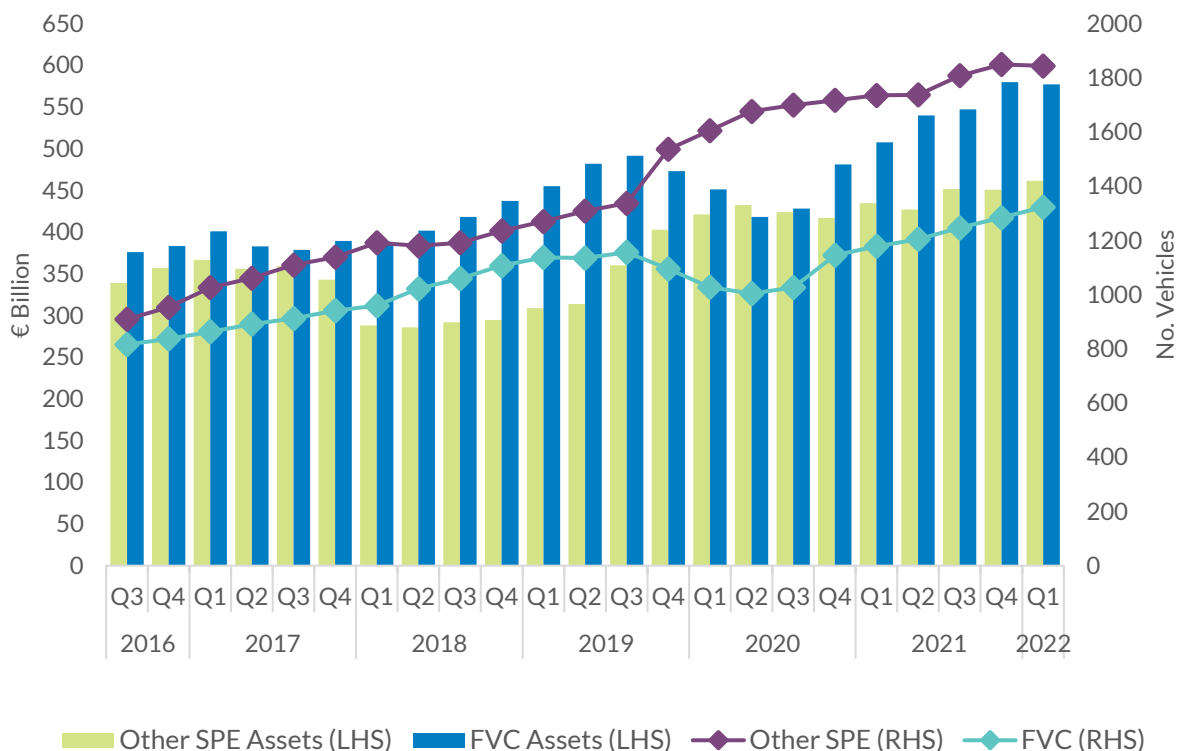




Chart 1. Total Assets and Number of SPEs

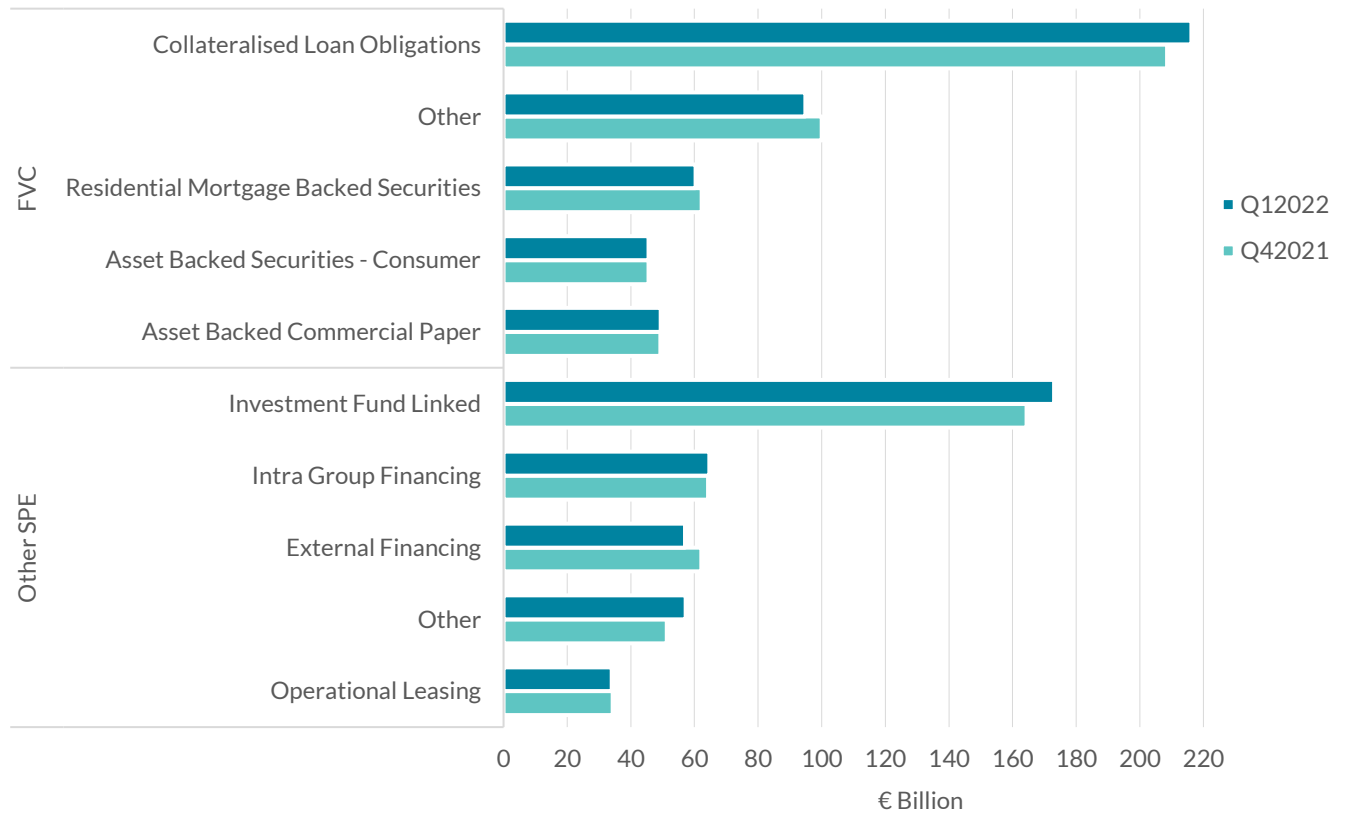


- Total assets of Irish-resident Special Purpose Entities (SPEs) grew by €7.8bn to €1,038.5bn in Q1 2022.<sup>1</sup> The number of SPEs rose by 34 to 3,167.
- The total assets of Irish-resident securitisation SPEs, or Financial Vehicle Corporations (FVCs), decreased over the quarter by €2.9bn, to €576.9bn, primarily due to decreases in the assets held by residential mortgage backed securities (3.1% decrease to €60.3bn) and “other” vehicles category (5.1% decrease to €94bn).
- Other SPEs saw their total assets increase by €10.7bn to €461.5bn. This was mainly due to an increases in the assets of investment fund-linked vehicles (€8.6bn).

<sup>1</sup> Definition of a SPE, a FVC, other SPEs and a sponsor can be found on page 4, in Notes.



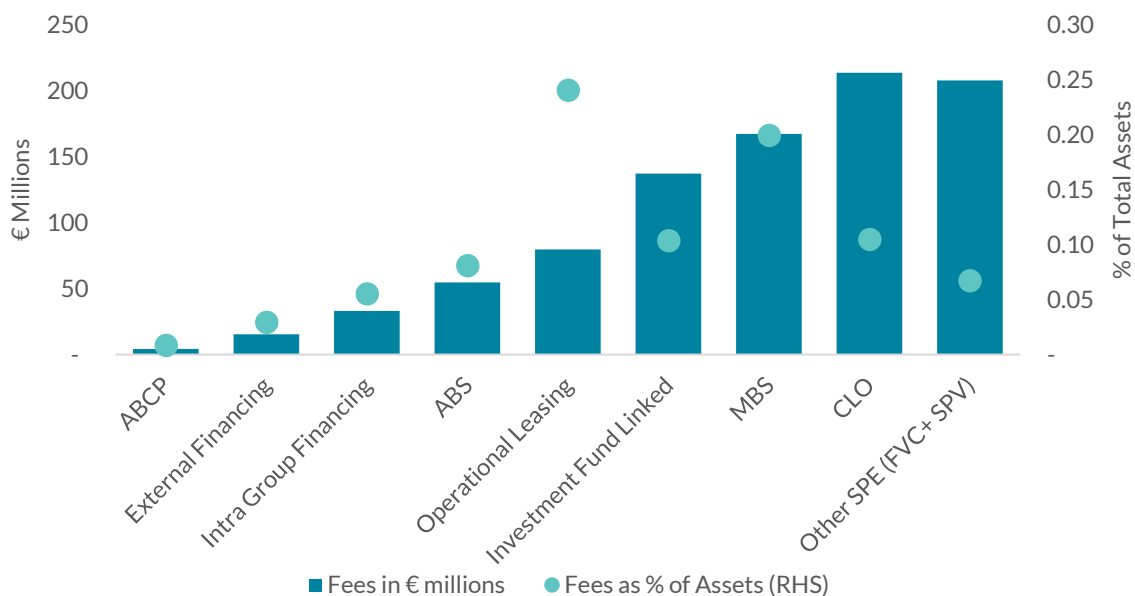
### Chart 2. Top 5 SPEs Activity Types (Total Assets)



- Collateralised loan obligation (CLOs), increased by 3.7% to €216.2bn, in Q1 2022. Net issuances of debt securities amounted to €8.6bn over the quarter, bringing the total debt issued to €185.3bn. The number of CLOs rose by 44 to 566 by the end of Q1 2022.
- Investment fund linked vehicles, which account for 38.3% of other SPE assets, are mainly sponsored by US and UK entities. Total assets, which had decreased last quarter, resumed an upward trend, rising by 5.3% to €173bn.



Chart 3. Financial and Professional Service Fees paid by SPE to Irish Business in 2021



Note: ABCP = Asset Backed Commercial Paper; ABS = Asset Backed Securities - consists of Consumer ABS and Corporate ABS; MBS = Mortgage Backed Securities – consists of Residential MBS and Commercial MBS; CLO = Collateralised Loan Obligation. Other SPE contains 16 other categories of vehicle.

- In 2021, SPE paid total financial and professional services fees of €3.3bn, equivalent to 0.3% of the sector total assets. Of this, €913mn of the fees were paid to Irish resident businesses and €1,059mn paid to UK businesses.
- The SPE categories paying the largest amount of fees paid to Irish businesses were collateralised loan obligations (€214mn), mortgage backed securities (€167mn), and investment fund linked vehicles (€137mn). Fees were largest relative to total assets for operational leasing (0.24%) and mortgage backed securities (0.2%).

## Statistical Release – Special Purpose Entities Statistics

### Appendix Notes

These data was collected under the requirements of Regulation (EC) No. 24/2009 concerning statistics on the assets and liabilities of financial vehicle corporations engaged in securitisation transactions (ECB/2008/30), which was passed on 19 December 2008, obliging financial vehicle corporations to report quarterly balance sheets. Reporting is obligatory for all financial vehicle corporations resident in Ireland.

The full data series for Ireland is available on the Central Bank of Ireland website [here](#) and euro area statistics are available from the ECB website [here](#).

**A Special Purpose Entity (SPE)** is a legal entity created to fulfil narrow, specific or temporary objectives.

**Financial vehicle corporations (FVCs)** are undertakings which are constituted pursuant to National or Community Law and whose principal activity meets both of the following criteria:

- to carry out securitisation transactions which are insulated from the risk of bankruptcy or any other default of the originator;
- to issue securities, securitisation fund units, other debt instruments and/or financial derivatives, and/or to legally or economically own assets underlying the issue of securities, securitisation fund units, other debt instruments and/or financial derivatives that are offered for sale to the public or sold on the basis of private placements.

**Securitisation** refers to a transaction or scheme whereby: (i) an asset or pool of assets is transferred to an entity that is separate from the

originator and is created for or serves the purpose of the securitisation; and/or (ii) the credit risk of an asset or pool of assets, or part thereof, is transferred to the investors in the securities, securitisation fund units, other debt instruments and/or financial derivatives issued by an entity that is separate from the originator and is created for or serves the purpose of the securitisation.

**Other Special Purpose Entities (Other SPEs)** are vehicles not engaged in securitisation.

**The Sponsor** refers to the entity on whose behalf the SPE was established. This usually the ultimate beneficial owner. However, where an investment fund sets up a vehicle to hold assets, the investment manager would be considered the sponsor. In insurance-linked securitisations, the ceding reinsurer would be considered the sponsor. The term ‘Sponsor’ does not refer to a charitable trust that owns shares of the SPE in an orphan vehicle structure.

### Further information

Queries to: Central Bank, Press Office at [media@centralbank.ie](mailto:media@centralbank.ie) or (01) 224 6299.