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# **FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Indexes**

v1.8

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## Section 1

# Introduction

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### 1.0 Introduction

1.1 These Ground Rules should be read in conjunction with the FTSE Global Factor Index Series Ground Rules which are available at [www.ftserussell.com](http://www.ftserussell.com).

1.1.1 The FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Index takes account of ESG factors in its index design. Please see further details in Section 5 and 6.

### 1.2 FTSE Russell

FTSE Russell is a trading name of FTSE International Limited, Frank Russell Company, FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Limited (and its subsidiaries FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Inc. and FTSE Fixed Income Europe Limited), FTSE Fixed Income LLC, The Yield Book Inc and Beyond Ratings.

1.3 FTSE Russell hereby notifies users of the index series that it is possible that circumstances, including external events beyond the control of FTSE Russell, may necessitate changes to, or the cessation of, the index series and therefore any financial contracts or other financial instruments that reference the index series or investment funds which use the index series to measure their performance should be able to withstand, or otherwise address the possibility of changes to, or cessation of, the index series.

1.4 Index users who choose to follow this index series or to buy products that claim to follow this index series should assess the merits of the index series' rules-based methodology and take independent investment advice before investing their own or client funds. No liability whether as a result of negligence or otherwise is accepted by FTSE Russell (or any person concerned with the preparation or publication of these Ground Rules) for any losses, damages, claims and expenses suffered by any person as a result of:

- any reliance on these Ground Rules, and/or
- any inaccuracies in these Ground Rules, and/or
- any non-application or misapplication of the policies or procedures described in these Ground Rules, and/or
- any inaccuracies in the compilation of the index series or any constituent data.

## Section 2

# Management Responsibilities

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## 2.0 Management Responsibilities

### 2.1 FTSE International Limited (FTSE)

2.1.1 FTSE is the benchmark administrator of the indexes.<sup>1</sup>

2.1.2 FTSE is responsible for the daily calculation, production and operation of the FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Indexes and will:

- maintain records of the index weightings of all constituents;
- make changes to the constituents and their weightings in accordance with the Ground Rules;
- carry out the periodic index reviews of the FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Indexes and apply the changes resulting from the reviews as required by the Ground Rules;
- publish indicative additions to and deletions from the index ahead of the implementation of the periodic index reviews;
- disseminate changes to the constituent weightings resulting from their ongoing maintenance and the periodic reviews;
- publish the constituents of the indexes on an ex-post basis to assist index users with their requirements with respect to the [ESMA Guidelines for ETFs and other UCITS Issues](#);
- disseminate the indexes.

### 2.2 Amendments to These Ground Rules

2.2.1 These Ground Rules shall be subject to regular review (at least once a year) by FTSE Russell to ensure that they continue to best reflect the aims of the index. Any proposals for significant amendments to these Ground Rules will be subject to consultation with FTSE Russell advisory committees and other stakeholders if appropriate. The feedback from these consultations will be considered by the FTSE Russell Index Governance Board before approval is granted.

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<sup>1</sup> The term administrator is used in this document in the same sense as it is defined in [Regulation \(EU\) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds](#) (the European Benchmark Regulation) and [The Benchmarks \(Amendment and Transitional Provision\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#) (the UK Benchmark Regulation).

## Section 3

# FTSE Russell Index Policies

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### 3.0 FTSE Russell Index Policies

These Ground Rules should be read in conjunction with the following policy documents which can be accessed using the links below:

#### 3.1 Corporate Actions and Events Guide

- 3.2 Full details of changes to constituent companies due to corporate actions and events can be accessed in the Corporate Actions and Events Guide for Non-Market Capitalisation Weighted Indexes using the following link:

[Corporate Actions and Events Guide for Non Market Cap Weighted Indices.pdf](#)

#### 3.3 Queries and Complaints

- 3.3.1 FTSE Russell's complaints procedure can be accessed using the following link:

[Queries and Complaints Policy.pdf](#)

#### 3.4 Index Policy for Trading Halts and Market Closures

- 3.4.1 Guidance for the treatment of index changes in the event of trading halts or market closures can be found using the following link:

[Index Policy for Trading Halts and Market Closures.pdf](#)

#### 3.5 Index Policy in the Event Clients are Unable to Trade a Market or a Security

- 1.1.1 Details of FTSE Russell's treatment can be accessed using the following link:

[Index Policy in the Event Clients are Unable to Trade a Market or a Security.pdf](#)

#### 3.6 Policy for Benchmark Methodology Changes

- 3.6.1 Details of FTSE Russell's policy for making benchmark methodology changes can be accessed using the following link:

[Policy for Benchmark Methodology Changes.pdf](#)

#### 3.7 FTSE Russell Governance Framework

- 3.7.1 To oversee its indexes, FTSE Russell employs a governance framework that encompasses product, service and technology governance. The framework incorporates the London Stock Exchange Group's three lines of defence risk management framework and is designed to meet the

requirements of the IOSCO Principles for Financial Benchmarks<sup>2</sup>, the European benchmark regulation<sup>3</sup> and the UK benchmark regulation<sup>4</sup>. The FTSE Russell Governance Framework can be accessed using the following link:

[FTSE\\_Russell\\_Governance\\_Framework.pdf](#)

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<sup>2</sup> IOSCO Principles for Financial Benchmarks Final Report, FR07/13 July 2013

<sup>3</sup> Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds

<sup>4</sup> The Benchmarks (Amendment and Transitional Provision) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019

## Section 4

# Sustainable Investment Data Inputs

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### 4.0 Sustainable Investment Data Inputs

- 4.1.1 Further information on SI data provided by FTSE Russell and third parties used in this index (index series) can be found in the following guide:

[Guide to FTSE and Third Party Sustainable Investment Data used in FTSE Russell Indices](#)

The following Sustainable Investment datasets are used in the construction of the FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Indexes

### 4.2 Carbon data

Operational Carbon Emissions and Fossil Fuel Reserves data are subject to regular checks to identify discrepancies and ensure accuracy. These checks include trend analysis to assess data quality and detailed review of underlying data for significant changes in data values.

The carbon data does not currently utilize international standards in its construction.

### 4.3 Product involvement exclusions and conduct-related exclusions

Data for product involvement exclusions and conduct-related exclusions is sourced from Sustainalytics. This data subject to regular quality checks to identify discrepancies and ensure accuracy; these checks include trend analysis to assess data quality and detailed review of underlying data for significant score changes.

### 4.4 Sustainable Investment Metrics

- 4.4.1 Please see the FTSE Russell [Sustainable Investment Metrics](#) website for the scores and values of the environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors listed in Annex II to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1816 which are taken into account in the benchmark methodology for the benchmarks within this index series.

## Section 5

# ESG and Carbon Data Definitions

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### 5.0 ESG Scores, Operational Carbon Emissions and Fossil Fuel Reserves

#### 5.1 FTSE ESG Scores (E)

Please see the

[Guide to FTSE and Third Party Sustainable Investment Data used in FTSE Russell Indices](#)

for more information on FTSE ESG Scores. The data cut-off date for the availability of ESG scores is the close of business on the last business day of the month prior to the September review month.

#### 5.2 Operational Carbon Emissions Intensity (OE)

Operational Carbon Emissions Intensity is defined as the latest annual CO2 equivalent greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in metric tons scaled by annual sales (in USD). CO2 equivalent GHG emissions data is defined as GHG Protocol Scope 1 and 2 emissions. Annual sales data is sourced from third party data providers. The data cut-off date for the availability of Operational Carbon Emissions Intensity is the close of business on the last business day of the month prior to the September review month.

#### 5.3 Fossil Fuel Reserve Intensity (R)

Fossil Fuel Reserve Intensity is defined as the estimated CO2 equivalent GHG emissions in metric tons generated by the combustion of a company's fossil fuel reserves, divided by its full company market capitalisation (in USD). The data cut-off date for the availability of Fossil Fuel Reserve Intensity is the close of business on the last business day of the month prior to the September review month.

#### 5.4 Z-Scores and Missing Data Treatment

Individual stock quantities are normalised cross-sectionally to create Z-Scores within each eligible universe according to:

$$Z_{F,i} = \frac{F_i - \mu_F}{\sigma_F} \quad \text{where} \quad F \in \{E, OE, \text{Log}(R)\} \quad (1)$$

where  $F_i$  is the  $F$ -quantity of the  $i^{th}$  stock and  $\mu_F$  and  $\sigma_F$  are its cross-sectional factor mean and standard deviation respectively.



Z-Scores that are greater (less) than three (minus three) are truncated to a value of three (minus three). Post-truncation, individual Z-Scores are renormalized by the re-application of equation (1).

All Z-Scores, including truncated ones are included in this re-application. This process is repeated until all Z-Scores lie in a range between plus and minus three. Missing data is excluded from this process.

- Missing ESG scores and Operational Carbon Emissions Intensities are assigned a Z-Score of 0 at the end of the process described in 4.4.1.
- Companies identified as having non-zero Fossil Fuel Reserves Intensities but with no available reserves data are treated as having missing data when calculating the Z-Scores in 4.4.1. However at the end of the process they are assigned a Z-Score in accordance with the following rules:
  - Companies in the ICB sub-sector Coal Mining (ICB sub-sector Coal 60101040)<sup>5</sup> are assigned the average Z-score of companies in the Coal Mining sub-sector. If there are no companies in the Coal Mining sub-sector with reserve data, a Z-score of 0 is assigned.
  - Companies in the ICB sector Oil & Gas Producers (ICB sector Oil, Gas and Coal 601010) and Oil & Gas Services & Distributions are assigned the average Z-score of companies in the Oil & Gas Producers sector and Oil & Gas Services & Distributions respectively. If there are no companies with reserve data in such a sector, a Z-score of 0 is assigned.
  - Companies in the ICB sub-sector General Mining (ICB sub-sector General Mining 55102000) which are identified via FTSE Sustainable Investment data to own coal reserves are assigned the average Z-score of companies in the General Mining sub-sector which own reserves and for which data is available. If there are no companies in the General Mining sub-sector with reserve data, a Z-score of 0 is assigned.
  - Companies outside ICB sub-sectors 60101040, 55102000 and ICB 601010 which are identified via FTSE Sustainable Investment data to own coal reserves, are assigned the average Z-score of companies outside the ICB sub-sectors 60101040, 55102000 and 601010 which own reserves and for which data is available. If there are no companies outside the ICB sub-sectors 60101040, 55102000 and 601010 with reserve data, a Z-score of 0 is assigned.
- Companies with zero Fossil Fuel Reserve Intensities are treated as having missing data when calculating the Z-Scores in 4.4.1. At the end of the process they are assigned a Z-Score of -3.

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<sup>5</sup> FTSE indexes migrated to the new ICB classification in March 2021

## Section 6

# Index Construction

### 6.0 Index Construction

#### 6.1 General Overview

- 6.1.1 At each September review the product involvement exclusion list (see Appendix A) and the UNGC controversies exclusion list (see Appendix B) is applied to an underlying universe of free-float adjusted market capitalization weights,  $W_{Mi}$ . The weights of the remaining stocks are rescaled in proportion to their size so that they sum to one, yielding stock weights which will be referred to as  $\hat{W}_{Mi}$ .
- 6.1.2 The weights  $\hat{W}_{Mi}$  are used as the starting point of a portfolio construction technique (see 6.2) that targets an Operational Carbon Emissions Intensity reduction of 50%, a Fossil Fuel Reserves Intensity reduction of 50% and an ESG uplift (see Table 1) relative to the underlying. All of this is subject to country, industry, maximum stock capacity, maximum company weight and minimum diversification constraints. These “target exposure” weights will be referred to as  $W_{Fi}$ .
- 6.1.3 Finally, at each quarterly March, June, September and December review the UNGC controversies exclusion list (see Appendix B) is applied to the time-evolved September target exposure weights described in 6.1.2. The remaining weights are rescaled in proportion to their size so that they sum to one to yield the FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Index weights.

#### 6.2 Target Exposure Index Construction

- 6.2.1 The detailed construction methodology for Target Exposure indexes is set out in the FTSE Global Factor Index Series Ground Rules.
- 6.2.2 The weights of each target exposure index satisfy:

$$W_{Fi} = \frac{S_{E,i}^n \times S_{OE,i}^p \times S_{R,i}^q \times C_i \times I_i \times \Phi_i \times \hat{W}_{Mi}}{\sum_j S_{E,j}^n \times S_{OE,j}^p \times S_{R,j}^q \times C_j \times I_j \times \Phi_j \times \hat{W}_{Mj}} \quad (2)$$

where  $S_{E,i}^n$ ,  $S_{OE,i}^p$  and  $S_{R,i}^q$  are ESG, Operational Carbon Emissions Intensity and Fossil Fuel Reserve Intensity tilts of strengths  $n$ ,  $p$  and  $q$  respectively,  $S_{F,i} = \text{Exp}(Z_{F,i})$ ,  $C_i$  and  $I_i$  are country and industry tilts,  $\Phi_i$  is a max capacity/max company weight tilt and  $\hat{W}_{Mi}$  are the weights defined in 6.1.

The tilts in equation (2) are chosen so that the resultant target exposure weights  $W_{Fi}$  satisfy each of the following targets and constraints. The solution method is described in FTSE Global Factor Index Series Ground Rules.

6.2.3 The Operational Carbon Emissions Intensity and Fossil Fuel Reserve Intensity targets are given by:

$$\sum_i W_{Fi} OE_i = 0.5 * \sum_i W_{Mi} OE_i \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_i W_{Fi} R_i = 0.5 * \sum_i W_{Mi} R_i \quad (3)$$

where  $OE_i$  and  $R_i$  are the Operational Carbon Emissions Intensity and the Fossil Fuel Reserve Intensity of stock  $i$ .

This is equivalent to the requirement that the target exposure index has 50% of the weighted Operational Carbon Emissions Intensity and weighted Fossil Fuel Reserve Intensity of the underlying index.

6.2.4 The ESG rating target is given by:

$$\sum_i W_{Fi} E_i = 1.2 * \sum_i W_{Mi} E_i \quad (4)$$

where  $E_i$  is the ESG rating of stock  $i$ .

This is equivalent to the requirement that the target exposure index has a target ESG rating uplift (see Table 1) in the weighted ESG rating compared to the underlying index. Where the target ESG scores uplift represents an increase of more than one market capitalization weighted standard deviation, a percentage increase corresponding to one market capitalization weighted standard deviation is targeted.

6.2.5 The aggregate stock weight of the target exposure index in the  $H^{th}$  ICB country  $C_H$  is identical to that in the underlying capitalization weights:

$$\sum_{i \in C_H} W_{Fi} = \sum_{i \in C_H} W_{Mi} \quad \text{where} \quad H = 1, \dots, K \quad (5)$$

This is equivalent to the requirement that the target exposure weights satisfy country neutrality.

6.2.6 The aggregate stock weight of the target exposure index in the  $H^{th}$  ICB industry  $J_H$  satisfies:

$$\sum_{i \in J_H} W_{Fi} = T_{J_H} \quad \text{where} \quad H = 1, \dots, J \quad (6)$$

where  $T_{J_H}$  is a target industry weight that sits between lower and upper bounds satisfying:

$$J_{HL} = \text{Max} \left[ \sum_{i \in J_H} W_{Mi} + P_j, 0 \right] \quad \text{and} \quad J_{HU} = \text{Max} \left[ \text{Min} \left[ \sum_{i \in J_H} W_{Mi} + Q_j, 1 \right], 0 \right] \quad (7)$$

with  $P_j = -0.05$  and  $Q_j = 0.05$  for all ICB industries apart for Oil & Gas for which  $P_j = -0.05$  (-0.2 for UK Index) and  $Q_j = 0.0$  (-0.1 for UK Index).

This is equivalent to requiring that the industrial weightings of the target exposure index deviate by no more than +/-5% from the underlying industrial weightings, apart from those of Oil & Gas which is allowed to be as much as 5% (20% for UK Index) underweight but no greater than 0% (-10% for UK Index) overweight compared to the underlying.

6.2.7 A maximum capacity constraint is imposed so that:

$$\frac{W_{Fi}}{W_{Mi}} \leq 10 \quad \text{for all } i \quad (8)$$

along with the constraint that the maximum weight of a company is less than or equal to 10%.

- 6.2.8 The tilts in equation (2) are chosen so that all targets and constraints are satisfied simultaneously. The iterative method of solution, outlined in FTSE Global Factor Index Series Ground Rules, is allowed to loop 100 times before relaxation without the factor exposure stopping criteria being applied since no factor exposures are considered here.
- 6.2.9 Should relaxation be required the Carbon reduction and ESG uplift targets set out in Rules 6.2.3 and 6.2.4 are reduced simultaneously and repeatedly by 2.5% of their original values until a solution satisfying the relaxed targets becomes feasible. This occurs up to a maximum of 40 times.
- 6.2.10 Once a solution is found, a minimum security level weight threshold is applied to each target exposure index. Any security level index weight that is less than the minimum weight threshold is treated as having a zero weight in the relevant target exposure index. The remaining weights are rescaled in proportion to their size so that they sum to one. This may cause small changes in the aggregate ESG rating, Operational Carbon Emissions Intensity, Fossil Fuel Reserve Intensity and breaches of constraints for Rules 6.2.5, 6.2.6 and 6.2.7 of the target exposure index.
- 6.2.11 Table 1 summarizes the weighted ESG rating, Operational Carbon Emissions Intensity and Fossil Fuel Reserve Intensity targets and constraints applied to each target exposure index.

**Table 1: Targets and Constraints for Target Exposure Indexes**

Target Exposure Index	Targets			Constraints				Review
	ESG Score Increase	Op. Carbon Emissions Reduction	Fossil Fuel Reserves Reduction	Country	Industry	Max Company Weight (%)	Min Stock Weight (b.p.)	
FTSE Developed Europe ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index	20%	50%	50%	Neutral	Banded	10	0.5	S
FTSE Asia Pacific ex Japan ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index	20%	50%	50%	Neutral	Banded	10	0.5	S
FTSE Japan ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index	20%	50%	50%	-	Banded	10	0.5	S
FTSE USA ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index	20%	50%	50%	-	Banded	10	0.5	S
FTSE Developed ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index	20%	50%	50%	Neutral	Banded	10	0.5	S
FTSE Emerging ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index	20%	50%	50%	Neutral	Banded	10	0.5	S
FTSE UK ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index	20%	50%	50%	-	Banded	10	0.5	S
FTSE Developed Europe ex UK Low Carbon Target Exposure Index	10/15%	50%	50%	Neutral	Banded	10	0.5	S

**Notes:**

Neutral: As per Rule 6.2.5.

Banded: As per Rule 6.2.6.

Review: M=March, J=June, S=September and D=December.

### 6.3 Conduct-related Exclusions

- 6.3.1 FTSE Russell will apply the conduct-related exclusion list outlined in Appendix B to the Target Exposure Indexes on a quarterly basis after the close of business on the third Friday of March, June, September and December to create the FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Indexes.
- 6.3.2 Existing constituents which appear on the list of UNGC controversies exclusions will be removed from the Target Exposure Indexes and the weight of excluded constituents will be distributed pro-rata among the remaining constituents so that the total weight sums to one. The resulting indexes are the FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Indexes. This procedure may cause changes in the achieved levels of aggregate ESG Scores, Operational Carbon Emissions Intensity and Fossil Fuel Reserve Intensity and breaches of the constraints set out in in Table 1.
- 6.3.3 Table 2 summarizes the FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Indexes and their underlying Target Exposure indexes.

**Table 2: FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Indexes**

FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Index	Underlying Target Exposure Index
FTSE Developed Europe ESG Low Carbon Select Index	FTSE Developed Europe ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index
FTSE Asia Pacific ex Japan ESG Low Carbon Select Index	FTSE Asia Pacific ex Japan ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index
FTSE Japan ESG Low Carbon Select Index	FTSE Japan ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index
FTSE USA ESG Low Carbon Select Index	FTSE USA ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index
FTSE Developed ESG Low Carbon Select Index	FTSE Developed ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index
FTSE Emerging ESG Low Carbon Select Index	FTSE Emerging ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index
FTSE UK ESG Low Carbon Select Index	FTSE UK ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index
FTSE Developed Europe ex UK ESG Low Carbon Select Index	FTSE Developed Europe ex UK ESG Low Carbon Target Exposure Index

## Section 7

# Periodic Review

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### 7.0 Periodic Review

- 7.1 The underlying Target Exposure Indexes will be reviewed annually in September. The review will be implemented after the close of business on the third Friday of the review month.
- 7.2 The FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Indexes will be reviewed quarterly in March, June, September and December when the exclusions outlined in Appendix B are applied to the underlying Target Exposure Indexes. The review will be implemented after the close of business on the third Friday of the review month.

## Section 8

# Changes to Constituent Companies

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### 8.0 Changes to Constituent Companies

- 8.1 Additions to the FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select indexes will be considered for inclusion at the next quarterly review only if they exist in the underlying Target Exposure indexes.
- 8.2 A constituent will be removed from a FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Index if it is also removed from the underlying Target Exposure index. The deletion will be concurrent with the deletion from the underlying Target Exposure index and its weight will be distributed pro-rata among the remaining constituents in the FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Index.
- 8.3 Additions and deletions of an underlying Target Exposure index are set out in the Ground Rules for the Global Factor Indexes:

[FTSE Global Factor Index Series Ground Rules](#)



## Section 9

# Corporate Actions and Events

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### 9.0 Corporate Actions and Events

- 9.1 The FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Indexes will follow the same corporate actions and events treatment as the FTSE Global Factor Index Series Ground Rules.
- 9.2 If a constituent in the underlying index has a stock split, stock consolidation, rights issue, bonus issue, a change in the number of shares in issue or a change in free float (with the exception of tender offers), the constituent's weighting in the FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Indexes will remain unchanged pre and post such an event.
- 9.3 Full details of changes to constituent companies due to corporate actions and events can be accessed in the Corporate Actions and Events Guide for Non Market Capitalisation Weighted Indexes using the following link:

[Corporate Actions and Events Guide for Non Market Cap Weighted Indexes.pdf](#)

A Corporate 'Action' is an action on shareholders with a prescribed ex-date. The share price will be subject to an adjustment on the ex-date. The index will be adjusted in line with the ex-date.

These include the following:

- Capital Repayments
- Rights Issues/Entitlement Offers
- Stock Conversion
- Splits (sub-division) / Reverse splits (consolidation)
- Scrip issues (Capitalisation or Bonus Issue)

A Corporate 'Event' is a reaction to company news (event) that may impact the index depending on the index rules. For example, a company announces a strategic shareholder is offering to sell their shares (secondary share offer) – this could result in a free float weighting change in the index. Where an index adjustment is required FTSE will provide notice advising of the timing of the change.

### 9.4 Suspension of Dealing

Suspension of Dealing rules can be found within the Corporate Actions and Events Guide for Non-Market Capitalisation Weighted Indexes.

### 9.5 Takeovers, Mergers and Demergers

The treatment of takeovers, mergers and demergers can be found within the Corporate Actions and Events Guide for Non-Market Capitalisation Weighted Indexes.

## Section 10

# Treatment of Dividends

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### 10.0 Treatment of Dividends

Declared dividends are used to calculate the FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Total Return Indexes. All dividends are applied on the ex-div date.

Net-of-tax Total Return Indexes are also calculated based on the maximum withholding tax rates applicable to dividends received by institutional investors who are not resident in the same country as the remitting company and who do not benefit from double taxation treaties.

Withholding tax rates used in the net-of-tax indexes can be accessed using the following link:

[Withholding Tax Service](#)

Please also refer to the FTSE Russell Withholding Tax Guide which can be accessed using the following link:

[FTSE Russell Withholding Tax Guide.pdf](#)

## Appendix A: Core Exclusions

At each September review, FTSE Russell will exclude companies from the underlying eligible universe of each Target Exposure Index that meet the criteria in Table 3 (see Rule 6.1.1).

**Table 3: Product Involvement Exclusions**

Exclusions	Involvement Threshold for Exclusion
<b>Weapons</b>	
<b>Anti-personnel mines, nuclear weapons, cluster weapons, biological and chemical weapons, depleted uranium, and white phosphorus munitions</b> Companies providing core weapon systems, or components/services of the core weapon system that are considered tailor-made and essential for these weapons.	Greater than 0% of revenues
<b>Conventional weapons</b> Companies providing tailor-made products and/or services that support military weapons or companies manufacturing military weapon systems and/or integral, tailor-made components for these weapons	Over 10% of revenues
<b>Tobacco</b>	
Companies manufacturing tobacco products	Greater than 0% of revenues
Companies involved in distribution or retail sales of tobacco products	Over 10% of revenues
<b>Adult Entertainment</b>	
Companies producing adult entertainment and/or owns/operates adult entertainment establishments.	Over 5% of revenues
Companies distributing adult entertainment materials.	Over 10% of revenues

Exclusions	Involvement Threshold for Exclusion
<b>Gambling</b>	
Companies that own and/or operate a gambling establishment.	Over 5% of revenues
Companies manufacturing specialized equipment used exclusively for gambling.	Over 10% of revenues
Companies providing supporting products/services to gambling operations.	Over 10% revenues
<b>Coal</b>	
Thermal coal extraction	Over 10% revenues for thermal coal
Companies generating electricity from thermal coal	Over 10% revenues for thermal coal
<b>Nuclear power</b>	
Companies generating electricity from nuclear power	25% of generating capacity

## Appendix B: Conduct-related Exclusions

FTSE Russell will apply the conduct-related exclusion list outlined in Table 4 to each Target Exposure Index on a quarterly basis after the close of business on the third Friday of March, June, September and December to create the FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Indexes. These exclusions are aligned with the UN Global Compact (UNGC).

**Table 4: UNGC Controversies Exclusions**

Exclusions	Threshold
<b>UN Global Compact (UNGC) Controversies</b>	
Companies involved in controversies related to the UNGC principles. The principles are classified into four categories: Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-corruption.	All companies deemed to be non-compliant are removed



## Appendix C: Further Information

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A Glossary of Terms used in FTSE Russell’s Ground Rule documents can be found using the following link: [Glossary.pdf](#)

Further information on the FTSE ESG Low Carbon Select Indexes or the FTSE Target Exposure Index Series is available from FTSE Russell.

The FTSE Russell Sustainable Investment Metrics website can be found using the following link: [Sustainable Investment Metrics](#)

For contact details please visit the FTSE Russell website or contact FTSE Russell client services at [info@ftserussell.com](mailto:info@ftserussell.com).

**Website:** [www.ftserussell.com](http://www.ftserussell.com)

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