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MEDIA INFORMATION

### **Always check you're covered, FSCS advises investors**

Tough times mean people are looking for new opportunities to grow their hard-earned cash but they need to make sure they are doing business with an authorised firm to know their investment is protected.

The Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) protects investments up to £50,000 in cases of mis-selling or if the provider goes bust. However, FSCS is reminding consumers that it does not cover land banking or other unregulated investments such as wine clubs. The Scheme protects UK firms authorised by the Financial Services Authority (FSA).

Recently FSCS has been dealing with major investment failures such as Keydata Investment Services Ltd, which went bust owing consumers hundreds of millions of pounds.

Mark Neale, Chief Executive for FSCS, says: "FSCS cannot protect consumers if the firm they are considering doing business with is not regulated by the FSA. In these tough times, it is doubly important for people to always check the investment firm they are doing business with is authorised by the FSA. If it is, and the firm goes bust, FSCS will protect up to £50,000. It only takes a few minutes to check the [FSA Register](#) online."

FSCS has helped more than 4.5m people and paid out more than £26bn since 2001 when it was set up by government.

**- Ends -**

#### **Notes to Editors:**

##### **1. About the FSCS**

The Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) is the UK's statutory compensation scheme for customers of authorised financial services firms. This means that the FSCS can pay compensation if a firm is unable, or likely to be unable, to pay claims against it. The FSCS is an independent body, set up under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (FSMA), and funded by a levy on authorised financial services firms. The FSCS does not charge individual consumers for using its service. For more information visit [www.fscs.org.uk](http://www.fscs.org.uk)

