)</b>	[0-1)	19.0	19.0
	[1-3)	33.5	19.0
	[3-5)	45.0	19.0
	[5-7)	50.5	33.5
	[7-10)	56.5	45.0
	[10, ∞)	63.0	50.5

\* i.e. [0-1) residual maturity less than one year; [1-3) residual maturity equal to or greater than one year and less than three years, etc.