

Terms and conditions of the smart+ Service from Self Investor

June 2023

abrdn.com

Introduction

These **smart+ Terms and conditions** (also referred to as the **Terms and conditions**) set out the terms and conditions upon which **smart+** and **your smart+ service** available through **Self Investor** shall be provided and operated. They form the basis of a legally binding agreement between **you** and **us** together with the following documents:

Terms and conditions of your chosen account(s)

- · Charges information
- · Costs and charges disclosure.

Where there is a difference between these **smart+ Service Terms and conditions**, the terms and conditions of a particular **account** and the remaining document listed above, the terms and conditions of **your** individual **account** will take precedence unless otherwise stated.

There are circumstances where **we** do not accept liability in respect of certain aspects of the operation of **your smart+ service.**

Further, there are circumstances where **you** will be responsible for costs and expenses **we** incur in respect of certain aspects of the operation of **your smart+ service**. Please refer to the following sections for detail:

- 7. 'smart+ charges'
- 18. 'Liability'.

smart+ is a non-advised service. If **you** receive advice from an independent financial adviser in relation to opening an account **you** will be requested to declare this when applying through **our website** and will not be allowed to continue with **your application**.

We may at **our** discretion vary these **Terms and conditions** in accordance with section 17, 'Changes to the Terms and conditions'.

Certain words in these **Terms and conditions** shown in bold have the particular meaning described in section 27, 'Glossary of terms'.

Self Investor is a trading style of **Elevate Portfolio Services Limited. Elevate Portfolio Services Limited** provides and operates **smart+** and **your smart+ service.**

We do not provide you with financial advice. If you require advice you should contact an independent financial adviser. We will not be responsible for any advice given to you (or, where you are provided with non-advised services, any appropriateness assessments conducted with you) by any financial or tax adviser nor will we be responsible for the cost of any advice.

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1. Fairness of terms

In making decisions and exercising discretions given to **us** under these **Terms and conditions**, **we** will act reasonably and with proper regard to the need to treat **you** and **our** other customers fairly.

These Terms and conditions will only apply to your smart+ service provided they are not held by a relevant court or viewed by the FCA to be unfair contract terms or reasonably considered by us to be unfair contract terms. If a term is held, viewed or considered to be unfair it will, as far as possible, still apply but without any part of it which would cause it to be held, viewed or considered unfair.

2. The service

Self Investor offers the web based investment service, smart+, which lets you hold and access a range of investments through different accounts such as the smart+ ISA and the smart+ Trading Account. The accounts determine the tax treatment of the investments held within them.

The range of accounts may be extended from time to time. A smart+ Cash Account will be created for you as soon as you have successfully opened either a smart+ ISA or smart+ Trading Account. Money can be held in your smart+ Cash Account pending investment in an account, to pay charges or ready for payment to your nominated bank account. You can also hold cash in each of the accounts which is money that is not invested in a fund. Any payments you make to smart+, which have not been directed into a specific account, are recorded as cash within your smart+ Cash Account.

Your money can be held as cash in an account awaiting investment, whilst keeping its appropriate tax status.

Cash in an account also acts as a collection point for any income generated by your investments and for the payment of charges for that account.

To invest through **smart+ you** need to accept these **Terms and conditions.** Each time **you** wish to open a new **account, we** will provide **you** with the terms and conditions relevant to that **account. Your** new **account** will not be opened until **you** have made an **application** through **smart+** for that **account** which has been accepted by **us.** Separate terms and conditions will apply to each new **account.**

3. Eligibility

To register and invest with **smart+ you** must:

- Be 18 years or over
- · Be resident in the UK or if not
 - either perform duties which, by virtue of Section 28 of the Income Tax (Earnings & Pensions) Act 2003 (Crown employees serving overseas), are treated as being performed in the UK; or
 - be married to, or in a civil partnership with, a person who performs such duties, and is eligible to apply for a smart+ Cash Account

It is **your** responsibility to determine whether or not **you** are a **UK** resident

· Hold a valid **UK** bank account.

If **your** circumstances, including residency status change, **you** agree to notify **us** of the changes as soon as reasonably possible.

4. Registering with smart+

To register with **smart+ you** need to:

- Complete and submit an online application on abrdn.com/en-gb/individual/self-investor
- Read and accept these **Terms and conditions, Charges information** and declarations as part of **your application**.

Please also read the relevant investment information.

Your smart+ service will be opened subject to the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (as amended from time to time) and all applicable laws and regulations, verification of your identity and our approval. You authorise us to carry out electronic identification checks and, where required, you will provide other documentary evidence of your identity as requested. We will also check the source of money added to your smart+ service. Your smart+ service is normally opened on the day your application is received by us. We do, however, reserve the right to reject or delay any application.

Please note **you** need to have a unique email address to apply for **your smart+ service.**

5. Username and password

You will be issued with a username by email and asked to create a unique password when you register with smart+. These will allow you to log in to your smart+ service. Your username and a new password can be requested from us by contacting us through abrdn.com/en-gb/individual/self-investor.

You must safeguard **your** username and password. For details regarding the safekeeping of **your** security details, see section 23.4 'Security'.

6. Cash, custody and ownership

6.1 Cash held in your smart+ Cash Account

When you have successfully invested in either a smart+ ISA or a smart+ Trading Account you will be issued with a smart+ Cash Account. Money held within this account represents the payments made into your smart+ service that have not been directed into any accounts. Your smart+ Cash Account can act as an entry point for payments to the smart+ service before it is moved into an account. It can also act as an exit point for payments to your nominated bank account. It can be used by us to carry out inter-account transfers on your behalf.

6.2 Custody and Ownership

a) Investments

By agreeing to the smart+ Service Terms and Conditions and smart+ ISA Terms and Conditions and/or smart+ Trading Account Terms and Conditions you appoint us as your custodian in respect of your Self Investor investments, and grant us (or any of our sub-custodians) the right to appoint nominee companies or sub-custodians to hold the investments. Investments will be held in the name of those nominee companies or sub custodians, who will also hold any documents of title, such as share certificates, in respect of the investments held by them.

Investments may be collectively registered in the name of the nominee company by the custodian. If this is the case, the investments relating to your smart+ ISA or smart+ Trading Account may not be separately identifiable by certificates or other documents of title or equivalent electronic record from those of other Self Investor customers or other customers of Elevate Portfolio Services Limited. If the custodian defaults, any shortfall in customer investments registered collectively may be shared pro-rata amongst those customers.

We undertake regular reconciliations of the investments held for Self Investor customers. Should we identify a discrepancy that results in or reveals a shortfall in those investments, unless we are justified in concluding that we are not responsible for the discrepancy, we will cover the shortfall by placing our own money into a platform administration general client bank account. This money will then be treated as client money under the FCA rules. Once the discrepancy is resolved, we will remove the money and place it back into our own account.

Where **investments** are held by a **custodian** or **nominee** outside of the **UK**, different **settlement**, legal and regulatory requirements and different practices relating to the segregation of those **investments** may apply.

We will satisfy ourselves that any agents or persons to whom **we** delegate any of **our** functions or responsibilities under these **Terms and conditions** are competent to carry out such arrangements.

b) Cash

Any money recorded in **your smart+ service** will be held with money deposited by other customers of **Self Investor** and **Elevate Portfolio Services Limited**, and will be held by **Elevate Portfolio Services Limited** in one or more general client bank accounts in accordance with the **FCA** rules on client money.

In addition, we also operate other general client bank accounts with our main banking partner. These consist of investment administration accounts used to make payments for investments, receive proceeds from the sale of investments and receive investment income, and platform administration accounts used to move money to and from your smart+ service Cash Account and into/out of your smart+ ISA and/or your smart+ Trading Account. Using these other accounts helps to ensure that we keep accurate records of the cash we hold for you.

We undertake regular reconciliations of the client money held for **Self Investor** customers. Should **we** identify a shortfall, **we** will correct it using our own money.

Your cash holdings are identified and recorded individually only within our own company client money records. If the bank that is holding your money becomes insolvent, we will attempt to recoup your money on your behalf.

However, if the bank cannot repay all the money it owes its clients, this could result in shortfalls in the bank accounts we hold at that bank. In this situation, Elevate Portfolio Services Limited will treat money held in general client bank accounts with all the banks it uses as pooled and any shortfall will be shared proportionately between you and other Self Investor and Elevate Portfolio Services Limited clients. Self Investor will update its records with your new reduced cash holding.

Client money may be received by, or transferred to, a third party in the course of operating your smart+ account. We may transfer some or all of the client money held in your smart+ cash account, smart+ ISA or smart+ trading account, to a third party as part of the transfer of all or part or our business to that third party provided that:

- a. the client money relates to the business being transferred
- b. the third party is required to return such money to **you** as soon as practicable at **your** request; and
- c. either i) the monies transferred will be held by that third party in accordance with the FCA's Client Money Rules or ii) the third party will apply other adequate measures to protect those monies.

You may be entitled to compensation from the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) if the banking partner **we** use to hold client money were to fail. Please see section 26 'Compensation' for more information on the FSCS.

You consent to the release of your money, which has been held and where there has been no movement on your balance for a period of at least six years (notwithstanding any payment of charges, interest or similar items). We will write to you at your last known address, giving at least 28 days' notice of our intention to cease to treat such money as your money. If no claim is made in that notice period, we will nevertheless retain records of money released and will make good any valid claim against any released money.

6.3 Cash handling

The movement of money held in your smart+ service to and from your nominated bank account is subject to the operating banks' practices and their clearing processes. You can set up a maximum of four external UK bank accounts from which payments can be made into your smart+ service and nominate one of these accounts for withdrawals (nominated bank account). You can make payments into your smart+ service by debit card or by Direct Debit. All withdrawals from your smart+ service to your nominated bank account will be made electronically. If you instruct us to make a same day electronic payment (CHAPS) we will apply a charge, see section 7 'smart+ charges' for further details.

The money in your smart+ Cash Account will be deposited with one or more banks which are authorised by the Prudential Regulatory Authority and regulated by the FCA. Cash held at banks in accordance with the FCA's client money rules is normally available for investment or withdrawal on an instant access basis, however some of your money may be held in bank accounts with a notice period of up to 95 days. We will manage your cash with the aim of delivering an appropriate combination of interest, diversification of risk and timely access to cash. We monitor these notice deposit accounts on a daily basis, but in extreme circumstances, it may take up to 95 days for the money to be available for you.

6.4 Interest on your smart+ Cash Account

No interest is paid to **you** on money **you** hold within **your smart+ Cash Account. We** will retain any interest earned on balances within **your smart+ Cash Account** as set out within **Charges information**. However **we** do reserve the right to deduct negative interest from **your** account.

7. smart+ charges

The rates applicable to all **smart+** charges as described below are made available to **you** within **your Charges information** document.

7.1 smart+ account charges

An **account** charge will apply to each **account** held within **your smart+ service.** This charge covers the cost for **us** to carry out investment transactions on **your** behalf. Each **account** charge will be a percentage charge based on the total value of all **your accounts** excluding any **cash**. It is an annual charge calculated daily and deducted monthly in arrears from the relevant **account**. The first monthly payment of this charge will be due one month after the date when **you** first placed money into **your smart+ service**. Subsequent payments will be taken on the same date of each month.

Further information on the **account** charges can be found within the relevant **account** terms and conditions and **your Charges information** document.

7.2 Other smart+ charges

There are other charges that may apply when investing through **smart+**, these include charges for:

- Same day electronic withdrawal by CHAPS
- Failed Direct Debit and/or a returned cheque.

In addition **Self Investor** reserves the right to charge for providing at **your** request documents in paper format that **Self Investor** hold on **smart+**.

Withdrawals to **your nominated bank account** are made electronically by BACS unless requested otherwise. There is no charge for this.

When investing in **funds** through **your accounts**, there will be **fund manager** charges applied to the specific **investments you** hold. These charges are made by **fund managers** for investing in their **funds**. Information about the specific fund charges that apply is detailed in the **Costs and charges disclosure** or can be found in the relevant **investment information**.

7.3 Changing our charges

The charges you pay may change in the future.

We reserve the right to make changes to or apply new charges from time to time. There are a number of circumstances that could lead to an increase in the **smart+** account charges and other **smart+** charges. They are:

- Tax rule, legislative or regulatory changes
- Increases in our staff or overhead costs (which are reasonable in amount and reasonably incurred) or the fact that these costs represent a higher percentage of the value of funds; and
- Increases in the costs of using third parties (and there is no reasonable alternative third party). A third party is any party which is not part of the **abrdn group**.

We will notify **you** of any increase in **our** charges at least 30 days prior to the change taking effect.

Our current understanding of tax legislation and **HMRC** guidelines is that Value Added Tax (VAT) is not payable by **you** on **smart+** charges. However, in the event that VAT becomes due, **we** reserve the right to add VAT to the charges made to **you**.

8. Circumstances in which we will automatically sell investments

There are two circumstances where **your investments** can be sold automatically:

8.1 Auto-cash process

Cash in each account will be used to cover the smart+ charges applicable to that account. If there is insufficient cash in the account when we take the charges, we will sell investments held in your account to cover the charge in accordance with the auto-cash process.

Under the auto-cash process the Least Volatile Stock (LVS) will be sold first. The LVS is rated by a third party nominated by **us** to provide this information. By exception a LVS may be ring-fenced by **us**. Ring-fenced **investments** will only be sold as a last resort, and not automatically, usually due to liquidity issues or penalties that could arise when they are sold. Volatility is measured by how widely a range of returns varies from the **fund's** average return over a particular period. When the LVS process applies and there are two or more **investment** holdings that have the same

volatility, **we** will auto-cash the **investment** that **you** bought most recently.

The minimum amount generated when selling **units** will be £10, which is enhanced by 10% to ensure that sufficient cash is realised to meet the charges. If the charges due are less than this minimum the residual balance will remain as **cash** within the relevant **account**.

If there are insufficient **investments** available in **your account** which are not ring-fenced to cover all the outstanding charges **we** will contact **you** to make arrangements to collect these charges. If they remain outstanding for more than 30 days after **we** have contacted **you**, **we** reserve the right to sell ring-fenced investments.

8.2 Selling individual holdings

If you instruct us to sell 95% or more of your investment in any one fund and express this as a monetary amount, we will give you the choice to either select a lower amount or to confirm that you wish us to sell the entire investment in that fund.

9. Withdrawals

You can make single withdrawals from your smart+ Cash Account. This is subject to the settlement of outstanding orders, payment of charges, and there being sufficient money in your smart+ Cash Account. The minimum amount you can withdraw is £100. We reserve the right acting reasonably to change the minimum amount you may withdraw from time to time in accordance with section 17 'Changes to the Terms and conditions'. You can instruct us through smart+ to send you the money electronically to your nominated bank account. Our liability ends when your money moves from smart+ to an external account.

Subject to the relevant **account's** terms and conditions, **you** may make single withdrawals from **your accounts** by selling **investments** for cash.

For more details regarding withdrawals from **your accounts**, please refer to the terms and conditions for each **account**.

10. Investment transacting

All orders will be handled to ensure that they meet our order execution policy. For details of our order execution policy and investment transacting, please refer to the relevant account's terms and conditions. By agreeing to the smart+ ISA and/or smart+ Trading Account Terms & Conditions, you agree to our order execution policy.

Your orders may be combined with those of other customers and executed in aggregated transactions. Where we disaggregate the proceeds of transactions or receive money by way of income, dividend or otherwise, we may receive more or less than you would have received if the transactions had not been aggregated. In this case, we will fund any shortfall; any surplus will be retained by us.

We will value your investments in pounds sterling, according to the most recent available price from the fund manager. We do not accept liability for pricing information provided by the fund manager. The prices recorded against your units in funds are indicative and are unlikely to be the price on which any order is executed if you wish to buy, sell or switch investments.

We will provide you with quarterly statements in My Documents showing details of all orders in your accounts since the previous statement, your current investments and a statement of the value of your smart+ service.

We reserve the right to change the time and frequency of these statements, but will ensure that statements are sent out in accordance with the FCA rules. You can view your investments and their value at your convenience on abrdn.com/en-gb/individual/self-investor.

You can generate an online valuation statement at any time, which will be automatically produced and saved into My Documents. The value of the investments shown will be based upon the previous day's valuation point used and are for illustration purposes only.

11. Reports and corporate actions

On request **we** can arrange for **you** to receive a copy of the quarterly report and accounts in respect of **your investments** and any other information issued to investors.

If we receive any notifications from the fund manager concerning their fund, we will not generally pass these notifications on to you unless we reasonably consider the content of such notification to have a material impact on your investment.

Where a notification relates to a **corporate action** that requires a decision to be made, **we** will abstain from voting in most situations where the **fund manager** has proposed a change affecting the **fund**; however, **we** may vote in favour of or against a proposal if **we** feel that the change will materially impact the operation of **smart+** or **our** customers.

You will still be able to attend any meeting of investors in respect of each investment held in your smart+ account, to vote in respect of your own investment. You will need to notify us at least five business days in advance of the meeting to do this.

For more information, please refer to the terms and conditions for each **account.**

12. Re-registration

You can re-register your existing investments onto smart+, where you have the legal title (where relevant) or beneficial title to these investments, and the right to do this. You can also re-register certain investments you hold in your accounts off smart+ to another provider. Re-registration means that you can move investments from one account provider to another, without having to sell and then buy them back. You can only re-register existing investments to an account that can hold investments.

If you wish to re-register an investment this is subject to the investment being available within the account.

Re-registering an investment may be subject to the agreement of the existing account provider. Please note this agreement may not be given.

We will also need certain information from the third party responsible for administering the existing **investments**. If they do not provide **us** with complete and accurate information in a timely manner, in order to comply with current laws and regulations, **we** will not be able

to proceed with **your** instruction and **we** will return the **investments** to the existing administrator.

If, when re-registering an **investment** onto **smart+**, **you** incur charges from the existing account provider, **you** will need to settle these charges directly with them. **We** do not pay any re-registration fees nor will **we** deduct such fees from **your investment**.

The terms and conditions of each **account** set out further detail.

13. Cancellation rights

You have the right to cancel a smart+ ISA and smart+ Trading Account within 30 days of receiving a Cancellation reminder. This will be placed in My Documents and you will get an email to tell you when it is there. Full details of this right to cancel are set out in the relevant investment information and terms and conditions of each account.

14. Closing your smart+ service

You may close your smart+ service at any time, subject to us receiving your written notice of termination and the closure of all accounts and the settlement of outstanding orders, fees, charges and tax liabilities in respect of your smart+ service. Your smart+ service will only be closed, and these Terms and conditions will only terminate, once all investments have been transferred or surrendered from smart+ and the balance of your smart+ Cash Account has been transferred to your nominated bank account. Interest (if any) ceases to be earned when the closure of your smart+ service is confirmed on smart+. Should any income arise after your smart+ service has been closed, we will attempt to pay this to you. If we cannot pay this money to you we will hold it until such time as a valid claim is made, during which time no interest rate is applied.

We may, at our absolute discretion, close your smart+ service immediately if you commit a material breach of these Terms and conditions and fail to remedy it within 30 calendar days of being asked by us to so or otherwise by giving you at least 30 days' written notice, which will not affect orders already initiated.

We reserve the right to close the **smart+ service** if three months following **your** initial registration no investment has been made into either a **smart+ ISA** or **smart+ Trading Account.**

We reserve the right to close your smart+ service where the balance in each account you hold is less than £500 and you have been a customer of Self Investor for 18 months or longer. We may exercise this right in the following circumstances:

- We reasonably believe that the smart+ charges are disproportionate to the balance held in your accounts; or
- We can no longer operate your smart+ service in a cost effective way.

Before exercising our discretion, we will contact you.

If any income arises after your smart+ Account is closed, we will send any such income to you provided the balance of such income after settlement of all charges and other deductions amount to £5 or more. We will, at our absolute discretion, pay the balance to you, or if you have transferred your smart+ account, to your new provider if they are willing to accept the balance.

If **we** have tried, but failed to pay this money to **you** or to **your** new provider, **we** will hold it until a valid claim is made. During this time no interest rate is applied.

You agree that **we** may donate balances of less than £5 after settlement of all charges and other deductions to a charity of **our** choice unless:

- We are prohibited from doing so by applicable laws and/ or regulations; or
- We in our absolute discretion elect to pay a balance of less than £5 for your benefit.

15. Death

In the event of **your** death, **we** will await receipt of the appropriate documentation to establish proof of death and proof of title, along with instructions from **your** personal representatives regarding **cash** and **investments** held in **your smart+ service**. **Our** implementation of any such instruction will be subject to all outstanding **orders**, fees, and charges being accounted for.

For full details regarding how **your accounts** will be dealt with on death please refer to the relevant **account's** terms and conditions.

16. Taxation

Self Investor is not providing you with any investment or tax advice. If you require any tax advice, please speak to a tax specialist. The tax treatment of your investments is dependent upon your individual circumstances and may be subject to changes in legislation. The tax status of each account will vary and the investment information and specific account terms and conditions contain any supplementary information you may need to be aware of. Where applicable, we will send you a consolidated tax voucher each year to assist with your tax return.

Our current understanding of tax legislation and **HMRC** guidelines is that Value Added Tax (VAT) is not payable by **you** on charges taken to pay for **your smart+ service**. However, in the event that VAT becomes due, **we** reserve the right to add VAT to the charges made to **you**. **We** will write to **you** to notify **you** of any increase in **your** charges due to VAT.

Investments may become part of an individual's estate upon death and therefore subject to Inheritance Tax. If you require further information about the possible impact of Inheritance Tax, please speak to a tax specialist.

17. Changes to the Terms and conditions

We reserve the right to amend these Terms and conditions from time to time for the reasons set out below, upon giving you at least 30 days written notice, so far as it is practicable to do so or such other period allowed or required by law. Such changes will take effect from the date stated in the written notice.

- Relevant changes in tax or other relevant legislation
- Relevant changes in the reporting requirements or regulatory regime
- Relevant changes in how the London Stock Exchange or other different investment markets may work which may impact on the operation of your smart+ service
- Relevant changes in investment dealing or administration which may impact on the operation of your smart+ service
- Relevant improvements or enhancements to the existing services we provide or changes in technology outside of our control

- Relevant changes to the services provided by third parties appointed for smart+
- Appointment by us of alternative third parties to provide services for smart+
- Relevant changes in circumstances or of any event which is outside of our control, which means that these Terms and conditions operate in a way which is unfair to you or other smart+ customers.

During this notice period, if **you** are unhappy with the proposed amendment to these **Terms and conditions you** can close **your smart+ service** by giving us written notice. Any fees and charges for selling **investments** in readiness for the closure of **your accounts** or re-registration with another account provider (where requested) will be applied at the rates applicable at the time of sale, encashment or transfer. Any closure charges generally in force at the time of the transfer out will also be applied.

The service **we** make available to **you** under these Terms & conditions include the facility to administer **your smart+ account**, make investments in **your smart+ account**, or view information on **your smart+ account**.

The charges that **we** apply are intended to cover **our** costs for offering these services on a regular basis. To avoid increasing **our** charges, **we** may withdraw, restrict the use of or replace certain services with comparable services. Any changes **we** make will be reasonable in **our** opinion. Where **we** do so, **we** will give **you** 30 days' written notice or such period allowed or required by law.

If you object to these changes, you can notify us of your objection within the 30 calendar day notice period by contacting us using the address listed under section 23.6 of this document. You will then have 90 calendar days to close your smart+ account. In these circumstances, we will waive smart+ charges involved in realising your investments in readiness for the transfer and any other transfer out charges generally in force at the time of the transfer. If you notify us of your objection but do not close your account within the 90 calendar day period, you are deemed to have accepted the change implemented under this section.

If you decide to close your smart+ account, we will provide you where possible with the functionality to re-register your investments off the smart+ platform. Some managers of assets do not allow re-registration and some other

account providers may not offer re-registration onto their platform. In this case, if you still want to transfer your investments, you will have to sell the investments and transfer the cash. The cash will remain uninvested or 'out of the market' from the time of the sale until the time your new account provider purchases your units (or assets). During the time you are 'out of the market' the price of the units (or assets) may rise or fall so the number of units (or amount of assets) you are able to purchase with the cash realised may be less or more than the number (or amount of assets) you sold. We will not be responsible for failure to re-register in these cases. Please note that other providers will offer services and apply charges which are different to the services you receive or charges you pay in relation to smart+.

We also reserve the right to amend these **Terms and conditions** immediately and advise **you** within 30 days of a change set out above, if **we** reasonably consider the change is not to **your** disadvantage.

18. Liability

By accepting these Terms and conditions you hereby waive any and all claims or rights of action which you might otherwise have at any time against any previous, current or future officers, employees, agents and subcontractors of ours or of any company within the abrdn group regarding any acts or omissions of such officers, employees, agents and sub-contractors in relation to your smart+ service. However, this waiver does not in any way restrict any claims or rights of action which you may have against us or any company within the abrdn group in accordance with these Terms and conditions and arising from such acts or omissions.

We are only liable for direct losses suffered by you as a direct result of our negligence, willful default, and for any other breach by us of the FCA rules or of these Terms and conditions. Neither we, nor any company within the abrdn group or our third party providers are liable for any loss caused through a fall in the value of investments held in an account or as a result of your breach of these Terms and conditions. You may not get back the amount of the payment that you originally made. Exchange rate movements may have a separate effect, unfavourable as well as favourable, on the value of your investments.

Subject to the other terms of this section 18, if **we** make an error, we will correct it provided the value of the loss is greater than:

- a. our minimum amount of £5; or
- b. Where the error arises as the result of a third party providing **us** with an incorrect share/unit price (for example as a result of a fund manager error or as a result of an error by **our** third party supplier of fund pricing feeds), **our** minimum amount of £10

which will be applied to your smart+ product account.

We will ensure that **our** action taken to correct the matter will be fair to **you**.

We are not responsible for errors made by a third party but **we** will take reasonable steps to seek compensation from that third party.

We, to the extent allowed by law and **FCA** rules, do not accept liability:

- For any or all losses, costs, actions, proceedings, claims and demands which may be incurred by you or brought or made against us arising directly or indirectly from us having acted in good faith pursuant to any purported instruction relating to any purported investment directions
- For any loss that may be incurred as a result of any error by you in transmitting any instruction to us other than as a direct result of our negligence, wilful default or fraud
- For any instruction or investment direction sent by you but not received by us
- For default or any loss or delay in implementing any instruction which is caused by a **force majeure** event
- For default or any losses whatsoever caused by any third parties, nominee companies not controlled by us or another company in the abrdn group, other custodians, banks or authorised institutions which hold any investments including, but not limited to, insurance company unit-linked funds, stocks and shares, unit trusts, Open Ended Investment Companies (OEICs) and investment Trust companies and cash for the purpose of the smart+ service
- For errors made by third parties in relation to fund pricing
- For any fluctuations in the buying price of investments occurring during delays arising out of anti-money laundering checks being carried out.

We accept no responsibility for your accounts until payment is received, or for any loss or delay caused in the payment or transfer of investments to us. In accepting these Terms and conditions, you agree to be responsible for all reasonable costs, claims, expenses, tax charges, demands and losses whatsoever that we may suffer or incur in performing our duties under these Terms and conditions or carrying out our lawful duties and responsibilities in relation to you, except to the extent the same arise from the direct result of our negligence, willful default or fraud.

19. Relationship with third parties

We may appoint agents or persons (including nominee companies and other third party providers) to perform, on our behalf, any of the smart+ functions or responsibilities under these Terms and conditions. We will satisfy ourselves that any agents or persons to whom we delegate any of the functions or responsibilities under these Terms and conditions are competent to carry out such functions or responsibilities.

Please note **we** may transfer our rights and obligations under these **Terms and Conditions** to other companies within the **abrdn group**. **We** will give **you** notice where **we** do so.

Other than companies within the **abrdn group**, none of these **Terms and conditions** are enforceable under the Contract (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 by a person, company or other entity who is not a party to these **Terms and conditions.**

20. Personal information

We will collect and use personal information about you such as your name, date of birth and national insurance number as part of your application in order to provide our smart+ accounts or services under these Terms and conditions and to manage our relationship with you.

It may also be necessary as part of **our** services and **smart+ accounts** to collect and use personal information which is defined as 'special category data' under **data protection law**, eg health related. Any special category data will only be collected and used where it's needed to provide the **smart+ accounts** or services or to comply with **our** legal and regulatory obligations and where **we** have obtained **your** explicit consent to process such information.

Where **you** have provided **us** with the personal information of a third party, **you** have obtained all necessary consents from the third party to enable **us** to hold and process their personal information in accordance with the terms of this section 20.

The information collected (including details of the holdings in your smart+ accounts) may be shared with other companies of the abrdn group and other companies we work with to support us in the provision of the **smart+ accounts** or services under these **Terms** and conditions. We may also share your information with other organisations such as **HMRC** who, under applicable tax laws, may share the information we provide with the tax authorities of other countries. We may also transfer and disclose **your** personal information and any other information provided to us by you for the purposes of complying with an instruction from the FCA or other competent regulatory authority and with laws, regulations and FCA rules. Whenever we share your personal information, we will do so in line with our obligations to keep your information safe and secure.

For more information on how **we** process **your** personal information and what **your** rights are, please read **our** Privacy Policy online at **abrdn.com/en-gb/individual/ privacy** or write to **our** Data Protection Officer at 1 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2LL or email **DPOffice@abrdn.com**.

21. Copyright and other Intellectual Property Rights

All intellectual property rights in **smart+** and **our website** are owned by **us** or **our** licensors. **You** must not copy, reproduce or transmit any information or the look and feel of **smart+** and **our website**, in whole or in part, unless this is for a legitimate and proper use under these **Terms and conditions** as agreed with **us. You** must not make any alterations or modifications or clone, copy, edit or interfere with **smart+** and **our website** or its source code and **you** must not merge **smart+** or the **website** with any other computer software programmes (except where applicable **UK** laws expressly allow this).

22. Customer status

If you are defined as a 'retail client' under the FCA's Conduct of Business rules, we will treat you as one, unless restricted by the type of investment held. Please note that the fact that we categorise you as a retail client does not necessarily mean that you will be eligible to refer any complaints you might have about us to the Financial Ombudsman Services. It also does not necessarily mean that you will be eligible to claim compensation from the FSCS. Please see sections 25 and 26 of this document for further information.

23. Communication

23.1 Self Investor website

Our website is the main way you can use smart+ and communicate with us. This will be to submit information, applications or orders to us, or to instruct us to act. The core operational hours of **smart+** are Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, subject to any unplanned interruptions to the services due to a force majeure event. We will endeavour to ensure the **website** is operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week subject to planned interruptions for maintenance, which will be notified to you, and to unplanned interruptions due to a force majeure event. We will not be liable to you for any loss, damage or costs resulting from smart+ being unavailable during the core operational hours for unplanned interruptions or outside of core operational hours for planned or unplanned interruptions, except where arising from our own negligence, fraudulent or willful acts or omissions.

We reserve the right to change the content, presentation and facilities of any part of smart+ and in particular, our website. We reserve the right to suspend or withdraw access to smart+ without notice where it may contravene UK laws and regulations or where we have reasonable grounds to believe there has been, or may be, improper use of smart+.

Our websites and online services use cookies. For more information, please see **our** cookie policy on **our** website.

Where **our website** contains links to other sites and resources provided by third parties, these links are provided for **your** information only. **We** have no control over the contents of those sites or resources, and accept no responsibility for them or for any loss or damage that may arise from **your** use of them. Separate terms and conditions will apply to those **websites** and **you** are encouraged to read those if **you** access those links.

23.2 Watchlist

The watchlist is a feature on **our website** that allows **you** to track a **fund** or list of **funds** before making an **investment** decision. The data used in the watchlist is provided by the **fund managers** and is for information only and should not be relied on as accurate. **We** take no responsibility for the accuracy of the data provided.

23.3 My net worth

This feature on **our website** is designed to allow **you** to create a summary of **your** personal wealth, including the value of **your smart+ service** and certain other assets or debts held outside **your smart+ service**. If **you** add accounts held with another provider, **you** can choose to 'record underlying assets' within this feature, **we** will then show the latest valuation for **your** assets. This data is provided by the **fund manager** or other valuation provider for information only and should not be relied on as an accurate valuation. If **you** record assets which are not linked to underlying assets the value of these will not change unless **you** choose to update the figure entered on My net worth.

23.4 Security

We take all reasonable steps to ensure that any information you provide is kept secure and that smart+ complies with the data security standards requirements of the Payment Card Industry. Our secure server site uses SSL encryption to prevent unauthorised persons from intercepting the information you submit to us when you are using smart+.

In order to log on to **smart+**, **you** will need to use **your** unique username and password as well as the answers to the security questions **you** provided when **you** first registered. **You** must keep these details secret and take all reasonable precautions to prevent unauthorised and fraudulent use of them. **You** must not disclose these security details to any other person or record them in any way that may result in them becoming known to any other person. All instructions placed through **smart+** using **your** valid security details will be accepted by **us** in good faith, unless **you** have notified **us** of a security breach.

Please note that after initial registration with smart+ we will never contact you, or ask anyone to do so on our behalf, with a request to disclose your security details. If you receive any such request from anyone (even if they are using our name and logo which may appear to be genuine) then it is likely to be fraudulent and you must not supply your security details to them under any circumstances. You should report any such requests to us immediately by emailing us at selfinvestorphishing@abrdn.com

Subject to any obligations we may have under common law, we will not be liable for any unauthorised use of your security details resulting from negligence on your part or loss arising therefrom and you must notify us immediately if you discover that your security details have been lost or compromised, you should immediately contact us by telephone or through abrdn.com/en-gb/individual/self-investor or write to us.

You must not attempt any activity that may contravene the security of **smart+**.

Additional information regarding **your** security is set out in 'Security' on **our website**.

It is recommended that **you** follow the guidance provided by GetSafeOnline which is a joint initiative between the Government, law enforcement, leading businesses and the public sector. The aim of the organisation is to provide computer users with free, independent, user-friendly advice that will allow them to use the internet confidently, safely and securely.

It is recommended that **you** arrange to back up data regularly and seek specialist advice about the use and security of computer equipment, downloads and the avoidance of viruses. **We** do not accept liability for any computer issues that may affect **you** such as viruses, corrupt downloads, corrupt transmissions or the operation of third party websites. **We** will not be liable to **you** for any resulting loss, damage or costs.

23.5 Notification

The following information applies where a notice (this means any notification given by **you** which is not an **order**) or instruction is submitted by **you** for **our** attention or where a notice is submitted by **us** to **you**.

All notices must be in English, in writing and where appropriate signed by **you**. Notices and instructions from **you** must be communicated through **smart+** or by post and sent to **us** at **Self Investor**, PO Box 6890, Basingstoke RG24 4SL.

We are entitled to treat written instructions as valid, where these purport to be given by **you** or on **your** behalf, even if that is not the case because of the actions of another person, unless that other person is an employee or agent of **ours.**

You must provide us with all information, which we reasonably request in respect of your smart+ service and, in particular, you must immediately notify us in writing of any change of tax status or other material change in circumstance. You agree that the information you give to us is current, relevant and accurate.

Notices and instructions from **us** will be in English, in writing and communicated to **you** through the **smart+** or by post, sent to **your** last address provided to **us** or an alternative address as notified to **us** from time to time.

Notices and other documents that are sent in the post will be considered received by **you** three days after posting.

23.6 How to contact us

You can contact us by:

- Visiting abrdn.com/en-gb/individual/self-investor.
- Phoning us on: 0800 1522 522.
- Writing to us at: Self Investor, PO Box 6890, Basingstoke RG24 4SL.

You will need to quote **your** Customer number when **you** contact **us.**

You will find details of our opening hours at abrdn.com/en-gb/individual/self-investor

As part of **our** commitment to quality service and security, telephone calls and **written** communications may be recorded. **We** will retain these records for as long as required by regulation/ law or to enable **us** to meet any future requirements or obligations. **You** may contact **us** for a copy of these records at any time.

23.7 How we will contact you

We will normally contact **you** by emailing **your** nominated email address. **We** may also contact **you** by telephone or post. **We** reserve the right to contact **you** by any method **we** deem appropriate.

Therefore it is important that **you** keep **us** updated of changes to **your** mobile phone number and/or email address, see section 23.8, 'Changes to your personal information'.

23.8 Changes to your personal information

It is **your** responsibility to update **your** personal information on **your smart+ service,** in particular:

- Main contact phone number
- Home address
- Residency status
- · Email address.

If you do not keep these details up to date then we will not be able to provide and administer your smart+ service appropriately and inform you of key actions or decisions that you need to take.

24. Governance and regulation

24.1 Governing law and language

By agreeing to these **Terms and conditions, you** agree that the law of England and Wales applies to **your smart+service**, unless specific **account** rules require otherwise for that particular **account**. **Your** contract documents will be supplied to **you** in English and any subsequent correspondence with **you** regarding **your** contract will be in English. English and Welsh courts shall have non-exclusive jurisdiction over any disputes that may arise.

24.2 Main business and Financial Services Register details **Self Investor** is a brand of **Elevate Portfolio Services Limited**, which provides the **smart+** service.

Elevate Portfolio Services Limited is registered in England (01128611) and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Elevate Portfolio Services Limited is wholly owned by Savings Limited (SC180203) which is authorised and regulated by the **FCA**.

The FCA can be contacted at:

The Financial Conduct Authority 12 Endeavour Square London E20 1JN

Telephone: 020 7066 1000

24.3 HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

All **accounts** available through **smart+**, where applicable, operate in accordance with all applicable **HMRC** regulations. **We** will provide **HMRC** with relevant details as they may request.

24.4 Collection and Disclosure of Information to Tax Authorities

If your tax residency changes, or you become a non-UK resident after opening a smart+ account, you must notify us immediately and we may need you to provide us with further information regarding your identity and tax residence. We may also be required to disclose this information and information about your smart+ account to HMRC or the tax authority of your country of residence, and otherwise co-operate with formal requests from such tax authority.

In addition, the providers of certain investments may apply restrictions if **you** are no longer a **UK** resident and/ or **your** tax residency changes. Please see the terms and conditions for each **account** for more information.

24.5 Banking Partner Regulations

Our preferred banking partner(s) are subject to the **FCA's** Banking Conduct Regime which comprises of:

- The FCA's Banking Conduct of Business Sourcebook (BCOBS)
- The FCA's Principles for Business
- The conduct of business requirements of the Payment Services Regulation 2009.

Further details of the **FCA's** Banking Conduct Regime can be found at **fca.org.uk**.

24.6 Anti-money laundering, counter terrorist financing, fraud prevention and detection

To verify **your** identity and prevent financial crime **we** may use and share **your** information with any company within the **abrdn group**, with companies who work for **us** and with appropriate organisations.

We may also search, send **your** details to, and use information from third party verification service providers and financial crime and credit reference agencies (third parties).

This involves checking **your** details against databases these third parties use. **abrdn group** and these third parties may keep a record of the search, the results of the search, any suspicions of financial crime and the details may be used to assist other companies for verification and identification purposes. The search is not a credit check and **your** credit rating should be unaffected.

These activities help to:

- Prevent financial crime (e.g. fraud, money laundering)
- Verify the identity of persons registered with smart+ or previously registered with smart+
- Trace and validate beneficiaries or recover debt
- Make decisions about your smart+ service.

Appropriate organisations may include (but are not limited to) the Police, **FCA**; Department for Work & Pensions and Association of British Insurers. The third party verification service providers, financial crime and credit reference agencies may include (but are not limited to) 192.com, CallCredit, Equifax and Experian.

By accepting these **Terms and conditions you** agree to these activities which will make it easier for **you** to do business with **us** and help prevent financial crime.

For more information please write to the Money Laundering Reporting Officer, Elevate Portfolio Services, Winterthur Way, Basingstoke, RG21 6SZ.

24.7 Conflicts of interest

Conflicts of interest may occur when, in the course of doing business with **you**, **we** or another customer of **ours** may have a material interest in obtaining a different result from the one that may be best for **you**. **We** aim to avoid situations where conflicts of interest may arise and have analysed **our** business in **order** to identify potential conflicts.

Where a conflict is identified, it is managed to ensure **your** interests are protected and there is no undue drawback for **you**. **We** will continue to monitor **our** business for potential conflicts.

Further details of **our** conflicts of interest policy are available on request.

25. Making a complaint

If **you** are not satisfied with any aspect of the service that **you** have received from **us**, or **you** would like information regarding **our** formal complaints procedure, please contact **us** as set out in section 23.6, 'How to contact us'.

If **your** complaint is not dealt with to **your** satisfaction then **you** may refer the matter to the Financial Ombudsman:

The Financial Ombudsman Service Exchange Tower Harbour Exchange Square London E14 9SR

Tel: 0800 023 4567

email: complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk

Website: financial-ombudsman.org.uk

Making a complaint will not prejudice **your** right to take legal proceedings.

26. Compensation



We are covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). You may be entitled to compensation from the FSCS if we or a third party holding an asset of your smart+ ISA and /or smart+ Trading Account cannot meet its obligations.

If Elevate Portfolio Services Limited becomes insolvent:

If **Elevate Portfolio Services Limited** becomes insolvent and **you** have a valid claim against **Elevate Portfolio Services Limited**, then **you** may be covered for up to 100% of the first \$85,000 of **investments** held on **Self Investor**.

As described in these smart+ Service Terms & Conditions, we arrange for third party nominee companies, and banks to hold the money and investments in your smart+ ISA and/or smart+ Trading Account. This means they are kept separately from the assets and money of Elevate Portfolio Services Limited and any other external parties we use.

In the unlikely event of Elevate Portfolio Services Limited failing, Elevate Portfolio Services Limited's creditors are not able to make a claim against the assets held by the nominee companies, or the cash held in accounts at the banks. However, there are some instances which could result in a financial loss to you should Elevate Portfolio Services Limited fail, such as fraud and maladministration of cash and assets. This could mean that the assets and cash passed to the nominee company or the bank do not fully cover what you are owed. If this was to happen, and we were not able to make good the shortfall, then a claim could be made to the FSCS.

If you hold other investments in respect of other products purchased from Elevate Portfolio Services Limited, then the £85,000 limit would apply to all of your investments with Elevate Portfolio Services Limited.

If a sub-custodian became insolvent:

If a **sub-custodian** were to fail, and the assets held by it or its **nominee company** were not sufficient to meet claims due to fraud or maladministration, and the **sub-custodian** was unable to make good the shortfall, a claim could be made to the FSCS. Again any compensation would be subject to the limit of £85,000 per individual.

If a bank became insolvent:

Money held in your smart+ cash account, smart+ ISA smart+ Trading Account and money in investment administration accounts and platform administration accounts is covered by the FSCS. This means if our external banking partners became insolvent you may be covered under the scheme. There is an £85,000 limit, which applies per person per institution (see below), so the limit will normally include cash held within your smart+ Cash Account together with any other money you personally hold with that same bank.

The limit of £85,000 applies per authorisation. If **you** have accounts with banks which are part of a larger group, the level of compensation **you** can claim will depend on whether the banks are individually authorised or included in the authorisation of their parent company.

If a fund manager became insolvent:

By law, **fund** assets must be ring-fenced from the assets of the **fund manager**. So, the failure of the **fund manager** would not put the ring-fenced assets at risk. However, in the event of a loss arising as a result of negligent investment management, which the **fund manager** cannot make good, or the failure of the **fund manager** to meet its settlement obligations, a claim to the FSCS could be made. If **you** had an eligible claim in this scenario, **you** would be covered up to a maximum of 100% of the first £85,000 of the value of the fund.

For further information about compensation arrangements please contact the Financial Services Compensation Scheme on: 0800 678 1100 or visit fscs.org.uk

27. Glossary of terms

The following words and expressions have the meanings as set out here:

abrdn group - means abrdn plc and each of its subsidiaries and subsidiary undertakings and associated companies (whether direct or indirect) from time to time.

Account(s) - means the investment accounts, such as the smart+ ISA and smart+ Trading Account, available from Self Investor from time to time, but not including the smart+ Cash Account.

Application - means an application completed by **you** to register with **smart+**.

Cash – means money that **you** hold within **your accounts** that is not invested in a **fund**.

Charges information - means a document which sets out the charges that **you** pay for using the **smart+ service** and for any **accounts** that **you** open.

Costs and charges disclosure - means a document which sets out the specific charges that will apply in relation to payments or investments you make in your smart+ account(s).

Corporate action - means an event which brings material change to an **investment**, for example a **fund** name change.

Custodian - means a specialist financial institution responsible for safeguarding assets, including **investments.**

Data protection law - means any law that applies from time to time to the processing of personal information by **us** under these **Terms and conditions.**

Direct Debit or **debit card** - means an instruction from a customer to their bank or building society authorising an organisation to collect money from their account.

Elevate Portfolio Services Limited (EPS) – Elevate Portfolio Services Limited trades as Elevate and Self Investor and is part of the abrdn group.

Force majeure - means in relation to **us** any event or circumstance which is beyond **our** reasonable control including but not limited to:

- a. an act of God, fire, earthquake, storm or flood;
- b. explosion, nuclear accident or collision;
- c. sabotage, riot, civil disturbance, strikes, terrorism;
- d. epidemic, national emergency (whether in fact or law);
 or act of war;
- e. intervention by exchanges or regulators or court orders; and.
- f. failure or error of any equipment, loss of supply of essential services including but not limited to electrical power, telecommunications, air conditioning, third party services and account providers.

FCA - means the Financial Conduct Authority.

FCA recognised funds - means a non-UK collective investment scheme which has obtained approval from the **FCA** to be marketed to the general public in the UK.

Fund - means a collective investment scheme, which is an arrangement that enables investors to pool their assets and have these managed by a professional **fund manager**.

Fund manager - means the authorised corporate director or unit trust manager of a **fund**.

HMRC - means HM Revenue & Customs.

Investment - means the units in a fund.

Investment information – means the collective term for product disclosure documents (including prospectuses, simplified prospectuses and key investor information documents). These may be produced by **us** or a third party.

Material breach - means a breach by you of these Terms and conditions which we reasonably believe has a detrimental effect either on the benefit we would derive under these Terms and conditions, or on the reputation of Self Investor or any other abrdn group company.

My Documents – means the secure online library on our website which contains selected documents.

Nominated bank account - means the **UK** bank account that **you** nominate **us** to pay withdrawals into.

Nominee company or nominee companies – means a company (or companies) controlled by a custodian whose sole purpose is to hold assets on behalf of the custodian.

Order - means, in relation to **units** in **funds**, a single instruction to place a buy, sell or **switch** transaction, or multiple instructions to place buy, sell and/or **switch** transactions on a single **order day**.

Order day - means any day on which **Self Investor** is open for business for the buying, selling or **switching** of **units**.

Order execution policy - means the policy that sets out **our** approach to dealing and the timing of **orders.**

Orders and ordering have a corresponding meaning.

Settlement - means the contractual exchange of **units** in **funds** and **cash** between **us** and a **fund manager**.

smart+ - means the online service provided by **Self Investor** through which customers can make **investments** and which is accessed through **our website**.

smart+ Cash Account - means the cash account opened after you have successfully invested in either a smart+ ISA or smart+ trading account. This holds any payments into your smart+ service that have not been directed into these accounts.

smart+ ISA - means the stocks & shares ISA from **Self Investor** and available through **smart+**.

smart+ service - means your registration with smart+, your smart+ Cash Account and any smart+ accounts you may hold from time to time.

smart+ Service Terms and conditions or Terms and conditions – means the terms and conditions contained in this document.

smart+ Trading Account - means the trading account from **Self Investor** and available through **smart+**.

Self Investor - means a trading style of **Elevate Portfolio Services Limited.**

Sub-custodian - means either a **custodian** appointed by **Self Investor** in its own role as **custodian** of investments; or a further **custodian** of investments appointed by any **custodian** of **Self Investor**.

Switch/switching/switched - means changing your investment in funds by selling existing investments and using the proceeds to buy new investments.

Tax year - means the tax year beginning on 6 April in any year and ending on 5 April the following year.

UK - means the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. This excludes the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands.

Unit price - means the price of **units** in **funds**.

Units - means units or shares in certain funds.

Valuation point - means the point in time that **funds** are valued and then priced, by the **fund manager**.

We, our, us – means Elevate Portfolio Services Limited and Self Investor.

 $\textbf{Website-} \\ \textbf{means abrdn.} \\ \textbf{com/en-gb/individual/self-investor}$

You/your - means the person making an application and holder of the **smart+ Cash Account**.

Available in audio, Braille and large print versions.

Further information

Call us on 0800 152 2522

Our lines are open 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Call charges may vary.

E-mail us at selfinvestoradmin@abrdn.com

Emails are not secure as they can be intercepted, so please don't send personal or confidential information in this way.

Self Investor, PO Box 6890, Basingstoke RG24 4SL

For more information visit abrdn.com/personal/financial-advice

Self Investor is a brand of Elevate Portfolio Services Limited, which is part of abran Group. abran Group comprises abran plc and its subsidiaries.

Elevate Portfolio Services Limited is registered in England (01128611) at 280 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4AG and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

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