

Payment Services

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Thistle Initiatives is an award-winning compliance consultancy providing regulated financial services firms or those wishing to become regulated with a range of support and services.



From start-ups to established businesses, our dedicated **Payment Services** team supports payment institutions (PIs) and e-money providers (EMIs) with a smooth journey through compliance.

We are guided by a principle to be much more than a compliance consultancy, thinking beyond the rule book and adding value to every project with a practical, professional, and personal touch.

Our philosophy of providing a world-class service and hands-on approach, with problem-solving and a commercial focus, means we are trusted by the regulator and our clients alike. We believe in doing, not delegating. Taking the burden off you to keep your organisation moving forward, with an expert compliance partner by your side.

Who we support

We support these types of organisations to keep innovating.

E-Money Institutions	Payment Acquirers	Payment Card Issuers
Account Information Service Providers	Bill Payment Providers	Payment Initiation Service Providers
	Payment Account Providers	
Commercial Agents	Payment Processors	Foreign Exchange FX Providers
Electronic Communication Service Providers	Money Remitters	

Some of our clients

verto	3C PAYMENT	Thomas Exchange UK
ecospend	GC PARTNERS	obconnect
OpenPayd	JUNI	SPENDESK
kantox	FINASTRA	By Miles.
Dext		VibePay

Types of services

We take the compliance workload off your plate, so you can continue to focus on business growth, without the burden of managing your regulatory requirements.



FCA Applications

Preparing your submission and supporting documents, answering feedback and questions from the FCA; we're there from beginning to end and beyond.



EU Applications

Unlock and expand the power of your Payment Services firm to new markets across the EU.

As well as supporting EMIs and PIs with applications to the FCA in the UK, we can help your firm expand to new client bases in the EU. We are helping firms revolutionise and empower payment services businesses by assisting them with licensing across multiple EU jurisdictions.



Compliance support

We provide comfort that the right processes are in place to meet your payment services compliance obligations on an ongoing basis, from regular audits and technical advice to a strong compliance document suite.



Audit & advisory

Having worked with over 250 payment and E-money firms, we know one size does not fit all when it comes to payment services compliance, our support is always tailor-made in the way that works best for you.



Agent & distributor onboarding

For companies looking for a quicker route to market, we provide practical support for becoming agents and e-money distributors of existing regulated providers.

We will help prepare everything you need to seamlessly pass through the due diligence checks applied by the principal firm, when onboarding as either an agent or distributor.



Mock FCA interviews

To help firms prepare for any FCA interaction, we provide a mock FCA interview process, utilising the insight and experience of the ex-FCA e-money supervision resource within our team. This includes interviewing key personnel within your firm, making use of realistic scenarios and question sets to ensure they are prepared and know how best to interact with the regulator. By helping to generate a positive interaction, we can help ensure you portray your firm in a positive and prepared manner to the FCA.



Regulatory reporting

Our specialist resource can provide your business with support and guidance to help you to prepare for and submit your regulatory returns, removing the administrative burden for your business and saving you time and resource. As part of our retained service, we can take the responsibility of ensuring these reports are kept up to date by submitting them on your firm's behalf via the FCA's RegData portal.



Training & competence

We will help get your team up to date on their regulatory roles and responsibilities. By implementing these procedures, our team can assist in empowering the organisation to navigate complex regulatory landscapes, mitigate compliance risks, and foster a culture of accountability and integrity across all levels of the business.

Thistle Initiatives can also offer

Financial Crime Prevention

Keep on top of your financial crime compliance and understand your responsibilities, with support from our world-class regulatory experts. Our highly experienced financial crime team includes ex-regulators and big bank compliance officers, solving financial crime complexities from risk assessments to training, and regulatory visits.

We apply our detailed knowledge of regulation, industry best practice, and financial crime risk to create practical tailored solutions for your firm. We offer effective assistance ranging from outsourced operational due diligence, framework audits to desktop and face-to-face training and assistance in interpreting and implementing the regulations and legislation.

Thistle Initiatives is part of the multi-award winning Thistle Group



A compliance consultancy supporting regulated businesses and those on the journey to becoming regulated

thistleinitiatives.co.uk



Providing time saving suitability report writing software for consistent client outcomes

atebsuitability.co.uk

Get in touch

Ready for financial services compliance, without the complexity?



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