



**The Quoted
Companies Alliance**

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Peter Cardinali (Ref: CP10/5)
Finance Planning & Management Information - Fees Policy
Financial Services Authority
25 The North Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London E14 5HS

CP10_05@fsa.gov.uk

12 March 2010

Dear Mr Cardinali,

Financial Services Authority – CP10/5: Regulatory fees and levies – Rates and proposals 2010/11 and feedback statement on Part 1 of CP09/26

INTRODUCTION

The Quoted Companies Alliance (QCA) is a not-for-profit membership organisation working for small and mid-cap quoted companies. Their individual market capitalisations tend to be below £500m.

The QCA is a founder member of European**Issuers**, which represents over 9,000 quoted companies in fourteen European countries.

The QCA Markets & Regulations Committee has examined your proposals and advised on this response. A list of Committee members is at Appendix A.

RESPONSE

We welcome the opportunity to respond to this consultation. We will only comment on the areas of the consultation that will affect our membership, small and mid-cap issuers (e.g. firms in fee block e).

11 – Periodic fees for other bodies

Q3: Do you have any comments on the proposed 2010/11 FSA fee rates for fee-payers other than authorised firms?

We do not believe that the annual fee rates for issuers of securities should rise as proposed in the consultation. Listed companies, especially smaller listed companies, already face high ongoing fees, and often this is one of the factors considered when companies delist. We do not believe that the reason for the fee increase for issuers is justified – especially during an

economic downturn when banks are reluctant to provide debt financing and listed companies require access to equity markets and funding more than ever.

12 – UK Listing Authority (UKLA) revised vetting fees for equity prospectuses

Q4: Do you agree with the proposed change to FEES 3, Annex 5, Part 2, Category 2 to reduce the fee for vetting equity registration documents to £3,520?

Yes, we agree with the proposed changes to reduce the fee for vetting equity registration documents.

If you wish to discuss these issues with us, we will be pleased to attend a meeting.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TWL', is centered on a light blue rectangular background.

Tim Ward
Chief Executive