



PRESS RELEASE

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Government confirms introduction of Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) Regulatory Framework in January 2018

HM Government of Gibraltar confirms that it has today published the Financial Services (Distributed Ledger Technology Providers) Regulations 2017 together with a Bill for an Act to amend the Financial Services (Investment and Fiduciary Services) Act.

Publication of this Bill and regulations is a key milestone in a journey that commenced in 2014 with the creation of the Cryptocurrency Working Group, a private sector initiative, ably driven by Paul Astengo of Gibraltar Finance, David Parody and Joey Garcia. Extensive work and research with leading industry experts then led to three public consultations on the subject and Gibraltar is now on track to provide regulatory certainty in this field in January 2018, as promised earlier this year.

The legislation has been designed to provide an efficient, safe and innovative regulatory framework for firms engaging in activities not otherwise subject to regulation and that use DLT for the transmission or storage of value belonging to others (DLT framework).

Albert Isola MP, Minister for Commerce commented, "I am delighted and excited in equal measure to publish this legislation today, after an extended period of thinking, consultation and review with the Industry and experts in this field. I am most grateful to the DLT Working Group, Sian Jones, Nicky Gomez and the team at the Gibraltar Financial Services Commission and to the individuals who have willingly shared their insight in the creation of this framework. I believe this framework will provide strong long term economic opportunity across many key areas of our economy. International reaction to our initiative has been overwhelmingly positive and reaffirmed our ability to embrace change in a safe and regulated environment; we have done this before and will do so again. The DLT framework positions Gibraltar as a jurisdiction which facilitates innovation whilst ensuring it continues to meet its regulatory and strategic objectives"

Samantha Barrass, CEO of the Gibraltar Financial Services Commission "Today's publication places Gibraltar at the forefront of the regulation of Distributed Ledger Technology businesses and is a wonderful example of what can be achieved through greater collaboration among industry, government and the regulator. I truly believe that this regulatory framework demonstrates that



regulators can keep up to date with technology without stifling innovation, protect consumers and create a well-regulated safe environment in which financial technology can flourish.”

The documents are available on the <http://gibraltarlaws.gov.gi/> and on gibraltarfinance.gi as from the afternoon of Friday 13th October. Please direct any initial enquiries on this press release to Paul Astengo at Gibraltar Finance via paul.astengo@financecentre.gov.gi