

Registry of Credit Unions and Industrial and Provident Societies

Annual Report 2014/15

Department of Enterprise, Trade & Investment

Registry of Credit Unions and Industrial and Provident Societies

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INTRODUCTION

This combined report has been made in compliance with various requirements of the enactments administered during the period of the report by the Registrar of Credit Unions. Covered in the report are industrial and provident societies and credit unions.

Separate sections have been devoted to each of the above types of society. The nature of the legislation and the provisions requiring an annual report are given at the start of each section.

The main priorities of the Registry of Credit Unions and Industrial and Provident Societies are:

- i the efficient administration and, where appropriate, enforcement of society law and codes of conduct; and
- ii the provision of an effective public search facility.

Under the provisions of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Permissions, Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) (Northern Ireland Credit Unions) Order 2011, responsibility for the regulation of credit unions in Northern Ireland transferred to the Financial Services Authority on 31 March 2012 and since replaced by the Prudential Regulation Authority and the Financial Conduct Authority. The Registry, for the time being, continues to perform the registration function for credit unions and industrial and provident societies but does not exercise a prudential supervisory role in relation to either sector.

Report on Societies Registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act (Northern Ireland) 1969

LEGISLATION

Primary Legislation

The legislation relating to the registration and regulation of industrial and provident societies is the Industrial and Provident Societies Act (Northern Ireland) 1969 (1969 c. 24). The 1969 Act consolidated with amendments the provisions of previous legislation dealing with industrial and provident societies and applied those provisions with suitable modifications to credit unions, which were recognised in the Act as a special category of society. However, credit unions have since been governed by their own separate legislation, the Credit Unions (Northern Ireland) Order 1985, and (from 31 March 2012) are also regulated by the Prudential Regulation Authority and the Financial Conduct Authority under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

Section 100 of the 1969 Act places a duty on the Registrar to make a report of proceedings under the legislation in respect of each year.

Subordinate Legislation

The subordinate legislation relating to industrial and provident societies in operation at 31 March 2015 is listed in Annex 1.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION

Objects

A society qualifies for registration under the 1969 Act if it is formed for the purpose of carrying on any industry, business or trade and it satisfies the Registrar that either it is a bona fide co-operative society or, that its business is to be conducted for the benefit of the community.

Bona Fide Co-operative Societies

There is no statutory definition of what might constitute a bona fide co-operative society. However, over the years a number of criteria have evolved which are recognised as describing a bona fide co-operative; these are, in brief:-

- conduct of business will be for the mutual benefit of members in such a way that the benefit which members obtain will in the main stem from their participation in the business;
- control of the society will be vested in the members equally, i.e. the principle of "one person, one vote" must apply;
- return on capital will not exceed a rate necessary to obtain and retain sufficient capital to carry out the society's objects;
- profits after payment of interest will, if distributable amongst the members, be so distributed in relation to the extent to which the members have traded with or taken part in the society's business;
- membership will not be restricted artificially with the object of increasing the value of proprietary rights and interests.

The formation and continuation of a bona fide cooperative society therefore pre-supposes a genuine community interest amongst its members based on something other than the amount of capital they may from time to time have placed in the society.

Societies for the Benefit of the Community

To qualify for registration as a society "for the benefit of the community" a society must demonstrate, amongst other things, that it will benefit persons other than its own members and that its business will be in the interests of the community. Other factors relevant to the decision on qualification are whether it is non-profit making, whether its rules prohibit distribution of assets among members and whether the same considerations relating to member control, interest rates, etc. as are applied to bona fide co-operatives are satisfied. Typical societies which qualify for registration in this category are the many forms of housing associations, some (though not all) being charitable in character.

REGISTRATION - CONDITIONS

In addition to the points mentioned, the following conditions also apply in respect of industrial and provident societies.

Every society seeking registration under the 1969 Act must satisfy the following conditions:-

 it must have at least 3 members (plus a secretary) or in the case of a society where membership is made up of other registered societies, it must consist of two or more such societies;

- the rules of the society must provide for all the matters required by Schedule 1 to the 1969 Act. These matters include the name, registered office and objects of the society and the terms of admission of members, and deal with (amongst other things) the society's administration, method of operation and mode of application of profits;
- the proposed name of the society must, in the opinion of the Registrar, not be undesirable.

ADVANTAGES AND PRIVILEGES OF REGISTRATION

The principal advantages and privileges gained by registration under the 1969 Act are:-

- the liability of members is limited;
- corporate status is acquired; and
- share capital may be withdrawn.

ANNUAL RETURNS ON STATISTICAL MATTER

Societies are required to make up returns containing certain statistical and financial information and submit them to the Registrar each year. Failure to do so by the due date is an offence under the 1969 Act.

Material included in the Statistical Summaries (Annex 3 of this report) has been taken from the latest available annual return, together with details from the returns for previous years. The second column of each of the Statistical Summaries refers to the number of returns and **NOT** to the number of societies on the Register.

Report on Credit Unions Registered under the Credit Unions (Northern Ireland) Order 1985

LEGISLATION

Primary Legislation

The legislation relating to the registration of credit unions is the Credit Unions (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 (S.I. 1985/1205 (N.I. 12)) - "the 1985 Order". The 1985 Order, which came into operation on 1 June 1986, consolidated with amendments (and repealed) the provisions of the Industrial and Provident Societies Act (Northern Ireland) 1969 under which credit unions were first regulated as a special category of society. The principal changes introduced by the 1985 Order were:-

- minimum (21) and maximum numbers of members specified;
- members leaving the common bond may retain full borrowing powers;
- limited pre-membership deposits may be accepted from children under 16 years, to be held in trust until the attainment of 16 years, and then either converted to shares or withdrawn by the depositors;
- maximum dividend on shares increased to 8%; and
- insurance against fraud or dishonesty must be maintained by all registered credit unions.

Article 81 of the 1985 Order requires the Registrar to make a report of the proceedings under the 1985 Order in respect of each year.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION

Credit unions qualify for registration if they are societies which consist of persons each of whom has in relation to all other members a common bond, generally of residence or employment in a particular locality. Such societies are formed with the following objectives:-

- the promotion of thrift among members by the accumulation of their savings;
- the creation of sources of credit for the benefit of members at a fair and reasonable rate of interest;
- the control and use of members' savings for their mutual benefit; and
- the training and education of members in the wise use of money and in the management of their financial affairs.

Income consists of interest on loans and investments, bank interest etc. Expenditure comprises operating expenses. Dividends are paid on shares. Some of the surplus of income after meeting expenses may be used for rebate of interest on loans made to members and for social, cultural or charitable purposes.

All applications for registration from 31 March 2012 are subject to the credit union having made an application to the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) for a permission under Part 4 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 to accept deposits and also confirmation that the PRA is satisfied that once registered under the Order, the society will satisfy, and continue to satisfy the threshold conditions set out in Schedule 6 to the 2000 Act in relation to the regulated activity of accepting deposits.

REGISTRATION - CONDITIONS

In addition to the points mentioned the following conditions also apply to credit unions.

Every credit union seeking registration under the 1985 Order must satisfy the following conditions:-

- the rules of the credit union must provide for all the matters contained in Schedule 1 to the 1985 Order. These matters include the name, registered office and objects of the credit union and the terms of admission of members and deal with (amongst other things) the credit union's administration, method of operation and mode of application of surplus income; and
- the proposed name of the credit union must, in the opinion of the Registrar, not be undesirable.

ADVANTAGES AND PRIVILEGES OF REGISTRATION

The principle advantages and privileges gained by registration under the 1985 Order are:-

- the liability of members is limited;
- corporate status is acquired;
- share capital may be withdrawn;
- credit unions are exempt from complying with the requirements of: the Bills of Sale (Ireland) Acts 1879 and 1883, the Consumer Credit Act 1974, and
- credit unions may provide for their members a nomination to property facility by which members may during their lives nominate persons to become entitled at the member's death to the whole or part of the member's property in the credit union.

Annex 1

Subordinate Legislation made under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts in operation at 31 March 2015

Annex 2

List of Industrial and Provident Societies Registered in Northern Ireland at 31 March 2015

Annex 3

Statistical Summaries: Industrial and Provident Societies

Annex 4

List of credit unions registered in Northern Ireland under the Credit Unions (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 as at 31 March 2015

This list is for guidance only.

Subordinate Legislation made under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts in operation at 31 March 2015

Industrial and Provident Societies Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1969 (S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1969 No.353)

Industrial and Provident Societies (Group Accounts) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1969 (S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1969 No.359)

Industrial and Provident Societies (Payment for Copies of Rules) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1974 (S.R. 1974 No.317)

Industrial and Provident Societies (Increase in Shareholding Limit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1991 (S.R. 1991 No.375)

Industrial and Provident Societies (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1994 (S.R. 1994 No. 437)

Industrial and Provident Societies (Northern Ireland) Order 2006

List of Industrial and Provident Societies Registered in Northern Ireland at 31 March 2015

Abbeyfield (Lurgan) Society Limited Abbeyfield & Wesley Housing Association Abbeyfield Tyrone Society Limited Aberdeen Angus Quality Beef Limited Adams Memorial Home Society Alpha Housing (Northern Ireland) Limited An Togail Self Build Limited Anglo-North Irish Fish Producers Organisation Limited Apex Housing Association Limited Ards Saturday Market Traders Co-operative Limited Ark Housing Association (NI) Limited Armagh Quality Lamb Marketing Limited Asherwoods Housing Association Limited Ashton Centre Development Limited Augher Co-operative Agricultural & Dairy Society Limited

Ballinderry Producers Co-operative Limited
Ballylurgan Co-operative Agricultural Society Limited
Ballyrashane Co-operative Agricultural & Dairy
Society Limited
Bangor Provident Trust
B.C.W. Training Limited
Belfast Central Training Limited
Belfast Cleaning Co-operative Limited
Belfast Co-operative Chemists Limited
Belfast Pilots Limited
Belfast Self-Build Housing Association Limited
Boundary Brewing Cooperative Limited

Carers Union NI & GB Limited Carmen Attested Sales Limited Causeway Coast Artists Co-op Limited Choice Housing Ireland Limited Clanmil Housing Association Limited Clanrye Group Limited Comber Earlies Growers Co-Operative Society Limited Clonduff Development Enterprise Limited Connswater Homes Limited Co-operative Alternative Development Society Limited Co-operative Forum (NI) Limited Covenanter Residential Association Limited Craigowen Housing Association Limited Creggan Co-operative Society Limited Croft Community Limited Crossmaglen and Region Enterprises Limited CTS Limited

D. A. B. Farmers Co-operative Limited Dalriada Urgent Care Limited

Derry City Supporters Society Limited Derrygonnelly & District Community Enterprises Limited Derry Youth & Community Workshop Limited Donemana Co-operative Livestock Mart Limited Downpatrick Co-operative Marketing Limited Down To Earth NI Limited Drumlin Wind Energy Co-operative Limited Drumquin Co-operative Livestock Mart Limited Dungannon and District Co-operative Enterprises Limited

East Down Farmers Limited Emerald Venison Co-operative Limited

Fane Valley Co-operative Society LimitedF. A. R. M. (NI) LimitedFarmageddon Brewing Co-Operative LimitedFivemiletown & Brookeborough Co-operativeAgricultural & Dairy Society LimitedFold Housing Association

ANNEX 2 (Continued)

Glenall Housing Co-operative Limited Glenfarm Holdings Limited Glens of Antrim Co-operative Society Limited Glentoran Supporters' Society Limited Gosford Housing Association (Armagh) Limited Greencastle & District Attested Cattle Owners Limited Green Glens Marketing Limited Grosvenor Environmental Society Limited

Grove Housing Association Limited

Habinteg Housing Association (Ulster) Limited Hearth Housing Association Hearth Revolving Fund Helm Housing Limited Hilltown Farmers' Attested Sales Limited Holywood Hills Farmers Limited

Impact Training (NI) Limited INCI Housing Association Limited International School for Peace Studies Limited Irish Methodist Ministers Housing Society Limited

Lacada Brewery Limited (*) Lakeland Timber Limited Limestone Youth Training Programme Limited Lough Neagh Fishermen's Co-operative Society Limited Loughview Training Services Limited Lower Badoney Attested Livestock Mart Limited

Mid Tyrone Forestry Co-operative Limited Mid Ulster Enterprises (Creggan) Limited Mourne Sheep Breeder's Association Limited M.O.V.E. Community Housing Co-operative Society Limited Na Croisbhealai Limited Newington Housing Association (1975) Limited North Antrim Agricultural Association Limited North Antrim Co-operative Enterprises Limited North Belfast Co-operative Limited North Belfast Housing Association Limited North Belfast Housing Co-operative Limited North Coast Future Proof Co-operative Limited North Derry Agricultural Society Limited North Eastern Lobster Fishermen's Co-operative Society Limited Northern Counties Co-operative Enterprises Limited Northern Ireland Civil Service Sports Association Limited Northern Ireland Community Energy (NICE) Limited (*) Northern Ireland Co-ownership Housing Association Limited Northern Ireland Fish Producers' Organisation Limited Northern Ireland Horse Board Co-operative Society Limited Northern Ireland Scallop Fishermen's Co-operative Limited Northern Ireland Seafood Limited Ollardale Ltd Open Door Housing Association (Northern Ireland) Limited **Orchard Training Services Limited** Ostrich (Ireland) Limited

Presbyterian Mutual Society Limited (In Scheme of Arrangement) Progressive Lean Pigs Limited

ANNEX 2 (Continued)

Rathfriland Farmers Co-operative Society Limited Rathlin Co-operative Society Limited Richmond Fellowship (N.I.) Limited Royal British Legion Club Upperlands Limited Royal Ulster Constabulary Athletic Association Limited Ruby House (N.I.) Limited Rural Housing Association Limited

Sackville Co-op Taxis Limited South Antrim Dairy Producers Limited South Armagh Farming Enterprises Limited South Ulster Housing Association Limited Sperrin Producers' Co-operative Limited St Matthew's Housing Association Limited Strangford Down Limited Strangford Lough Shellfishermens' Co-operative Limited Swann Training Services Limited

Thatch Housing Co-operative Limited The Coast Office Society Limited Triangle Housing Association Limited Tyrone Quality Livestock Limited

Ulidia Housing Association Limited Ulster Community Investment Trust Limited Ulster Garden Villages Limited Ulster Pig Producers Co-Operative Limited Ulster Provident Housing Association Limited Ulster Wool Growers Limited Union Taxis Limited United Dairy Farmers Limited U.P.A. (Ireland) Limited Victoria Housing Estates Limited

West Erne Farmers Co-operative Limited Western Urgent Care Limited West Ulster Farmers Limited Woodvale & Shankill Community Housing Association Limited

* New societies registered during 2014/15

Statistical Summaries: Industrial and Provident Societies

(i) Agricultural Societies

Year	No. of returns	No. of members	Turnover £	Surplus/ (Deficit) £	Total Liabilities £	Share Capital £	Reserves £	Total Assets £
2015	40	22,998	492,850,277	5,743,590	190,619,257	16,104,601	124,824,958	331,548,816
2014	39	23,086	582,139,162	8,696,220	153,273,411	19,434,764	125,203,885	353,670,234
2013	33	18,346	558,819,296	5,450,940	152,507,141	17,546,196	102,133,461	281,397,490
2012	33	18,321	626,949,569	12,423,968	157,030,676	18,756,865	105,925,563	288,595,446
2011	38	22,525	575,865,886	9,788,101	142,997,101	21,312,388	120,516,039	284,825,626

(ii) Housing Associations

Year	No. of returns	No. of members	Turnover £	Surplus/ (Deficit) £	Total Liabilities £	Share Capital £	Reserves £	Total Assets £
2015	33	3,437	217,826,757	23,500,235	847,772,294	22,798	431,403,041	1,279,198,133
2014	35	3,462	207,056,618	35,041,196	755,842,850	19,461	430,624,652	1,188,986,894
2013	35	3.478	191,302,807	43,664,920	706,212,101	3,743	388,010,665	1,094,226.509
2012	37	3,416	168,591,290	22,822,178	552,559,151	3,716	265,063,369	817,855,203
2011	42	3,693	169,110,143	27,156,967	544,300,876	4,185	393,522,993	937,947,008

(iii) Miscellaneous Societies (Including Distributive and General Supply)

Year	No. of returns	No. of members	Turnover £	Surplus/ (Deficit) £	Total Liabilities £	Share Capital £	Reserves £	Total Assets £
2015	40	32,964	36,145,794	13,656,500	235,873,055	23,215,189	-83,421,367	175,666,877
2014	31	32,499	27,488,278	-11,490,830	241,409,532	21,951,900	- 101,449,507	161,688,418
2013	22	23,818	11,371,736	1,293,060	8,110,885	2,734,673	30,016,592	40,862,150
2012	20	23,120	10,704,912	1,247,160	11,602,878	106,634	27,585,998	39,145,205
2011	22	23,355	16,387,013	2,781,940	15,614,334	111,979	25,713,885	41,445,659

List of credit unions registered in Northern Ireland under the Credit Unions (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 as at 31 March 2014

Abbey Credit Union Limited A-B-C Credit Union Limited Aghaloo Credit Union Limited Annahoe Credit Union Limited Antrim Credit Union Limited Ardboe Credit Union Limited Armagh Credit Union Limited Avila Credit Union Limited

Ballinascreen Credit Union Limited Ballinderry Bridge Credit Union Limited Ballycastle Credit Union Limited Ballyhackamore Credit Union Limited Ballykelly Credit Union Limited Ballymacarrett Credit Union Limited (In Liquidation) Ballymacash Credit Union Limited **Ballymena Credit Union Limited** Ballynafeigh Credit Union Limited **Ballynahinch Credit Union Limited** Banbridge Credit Union Limited **Bangor Credit Union Limited** Bannvale Credit Union Limited Bannview Community Credit Union Limited B.D.S. Credit Union Limited Beechview Antigonish Credit Union Limited Belleek-Garrison Credit Union Limited **Belvoir Credit Union Limited** Benburb and Killyman Districts Credit Union Limited Beragh Credit Union Limited Bessbrook Credit Union Limited **Braniel Credit Union Limited** Britannia Credit Union Limited Brownlow (Lurgan) Credit Union Limited BTCU (Credit Union) Limited

Camlin Credit Union Limited Carnglen Credit Union Limited Carleton Credit Union Limited (In Liquidation) Carrickfergus Credit Union Limited Castlederg and District No.12 Credit Union Limited **Causeway Credit Union Limited Circle Credit Union Limited Claudy Credit Union Limited Clogher Valley Credit Union Limited Clonard Credit Union Limited Cloughfern Community Credit Union Limited** Coagh & District Credit Union Limited **Coalisland Credit Union Limited Comber Community Credit Union Limited** Cookstown Credit Union Limited Court Credit Union Limited Crossmaglen Credit Union Limited

Dalriada Credit Union Limited Derry Credit Union Limited Derrygonnelly Credit Union Limited Desertmartin Credit Union Limited Divisview Antigonish Credit Union Limited Downpatrick Credit Union Limited Dromara and Drumgooland Credit Union Limited Dromore (Tyrone) Credit Union Limited Dundonald Credit Union Limited Dungannon Credit Union Limited Dungiven Credit Union Limited Dungiven Credit Union Limited

Ederney Credit Union Limited Enniskillen Credit Union Limited Erne Credit Union Limited

Title

ANNEX 4 (Continued)

Fairhill and District Credit Union Limited Fairywater Credit Union Limited Faughanvale Credit Union Limited Fintona Credit Union Limited Frontier Credit Union Limited

Glenard Credit Union Limited (In Liquidation) Glenelly Credit Union Limited Greencastle Credit Union Limited Greyabbey Credit Union Limited

Hamilton Road Credit Union Limited Hannahstown Credit Union Limited Harp and Crown Credit Union Limited - The Holywood Credit Union Limited Horseshoe Credit Union Limited

Irvinestown Credit Union Limited

Keady Credit Union Limited Kildress Credit Union Limited Kilkeel Credit Union Limited Kilrea and District No.5 Credit Union Limited Kilrea Rasharkin & Dunloy Credit Union Limited Kinawley Credit Union Limited Kingdom of Mourne Credit Union Limited Knockninny Credit Union Limited

Lagan Valley Credit Union Limited Lakeland Credit Union Limited Larne Credit Union Limited Lecale Credit Union Limited Limavady Credit Union Limited Lisbellaw Credit Union Limited Lisburn Credit Union Limited Lisnaskea Credit Union Limited Loughguile Credit Union Limited Loughill Credit Union Limited Lower Iveagh Credit Union Limited (In Liquidation) Lurgan Credit Union Limited

Macnean Credit Union Limited Maghera Credit Union Limited Magherafelt and District No.3 Credit Union Limited Magherafelt Credit Union Limited Magilligan Credit Union Limited Mallard Credit Union Limited Mallard Credit Union Limited Moleymore Credit Union Limited Mourne-Derg Credit Union Limited Mourne Valley Credit Union Limited Moy Credit Union Limited Moyenir Credit Union Limited Moyenir Credit Union Limited Moyola & Toome Credit Union Limited Muckamore Credit Union Limited

New Horizons Credit Union Limited Newington Credit Union Limited Newmount Credit Union Limited Newry Credit Union Limited Newtownards Credit Union Limited Newtownbutler Credit Union Limited Newtownhamilton Credit Union Limited Newtownstewart Credit Union Limited No.5 Credit Union Limited North Belfast Credit Union Limited North Tyrone Credit Union Limited

Oldpark Credit Union Limited Omagh Credit Union Limited Orchard Credit Union Limited Ormeau Credit Limited Owenkillew Credit Union Limited

Pennyburn Credit Union Limited Poleglass Credit Union Limited Pomeroy Credit Union Limited Portadown Credit Union Limited Portaferry Credit Union Limited

ANNEX 4 (Continued)

Rathfriland Credit Union Limited Riada Credit Union Limited Roe Valley Credit Union Limited Roslea Credit Union Limited Rowallane Credit Union Limited

S.A.G. Credit Union Limited Shaftesbury Credit Union Limited Sion Mills Credit Union Limited Sixmilecross and District Credit Union Limited Skea Credit Union Limited Slemish n tha Braid Credit Union Limited Slieve Gullion Credit Union Limited Society Credit Union Limited South Fermanagh Credit Union Limited Star Credit Union Limited Stewartstown and District Credit Union Limited Strabane Credit Union Limited Stramore Community Credit Union Limited

Templemore Credit Union Limited Termonmaguirk Credit Union Limited Third Tree Branch Credit Union Limited Torrent Credit Union Limited T.P.M. Credit Union Limited Tullycarnet Credit Union Limited Tullylish Credit Union Limited

Victoria Credit Union Limited

Waterside Credit Union W.B.R. Credit Union Limited West Tyrone Credit Union Limited Willowfield Credit Union Limited





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