#### 1 Introduction

Evidence of identity can be obtained in a number of forms and come from a number of sources. Whatever evidence we rely on, it must cause us to be reasonably satisfied as to someone's identity.

The documentation we require from clients will depend on the nature of the client and our assessment of the risk they present to our business. This may involve accepting a range of documents.

The Money Laundering Regulations 2017 (MLR 2017) as amended from time to time. The MLR 2017 was amended by the Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (Amendment) Regulations 2019 and the Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020. They set out a summary of the risk factors which we should take into account when conducting client due diligence, together with AML Guidance for the Legal Sector, based on the Legal Sector Affinity Group Anti-Money Laundering Guidance for the Legal Sector 2023. This is especially true in relation to politically exposed persons (PEPs) and when it comes to contraventions of the MLR 2017. The Group comprises the AML supervisors for the legal sector. The Guidance replaces previous guidance and good practice information on complying with AML/CTF obligations. The guidance is issued by the Legal Sector Affinity Group, which comprises the AML Supervisors for the legal sector. We are guided by the scope of the money laundering regulations and Complying with the UK Sanctions Regime, published by the SRA.

We must consider the CDD measures to put in place, which may differ from case to case. We:

- 1.1 must take into account relevant information made available to us by our supervisory authority; and
- 1.2 we may take into account any guidance which has been issued by the FCA, or any other supervisory authority or appropriate body and approved by HM Treasury

In deciding whether there has been a contravention of the requirements of the MLR 2017 a court or regulator must consider whether we have followed such guidance.

We should use this document as a guide to help us decide on the level of client due diligence (CDD) to apply and what documentary evidence to request/accept from a client or potential client.

#### 2 Key

CDD	Client due diligence
EDD	Enhanced due diligence
SDD	Simplified due diligence
RDD	Regular due diligence

#### 3 Individuals

This section contains guideline CDD measures for other arrangements or bodies which we aim to follow:

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Client type	Requirement	Actions
UK individual	RDD applies unless we have identified circumstances in our CDD risk assessment that trigger the need for EDD measures.	Obtain one document from list A and one document from list B  A  —current signed passport —current photocard driving licence —birth certificate —marriage certificate  B  —current photocard driving licence —council tax or utility bill —bank, building society, mortgage or HMRC tax statement —house or motor insurance certificate
		—record of home visit
Well-known individual (eg a celebrity)	AML Guidance for the Legal Sector appears to suggest that SDD may be appropriate.	satisfaction about identity,
Overseas individual	RDD applies unless we have identified circumstances in our CDD risk assessment that trigger the need for EDD measures, eg where we do not meet the client—see	Obtain one document from list <b>A</b> and one document from list <b>B</b>

Client type	Requirement	Actions
	Individual who you do not meet face-to-face below.  If documents are in a foreign language we must take appropriate steps to be reasonably satisfied that the documents in fact provide evidence of the individual's identity. If in doubt, ask for them to be translated.	-current signed passport  -current national identity card  -birth certificate  B  -council tax or utility bill  -bank, building society, mortgage or HMRC tax statement  -house or motor insurance certificate  -official, reputable overseas directory  -confirmation of address from a regulated person in the relevant jurisdiction
Overseas individual based in a high-risk third country, as identified by the European Commission	We must apply EDD.	Obtain one document from list A and one document from list B  A  —current signed passport  —current national identity card  —birth certificate  B  —council tax or utility bill  —bank, building society, mortgage or HMRC tax statement  —house or motor insurance certificate  —official, reputable overseas

Client type	Requirement	Actions
		directory
		—confirmation of address from a regulated person in the relevant jurisdiction
		and
		—document our examination of the background and purpose of the matter
		—ensure we increase the degree and nature of ongoing monitoring in relation to the client's matters
		Depending on the level of risk we have identified, we may also wish to:
		—seek additional independent, reliable sources to verify information provided by the client
		—take additional measures to understand better the background, ownership and financial situation of the client and other parties to the transaction
		—take further steps to be satisfied that the matter is consistent with the purpose and intended nature of the business relationship
Agent or representative of	RDD applies unless we have	Obtain:
an individual	identified circumstances in our risk assessment that trigger the need for EDD measures.	—verification that the representative is authorised to act on the client's behalf
		—evidence of identify the representative, and
		—verification of the identity

Client type	Requirement	Actions
		of the representative on the basis of documents or information obtained from a reliable source which is independent of both the person and the client
Professional, instructing us in their capacity as a professional (not as a private individual)	SDD may apply, depending on our risk assessment.  There is no automatic entitlement to apply SDD in any situation, each must be subject to risk assessment.  The MLR 2017 set out factors to take into account when assessing whether there is a low risk of money laundering and terrorist financing (ie situations where SDD may be appropriate)—a professional individual is not one of those factors.	See above.
Politically exposed person (PEP)	You must apply EDD.	Obtain:  —the required documents as for individual above (whether in the UK or overseas), and  —the approval of the [insert senior manager responsible for approving PEP clients] to accept the instructions  Take adequate steps to establish the source of wealth and source of funds which are involved in the business relationship. Consider whether there are signs of corruption or evidence that government or state funds are being used inappropriately, and  Conduct enhanced ongoing monitoring—keep a closer

Client type	Requirement	Actions
		eye on the matter
Individual who you do not meet face-to-face	You must consider applying EDD.	See actions below
		We require that the documents provided are certified by a lawyer, bank manager, accountant or GP whose identity you can check by reference to a professional directory, or
		—electronically verify the client's identity
		and
		—ensure the first payment in a retainer is from an account in the client's name with a UK or EU regulated credit institution or an assessed low risk jurisdiction
Individual who is unable to produce standard documentation	Entirely dependent on our risk assessment for the specific client and their circumstances.	Consider whether the inability to provide you with standard verification is consistent with the client's profile and circumstances or whether it might make you suspicious that money laundering or terrorist financing is occurring.
		Obtain a letter from an appropriate person who knows the individual and can verify their identity, eg:
		—care home manager
		—hostel manager/staff
		—Home Office

Client type	Requirement	Actions
		—priest, GP or local councillor
		—social worker
		—guardian appointed by the court

#### 4 Partnerships, LLPs and companies

This section contains guideline CDD measures for other arrangements or bodies which we aim to follow:

Client type	Requirement	Actions
UK credit or financial institution	SDD may apply, depending on our risk assessment.  There is no automatic entitlement to apply SDD in any situation, each must be subject to risk assessment.  The MLR 2017 set out factors to take into account when assessing whether there is a low risk of money laundering and terrorist financing (ie situations where SDD may be appropriate) and a credit institution or a financial institution which is (i) subject to the requirements in national legislation implementing 4MLD as an obliged entity, and (ii) supervised for compliance with those requirements, is one of those factors.	See actions above.
Credit or financial institution in the EEA	SDD <b>may</b> apply, depending on our risk assessment.  There is no automatic entitlement to apply SDD in any situation, each must be	See actions above.

Client type	Requirement	Actions
	subject to risk assessment.	
	The MLR 2017 set out factors to take into account when assessing whether there is a low risk of money laundering and terrorist financing (ie situations where SDD may be appropriate) and a client established, registered or operating in a third country which has effective systems to counter money laundering and terrorist financing is one of those factors.	
	Note requirement to apply enhanced due diligence (EDD) where the client is based in a high-risk third country, as identified by the European Commission.	
Credit or financial institution outside the EEA where equivalent AML provisions apply	SDD may apply, depending on our risk assessment.  There is no automatic entitlement to apply SDD in any situation, each must be subject to risk assessment.	Treat as credit or financial institution in the EEA.
	The MLR 2017 set out factors to take into account when assessing whether there is a low risk of money laundering and terrorist financing (ie situations where SDD may be appropriate) and a client which is established, registered or operating in a third country which has effective systems to counter	
	money laundering and terrorist financing is one of those factors.  Note requirement to apply	

bas cou Eur In Cor list	DD where the client is sed in a high-risk third untry, as identified by the property are commission.  February 2019, the commission adopted a new to f 23 high-risk third untries. It will now be	
Cor list	ommission adopted a new to of 23 high-risk third	
sub Par app will Offi ent	bmitted to the European urliament and Council for proval. Once approved, it I be published in the ficial Journal and will ter into force 20 days after publication.	
guid by laud con jurid jurid san	M Treasury updated its idance on the risks posed unsatisfactory money undering terrorist financing ntrols in overseas isdictions. The high risk isdictions listed are the me as those considered on risk by FATF and the considered of the risk by FATF and	
outside the EEA where there are no equivalent AML provisions  The fact where the laur final who appress is to the laur final who appress to the laur final w	ctors to take into account	As above and  —document our examination of the background and purpose of the matter  —ensure you increase the degree and nature of ongoing monitoring in relation to the client's matters  Depending on the level of risk you have identified, you may also wish to:  —seek additional independent, reliable sources to verify information provided by the client

Client type	Requirement	Actions
	European Commission.  In February 2019, the Commission adopted a new list of 23 high-risk third countries. It will now be submitted to the European Parliament and Council for approval. Once approved, it will be published in the Official Journal and will enter into force 20 days after its publication.	understand better the background, ownership and financial situation of the client and other parties to the transaction  —take further steps to be satisfied that the matter is consistent with the purpose and intended nature of the business relationship
	HM Treasury updated its guidance on the risks posed by unsatisfactory money laundering terrorist financing controls in overseas jurisdictions. The high risk jurisdictions listed are the same as those considered high risk by FATF and the EC.	
UK partnership	RDD applies unless you have identified circumstances in our CDD risk assessment that trigger the need for EDD measures.	Obtain:  —full name  —business address  —names of all partners/principals who exercise ultimate control over the management of the partnership  —names of individuals who own or control over 25% of its capital, profits, or voting rights  Take reasonable steps to verify the identity of the partners.  For smaller partnerships, treat as a collection of individuals (see section 3 above).

Client type	Requirement	Actions
		For larger partnerships, consider makeup, eg is it made up of professionals? (See UK partnership made up of regulated individuals (eg solicitors, accountants, etc) below.) If not, treat as private unlisted company.  For all sizes and natures of partnership, have sight of the partnership deed or equivalent.
UK partnership made up of regulated individuals (eg solicitors, accountants, etc)	SDD may apply, depending on our risk assessment.  There is no automatic entitlement to apply SDD in any situation, each must be subject to risk assessment.  The MLR 2017 set out factors to take into account when assessing whether there is a low risk of money laundering and terrorist financing (ie situations where SDD may be appropriate)—a professional individual is not one of those factors.	See actions above.
Well-known, reputable partnerships	SDD <b>may</b> apply, depending on our risk assessment.	Record:  —name  —registered address, if any  —trading address  —nature of business  —the names of all individual beneficial owners owning/controlling more than 25% of the capital, profit or voting rights or who otherwise

Client type	Requirement	Actions
		exercise control  Take reasonable steps to verify the identity of beneficial owners.
UK private unlisted company (Itd) and UK LLP	RDD applies unless you have identified circumstances in our CDD risk assessment that trigger the need for EDD measures.	Obtain and verify:  —the name of the body corporate  —its company number or other registration number  —the address of its registered office, and if different, its principal place of business  Take reasonable measures to determine and verify:  —the law to which it is subject (whether set out in its articles of association or other governing documents)  —the full names of the board of directors or equivalent and the senior persons responsible for the operations of the body corporate  —identify the beneficial owner and take reasonable measures to verify the identity of the beneficial owner so that you are satisfied you know who the beneficial owner is a legal person, trust, company, foundation or similar legal arrangement take reasonable measures to understand the ownership and control structure of that legal person, trust, company, foundation or similar legal arrangement is similar legal arrangement

Client type	Requirement	Actions
		Verification sources for identifying UK private unlisted companies include:  —certificate of incorporation  —details from the relevant company registry, confirming details of the company and of the director(s) and their address(es)  —filed audited accounts  —information from a reputable electronic verification service provider
Subsidiary of existing private unlisted company for whom CDD has been conducted	SDD may apply, depending on our risk assessment.  There is no automatic entitlement to apply SDD in any situation, each must be subject to risk assessment.  The MLR 2017 set out factors to take into account when assessing whether there is a low risk of money laundering and terrorist financing (ie situations where SDD may be appropriate)—a subsidiary of existing private unlisted company for whom CDD has been conducted is not one of those factors.	This will depend on:  —our risk assessment  —the information you already hold  —whether the existing client has been identified to the standards of the MLR 2017  If the client is a body corporate, obtain and verify:  —its name  —the company number or other registration number, and  —the address of the registered office and, if different, principal place of business  Consider the identity of beneficial owners.
Company listed on a regulated market	SDD <b>may</b> apply, depending on our risk assessment.	Obtain and verify: —its name
	There is no automatic	

Client type	Requirement	Actions
	entitlement to apply SDD in any situation, each must be subject to risk assessment.	<ul> <li>—the company number or other registration number, and</li> <li>—the address of the registered office and, if different, principal place of business</li> <li>Obtain confirmation of the company's listing, eg:</li> <li>—a copy of the dated page of the website of the relevant stock exchange showing the listing</li> <li>—a photocopy of the listing in a reputable daily newspaper, or</li> <li>—information from a reputable electronic verification service provider or online registry</li> <li>There is no requirement to take any steps in relation to the beneficial owner.</li> </ul>
Majority-owned and consolidated subsidiaries of companies listed on regulated markets in the UK, EEA or non-EEA market that is subject to specified disclosure obligations	on our risk assessment.	Obtain evidence of the parent/subsidiary relationship, eg  —the subsidiary's last filed annual return  —a note in the parent's or subsidiary's last audited accounts  —information from a reputable electronic verification service provider or online registry  —information from the parent company's published reports, eg from its website
Other publicly listed or	SDD may apply, depending	Obtain and verify:

Client type	Requirement	Actions
quoted companies	on our risk assessment.  There is no automatic entitlement to apply SDD in any situation, each must be subject to risk assessment.  Note requirement to apply EDD where the client is based in a high-risk third country, as identified by the European Commission.  In February 2019, the Commission adopted a new list of 23 high-risk third countries. It will now be submitted to the European Parliament and Council for approval. Once approved, it will be published in the Official Journal and will enter into force 20 days after its publication.  HM Treasury updated its guidance on the risks posed by unsatisfactory money laundering terrorist financing controls in overseas jurisdictions. The high risk jurisdictions listed are the same as those considered high risk by FATF and the EC.	—its name  —the company number or other registration number, and  —the address of the registered office and, if different, principal place of business  You may consider that the listing conditions that apply in the relevant jurisdiction and the level of transparency and accountability to which the company is subject in determining the level of checks and the extent to which you treat the client as a private company or a public company.  In principle the obligation to verify beneficial owners applies here.
Overseas private unlisted companies	RDD applies unless you have identified circumstances in our CDD risk assessment that triggers the need for EDD measures.  Note requirement to apply EDD where the client is based in a high-risk third country, as identified by the European Commission.  In February 2019, the	Obtain documentation as for UK private unlisted company above but be aware of any increased risks presented as a result of the country in which the client is incorporated. These are likely to be lower where the client is incorporated or operating in an EEA state or a country which is a member of FATF.  Where you are not obtaining

Client type	Requirement	Actions
	Commission adopted a new list of 23 high-risk third countries. It will now be submitted to the European Parliament and Council for approval. Once approved, it will be published in the Official Journal and will enter into force 20 days after its publication.	original documentation, consider on a risk-sensitive basis, having the documents certified by a person in the regulated sector or another professional whose identity can be checked by reference to a professional directory.
	HM Treasury updated its guidance on the risks posed by unsatisfactory money laundering terrorist financing controls in overseas jurisdictions. The high risk jurisdictions listed are the same as those considered high risk by FATF and the EC.	
Companies with capital in the form of bearer shares	EDD <b>may</b> apply, depending on our risk assessment.	—obtain documentation as for UK private unlisted company above
		and
		—establish the identities of the holders and material beneficial owners of the shares
		and
		—obtain an undertaking that you will be notified whenever there is a change of holder and/or beneficial owner
Well-known 'household name' company or partnership (ie the entity is well-known, reputable, has	SDD <b>may</b> apply, depending on our risk assessment.  There is no automatic	See actions above.
a long history in its industry and there is substantial public information about	entitlement to apply SDD in any situation, each must be subject to risk assessment.	
them)	The MLR 2017 set out factors to take into account	

Client type	Requirement	Actions
	when assessing whether there is a low risk of money laundering and terrorist financing (ie situations where SDD may be appropriate)—a 'household name' is not one of those factors.	

#### 5 Other arrangements or bodies

This section contains guideline CDD measures for other arrangements or bodies which we aim to follow:

Client type	Requirement	Actions
Client type  UK trust	RDD applies unless you have identified circumstances in our CDD risk assessment that trigger the need for EDD measures.	Actions  Obtain the following information:  —name of the settlor  —full name of the trust  —nature, purpose and objects of the trust (eg, discretionary, testamentary, bare)  —country of establishment  —names of all trustees  —names of any beneficiaries (or, where relevant a description of the class of beneficiaries)  —name and address of any protector or controller  Verify the identity of the trust
		Verify the identity of the trust on the basis of documents or information obtained from a reliable source which is
		independent of the client, eg requiring sight of relevant extracts from the trust deed, or reference to an
		appropriate register in the

Client type	Requirement	Actions
		country of establishment.
		Take reasonable measures to understand the ownership and control structure of the client.
		Take reasonable measures to understand the ownership and control structure of the client.
		Verify the identity of the beneficial owners (in most cases this will be the trustees, beneficiaries and settlor). Where there are a large number of beneficial owners, on a risk based approach, determine who/how many to apply this requirement to.
Non–UK trust	RDD applies unless you have identified circumstances in our CDD risk assessment that trigger	Obtain the following information:  —settlor
	the need for EDD measures.	—full name of the trust
		—nature, purpose and objects of the trust (eg, discretionary, testamentary, bare)
		—country of establishment
		—names of all trustees
		—names of any beneficial owners
		—name and address of any protector or controller
		Verify the identity of the trust on the basis of documents or information obtained from a reliable source which is independent of the client, eg

Client type	Requirement	Actions
		requiring sight of relevant extracts from the trust deed, or reference to an appropriate register in the country of establishment.  Take reasonable measures to understand the ownership
		and control structure of the client.
		Verify the identity of the beneficial owners. Where there are a large number of beneficial owners, on a risk-based approach, determine who/how many to apply this requirement to.
Foundation	CDD level is dependent on the nature and purpose of the foundation and the legal form it takes.	See actions above.
Registered charities, church bodies and places of worship	CDD level is dependent on the nature and purpose of the body and the legal form it takes.	See actions above.
Unregistered charities	CDD level is dependent on the nature and purpose of the charity and the legal form it takes.	
Deceased persons' estates	RDD applies unless you have identified circumstances in our CDD risk assessment that trigger the need for EDD measures.	The court documents granting probate or letters of administration can be sufficient as evidence of the identity of those personal representatives.
		You should also
		<ul><li>—establish the identity of executors or administrators using the procedures for natural persons or</li></ul>

Client type	Requirement	Actions
		companies
		—where you act for more than one executor or administrator, verify the identity of at least two of them
		—consider getting a copy of the death certificate
Schools or colleges	CDD level dependent on the legal form it takes.	As appropriate, see CDD requirements for charities, private companies, etc.
Clubs, associations and	RDD applies unless you	Obtain and record:
societies	have identified circumstances in our CDD	—full name
	risk assessment that trigger the need for EDD measures	—legal status
	or the ability to apply SDD.	—purpose
		—registered address
		—names of all office holders
		To verify the existence of the club etc, obtain:
		—articles of association or constitution
		—statement from a bank, building society or credit union
		—recent audited accounts
		—financial statements presented to the annual general meeting, and/or
		—listing in a telephone directory
		Verify the identities of the officers who have authority to give the firm instructions

Client type	Requirement	Actions
		concerning the use or transfer of funds or assets.  Where the risk is higher, verify the identities of additional officers, and/or institute additional ongoing monitoring arrangements.
Employee pension funds	SDD may apply, depending on our risk assessment.  There is no automatic entitlement to apply SDD in any situation, each must be subject to risk assessment.  The MLR 2017 set out factors to take into account when assessing whether there is a low risk of money laundering and terrorist financing (ie situations where SDD may be appropriate)—a pension, superannuation or similar scheme is one of these factors where:  —the scheme provides retirement benefits to employees  —contributions to the scheme are made by way of deductions from wages, and  —the scheme rules do not permit the assignment of a member's interest under the scheme	Obtain evidence that the product is a scheme that qualifies for SDD, eg:  —copy of a page showing the name of the scheme from the most recent definitive deed, or  —consolidating deed for the scheme, plus any amending deed subsequent to that date, from which you can assess how contributions are made and members' interest assignment rights  For pension schemes that do not tick all the boxes, see below.
Other pension funds	SDD cannot apply under MLR 2017, reg 36(3)(b)(iii) so RDD applies unless you have identified circumstances in our CDD risk assessment that trigger the need for EDD measures.	Where a pension scheme does not meet the criteria above and therefore you are not able to apply SDD measures, you must apply CDD as appropriate to the business structure. You could also consider taking

Client type	Requirement	Actions
		the following measures, depending on our risk assessment:  —seeking confirmation of registration with HMRC or
		the Pensions Regulator  —verifying the identity of the principal employer  —verifying the source of funding
UK or overseas governments, supranational organisations, government departments, state-owned companies or local authorities, including:  —state supported schools, colleges and universities, and  —NHS trusts	SDD may apply, depending on our risk assessment.  There is no automatic entitlement to apply SDD in any situation, each must be subject to risk assessment.  The MLR 2017 set out factors to take into account when assessing whether there is a low risk of money laundering and terrorist financing (ie situations where SDD may be appropriate)—a public administration or publicly owned enterprise is one of those factors.	Obtain:  —full name  —nature and status (eg, overseas government, treaty organisation, etc)  —address  —name of the home state authority, and  —names of directors (or equivalent)  —name of the individual instructing you and confirmation of their authority to do so  —extract from official government website  Take appropriate steps to understand the ownership of the client and the nature of its relationship with its home state authority.  Where appropriate, verify the identities of the directors (or equivalent) who have authority to give instructions in relation to funds or assets.

Client type	Requirement	Actions
Public authorities, etc based in a high-risk third country, as identified by the European Commission	You must apply EDD.	As above, and  —document our examination of the background and purpose of the matter  —ensure you increase the degree and nature of ongoing monitoring in relation to the client's matters  Depending on the level of risk you have identified, you may also wish to:  —seek additional independent, reliable sources to verify information provided by the client  —take additional measures to understand better the background, ownership and financial situation of the client and other parties to the transaction  —take further steps to be satisfied that the matter is consistent with the purpose and intended nature of the business relationship

January 2025