

Guernsey -Comparison of Guernsey Funds Regimes

Introduction

This memorandum describes certain features of Guernsey fund regimes. It is intended to be a summary only, and is not exhaustive. It is not a substitute for detailed legal advice, which can be obtained from your usual Walkers contact or any of the Walkers partners listed at the end of this memorandum.

	Private Investment Fund	Registered Fund	Authorised Closed- Ended Fund	Authorised Open- Ended Fund
Category of fund	Open or closed	Open or closed	Closed	Open – Class A, Class B and Class Q
Type of fund vehicle	Company (including PCC, ICC), limited partnership or unit trust			
Is fund vehicle regulated?	Yes – very light touch	Yes – light touch	Yes	Yes – level varies between the classes
Guernsey regulated manager required?	Not mandatory, except for "Manager PIF"	Not mandatory	Not mandatory	Not mandatory for Class A Fund Mandatory for Class B and Class Q Funds
Regulatory application timeframe	One business day (any manager licence done at same time)	Three business days (plus 10 business days for any manager licence)	Six to eight weeks (plus four weeks for any manager licence), except that Qualifying Investor Fund is three business days (plus 10 business days for any manager licence)	Six to eight weeks (plus four weeks for any manager licence)

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	Private Investment Fund	Registered Fund	Authorised Closed- Ended Fund	Authorised Open- Ended Fund
Investor restrictions	Manager PIF – max 50 investors (max 30 new investors over 12 months); only investors able to sustain loss; no limits on marketing	None	None, except that only "qualified investors" can invest in "Qualifying Investor Funds"	None, except that only "qualifying professional investors" can invest in a Class Q Fund
	QPI PIF – max 50 investors; only "qualifying private investors"; offers limited to 200 investors			
	Family PIF – investors must be part of same "family group"			
Guernsey tax treatment of fund vehicle	Company and unit trust – 0% or exempt Limited partnership – not taxable			
Economic substance rules	Fund vehicle is exempt from economic substance requirements, unless it is a "self-managed fund" Licensed manager is subject to economic substance requirements			
Local directors of corporate fund required?	No – but economic substance requirements apply if "self-managed fund"			
Other local service providers	Administrator and custodian (if open-ended)	Administrator and custodian (if open-ended)	Administrator	Administrator and custodian

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	Private Investment Fund	Registered Fund	Authorised Closed- Ended Fund	Authorised Open- Ended Fund
Information memorandum content requirements	None, except that QPI PIF investors must be provided with and acknowledge a disclosure statement covering risk disclosures, the regulatory status of the PIF and investor suitability	Yes	Yes	Yes
AIFMD – eligible for marketing in UK or EU?	Yes			
Audit requirement	Yes			
Reporting to investors	Accounts required	Accounts required	Accounts required	Accounts and annual reports required
	Other reports allowed	Other reports allowed	Other reports allowed	Half-yearly reports for Class A Fund
Reporting to Guernsey regulator	Very limited	Limited	Limited	More detailed
Regulatory requirements applicable to Guernsey manager	None	Audit, capital adequacy and conduct of business requirements	Audit, capital adequacy and conduct of business requirements	Audit, capital adequacy and conduct of business requirements
Vehicle available for Guernsey Green Fund and Natural Capital Fund regimes?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

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	Private Investment Fund	Registered Fund	Authorised Closed- Ended Fund	Authorised Open- Ended Fund
Regulatory fee - application	£4,280 – fund £2,755 – manager	£4,280 – fund £2,755 – manager	£3,780 – fund (£4,280 for Qualifying Investor Fund) £2,755– manager	£3,780 – fund £2,755 – manager
Regulatory fee - annual	£3,780 – fund £1,970 – manager	£3,780 – fund £1,970 – manager	£3,780 – fund £1,970 – manager	£3,780 – fund £1,970 – manager

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The information contained in this memorandum is necessarily brief and general in nature and does not constitute legal or taxation advice. Appropriate legal or other professional advice should be sought for any specific matter.

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