

# THE PROPOSED SCHEME UNDER PART VII OF THE FINANCIAL SERVICES AND MARKETS ACT 2000 FOR A TRANSFER OF BUSINESS TO COUNTRYWIDE ASSURED PLC

The Report of the Chief Actuary of Canada Life on the Impact of the Scheme

M Pibworth FIA
Director of Capital Management and Actuarial Function Head
Canada Life Limited

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### 1. Introduction and Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this Report (the "Report") is to consider the effects of the proposed insurance business transfer scheme (the "Scheme") under Part VII of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 ("FSMA"). The purpose of the Scheme is to transfer certain unit linked bonds and pension business from Canada Life Limited ("CLL") to Countrywide Assured plc ("CA plc").
- 1.2 The business will be transferred pursuant to the terms of the Scheme. The business to be transferred under the Scheme is referred to as the "Transferring Business".
- 1.3 The Scheme has been preceded by the Reinsurance Agreement between CLL and CA plc which became effective from 1 January 2024.
- 1.4 The Scheme shall take effect at 23:59 GMT on 7 December 2025 or such later time and date as CLL and CA plc may agree in writing, provided that where the Scheme Effective Date is to be later than 23:59 on 7 March 2026 the process set out in paragraph 5.18 will apply.
- 1.5 This Report is written to advise the Board of Directors of CLL on the Scheme in my capacity as Director of Capital Management and Actuarial Function Head (the holder of the SMF20 accountabilities) of CLL. The Report will also be made available to the High Court of England and Wales ("the Court"), the Prudential Regulation Authority ("PRA"), the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA"), the Independent Expert, and policyholders of CLL and CA plc via their respective websites.
- 1.6 Under the Actuarial Profession Standard "APS L1: Duties and Responsibilities of Life Assurance Actuaries", when a significant change such as the Scheme is planned, the Actuarial Function Holder must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the firm appreciates the implications for fairness and the reasonable expectations of its policyholders which need to be taken into account in assessing the liabilities. This report is intended to satisfy this requirement.
- 1.7 The Report will address the financial implications of the Scheme and its potential impact on the policyholders of CLL, both those transferring and those remaining with CLL. The Report also considers the fair treatment of policyholders and any changes to policyholder services.
- 1.8 This Report has been prepared by Mark Pibworth. I have been a Fellow of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA) since 1999 and the Director of Capital Management and Actuarial Function Head of CLL since September 2023.
- 1.9 I am not a policyholder of either CA plc or CLL. I am an employee of Canada Life. I do not consider myself to have a conflict of interest in reaching the conclusions detailed in this Report.
- 1.10 This Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable standards, as determined per the actuarial professional standard "APS X1: Applying Standards to Actuarial Work" issued by the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries, and in particular taking into account the Technical Actuarial Standards ("TAS"s) for actuarial work issued by the Financial Reporting Council, namely TAS 100: Principles for Technical Actuarial Work and TAS 200: Insurance. In my opinion there are no material departures from the Technical Actuarial Standards noted above.
- 1.11 The Report has been subject to appropriate peer review in accordance with the actuarial professional standard "APS X2: Review of Actuarial Work" issued by the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries.
- 1.12 Mr. Loic Bellettre of Ernst & Young has been appointed as the Independent Expert to provide an independent report on the Scheme as required under Section 109 of FSMA. I have read and considered an advanced draft of his report.

#### Overview of the Purpose of the Scheme

- 1.13 The majority of the onshore bonds and pension products were closed to new business by 2015 while the remaining onshore bonds and pension products were closed in January 2024 following a strategic review.
- 1.14 The Scheme will allow CLL to refocus its resource and investment on other areas of its business, including annuities, group protection as well as the offshore bond range sold via businesses in the Isle of Man and Ireland.

#### **Report Structure**

- 1.15 Section 2 provides background information on, and an overview of, the business of CLL.
- 1.16 Section 3 provides background information on, and an overview of, the business of CA plc.
- 1.17 Section 4 gives background to the interim Reinsurance Agreement in place between CLL and CA plc.
- 1.18 Section 5 contains an overview of the Scheme including the rationale for the Scheme and a description of the business that is proposed to be transferred to CA plc.
- 1.19 Section 6 deals with the financial position of CLL before and after the proposed transfer.
- 1.20 Section 7 deals with the financial position of CA plc before and after the proposed transfer.
- 1.21 Section 8 deals with the effects of the Scheme on Non-Transferring CLL policyholders.
- 1.22 Section 9 deals with the effects of the Scheme on Transferring policyholders.
- 1.23 Section 10 considers other matters in the context of the Scheme.
- 1.24 Section 11 gives my conclusion from the foregoing analysis that the Scheme will have no material adverse impact on the policyholders of CLL.
- 1.25 Section 12 lists the reliance that this report has made on other documents.

#### 2. Overview of Canada Life Limited

#### **Introduction and Company History**

- 2.1 CLL is indirectly owned by Great-West Lifeco Inc. (GWL).
- 2.2 CLL is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Canada Life Group (U.K.) Limited (CLG) (incorporated in England and Wales), which itself is an indirect subsidiary of The Canada Life Assurance Company, a leading Canadian insurer with interests in life insurance, health insurance, investment, retirement savings and reinsurance business, primarily in Canada, the US and Europe, and which itself is a direct subsidiary of GWL.
- 2.3 GWL and its subsidiaries, including The Canada Life Assurance Company, have approximately \$3.3 trillion Canadian dollars as at 31 December 2024 in consolidated Assets Under Management (AUM) and are members of the Power Financial Corporation Group of companies.
- 2.4 A simplified organisational structure is as follows:



- 2.5 CLL has prior experience of Part VII transfers with CA plc as well as other entities. The most recent Part VII transfers are as follows:
  - Transfer of onshore individual protection business to CA plc (February 2025).
  - Transfer of approximately 700 policies written in Ireland and Germany from CLL to Irish Life Assurance plc (December 2020).
  - Transfer of MGM Advantage Life Limited business into CLL (January 2020).
  - Transfer of approximately 134,000 legacy policies consisting of certain unit-linked life and pension business, a ring fenced with – profit business and certain non-linked business to Scottish Friendly (November 2019).

#### The Business of CLL

2.6 CLL is open to new business which consists mainly of annuity and workplace protection business. The workplace protection business provides life, income protection and critical illness cover to employees covered by the policies. The individual protection business remaining in force at 31 December 2024 has subsequently been transferred to CA plc under a separate Part VII arrangement. CLL onshore bonds sold in the past are proposed to be transferred to CA plc as part of the Scheme.

- 2.7 CLG is the parent of a sub-group of companies, whose activity includes transacting of ordinary long-term life assurance business. As a holding company, CLG does not write insurance or reinsurance business.
- 2.8 CLL is the largest subsidiary of CLG and provides solutions for UK customers to meet their retirement, investment and protection needs. The primary areas of new business for CLL are annuity products (both individual and bulk) and group protection policies offering life and health insurance (workplace protection policies purchased by the employer on a group basis). A breakdown of gross written premiums in 2024 is given as follows.

Product Line	Gross Premium Written (£m)	
Annuity	2,096	
<b>Group Protection</b>	699	
Unit Linked	86	
Total	2,880	

2.9 As at 31 December 2024, the Technical Provisions for CLL by line of business, as determined in accordance with the Solvency UK regulations (reformed Solvency II regime in the United Kingdom), are detailed below.

CLL Solvency UK Technical Provisions 31 December 2024 (£m)	Number of Policies*	Best Estimate Liability (1)	TMTP (2)	Risk Margin (3)	Technical Provisions (4) = (1) +(2)+(3)	Reinsurance Asset (5)	Technical Provisions Net of Reinsurance (4)-(5)
Remaining with CLL							
Annuities	458,612	16,374	272	159	16,261	1,901	14,360
Group Health*	600,755	702	8	20	714	40	674
Group Life*	2,282,784	155	0	20	176	4	171
Unit-linked – Other	3,293	845	0	1	846	0	846
Individual Protection	37,667	-22	0	0	-22	-22	0
Legacy**	n/a	2	0	0	2	0	2
<b>Proposed to Transfer</b>	Proposed to Transfer						
Unit Linked - Onshore	16,058	1,530	0	1	1,531	0	1,531
Total***	Total***						
	3,399,169	19,585	280	202	19,507	1,922	17,585

<sup>\*</sup>In the case of group contracts, policy counts included are number of lives not number of schemes.

- 2.10 The policies proposed to transfer under the Scheme correspond to the 'Unit Linked Onshore' row under the 'Proposed to Transfer' heading. As at 31 December 2024, a Best Estimate Liability (BEL) of £1.5bn was held in respect of these 16,058 policies.
- 2.11 The BEL mainly consists of unit funds held for the business along with a minimal non-unit BEL of £2.4mn.
- 2.12 A Reinsurance Agreement between CLL and CA plc (see Section 4) has been signed in respect of this business which has fully transferred the economic interests of the business to CA plc other than in respect of immaterial expense risk associated with policy administration. However, the numbers in the above table do not reflect the impact of this arrangement. This is because the reinsurance arrangement has been treated as a financial instrument for reporting and accounting purposes rather than a reinsurance contract as the underlying business does not have significant insurance risk. Hence the Reinsurance Asset for Unit Linked Onshore in the above table is nil (0).
- 2.13 The impacts of the Reinsurance Agreement are reflected under assets within the CLL's balance sheet and is matched by the unit liabilities shown in the technical provisions in the above table. Owing to this reinsurance arrangement the Transferring business has immaterial net impact on CLL's balance sheet.
- 2.14 Solvency II is a harmonised European Union (EU) wide insurance regulatory regime, setting out prudential and supervisory requirements for insurance and reinsurance companies, which came into force in January 2016.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Reflects reserves held in respect of expense savings being realised in respect of business previously transferred to another provider.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Totals presented are sums of individual components. Total amalgamated balance sheet is summarised below.

- 2.15 The EU's Solvency II regulations were largely replicated in the UK following the UK's departure from the European Union on 31 January 2020. This replication was mainly achieved through the Solvency 2 Regulations 2015 (as amended and as supplemented by technical standards, regulatory rules and guidance), which apply to CLL. References to Solvency II below are to the UK version of Solvency II, which applies to both CLL and CA plc. There have however been some reforms to this since 2023 (as covered below) post which the prudential regime applicable to UK insurers has been referred to as Solvency UK.
- 2.16 Technical Provisions under Solvency UK are generally calculated as the sum of a Best Estimate Liability (BEL) plus a Risk Margin, although for some lines of business the Technical Provisions are calculated as a whole.
- 2.17 BEL is calculated on a policy-by-policy basis using the values of future expected cash flows, allowing for premiums, claims, expenses, lapses and tax. The BEL is calculated without allowing for reinsurance.
- 2.18 For unit-linked business, the BEL needs to be unbundled into unit and non-unit components where the unit component reflects the market value of unit funds held and the non-unit component reflects liabilities over and above this fund net of any charges.
- 2.19 Solvency II Long Term Guarantee measures (Volatility Adjustment and Matching Adjustment) give insurers credit for holding certain long-term assets which match the cash flows of a designated portfolio of liabilities. These approvals are beneficial to CLL.
- 2.20 CLL has received approval from the PRA to apply a Matching Adjustment in respect of certain lines of business, primarily annuities in payment. This enables CLL to determine its Technical Provisions for this business using expected yields on the assets held to support the business, through applying an appropriate adjustment to the risk-free rate determined by the PRA. There are strict conditions which apply to both the assets and liabilities within any matching adjustment fund. These include demonstrating that the expected cash flows from the assets closely match the expected payments to policyholders.
- 2.21 Solvency UK reforms for Matching Adjustment took effect from Q2 2024 and mainly lead to greater investment flexibility for assets held to support the backing business. However, the business being transferred is not impacted from matching adjustment and its reforms.
- 2.22 CLL has received approval from the PRA to apply a Volatility Adjustment in respect of certain lines of business, primarily annuities in payment not included in the Matching Adjustment funds, income protection claims in payment, individual life business and group insurance business. The level of Volatility Adjustment is determined by the PRA.
- 2.23 The Risk Margin is a provision introduced under Solvency II which is intended to reflect the additional compensation, over and above the BEL, that a third party would require to accept the insurance liabilities. The Risk Margin calculation is largely prescribed in the Solvency II rules based on the cost of continuing to hold the non-hedgeable elements of the solvency capital requirements over the remaining life of the policies. Solvency UK reforms introduced changes to this calculation mainly to the cost of capital rate which reduced the Risk Margin held by CLL since December 2023.
- 2.24 CLL has also received approval from the PRA to use the Transitional Measure on Technical Provisions ("TMTP"). The TMTP acts to reduce the Technical Provisions under Solvency II enabling a smooth transition from the previous regulatory regime (Solvency I) over a 16-year period.
- 2.25 Subsequent to 31 December 2024 valuation, CLL will follow the simplified new default method for calculating the TMTP introduced as part of the new Solvency UK regime. The TMTP will be derived exclusively from figures produced under Solvency II.
- 2.26 The transfer of business under the Scheme will not materially affect the TMTP reported by CLL.

2.27 Further details of CLL's business can be found in CLL's Solvency and Financial Condition Report ("SFCR") published on its website<sup>1</sup>.

#### **Risk Management Framework**

- 2.28 CLL's risk management system is articulated through its enterprise risk management framework which is approved by the CLL Board. The framework allows the Board and management to:
  - establish their strategy towards risk taking;
  - communicate and monitor adherence to the appetite for risks through the use of risk limits and risk indicators; and
  - identify, measure, monitor, manage and report on risks.
- 2.29 CLL has a risk governance structure based on a three lines of defence model which is widely used within the financial services industry. This model separates ownership and management of risk from oversight and independent assurance.
- 2.30 The Own Risk and Solvency Assessment ("ORSA") is a key process within the enterprise risk management framework and provides an ongoing, forward-looking solvency assessment and CLL's own view of its solvency (distinct from the prescribed regulatory rules), given its business plan, and taking into account its available capital resources.

#### **Risk Profile Summary**

- 2.31 CLL's objective in the management of risk is to operate within the risk limits it sets itself. This supports the controlled delivery of its business objectives, in line with its risk strategy, ensuring a balanced approach to risk and reward.
- 2.32 CLL was granted approval from the PRA to use a Partial Internal Model (PIM) in respect of Longevity, Credit and Catastrophe risks in November 2019. The use of a PIM facilitates CLL calculating its Solvency Capital Requirement (SCR) in a manner which more appropriately reflects the risk profile of the business than the approach under the Standard Formula. The SCR is designed to ensure that the company can withstand an extreme adverse event, or combination of events, equivalent to one which might occur only once in every 200 years.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.canadalife.co.uk/our-company/about-us/solvency-ii/

2.33 The SCR as at 31 December 2024 is split by risk category in the following table.

As at 31 December 2024	(£m)		
Standard Formula Risks			
Market	845		
Counterparty default	66		
Life underwriting	122		
Health underwriting	130		
Internal Model Risks			
Credit	1,012		
Longevity	555		
Catastrophe	455		
Total Undiversified Components	3,184		
Diversification	-1,148		
Adjustment due to aggregation	0		
Other Adjustments			
Operational risk	117		
Loss-absorbing capacity of deferred	20		
tax	-28		
Solvency Capital Requirement	2,124		

- 2.34 CLL is primarily exposed to market, credit, and longevity risk through its annuity exposure. Market risk also comes from CLL's strategic participation in the Irish Life Group (ILG). CLL also sees exposure to catastrophe risk, which mainly comes from its Group Protection business.
- 2.35 CLL mitigates its exposure to longevity, mortality and catastrophe risk through diversification, product design, reinsurance, and, underwriting and claims processes. Reinsurer default risk is managed through use of collateral agreements, credit rating monitoring and by limiting its exposure to given reinsurers.
- 2.36 Operational risk has a relatively low level of capital held against it. However, it is treated as a material exposure to CLL due to the potential financial and/or reputational consequences, and increased potential for customer harm. Management of operational risk involves risk assessments conducted for each business line, project oversight by the risk function, key risk indicator monitoring and analysis of risk events.

#### **Capital Management Policy**

2.37 In broad terms, CLL's Own Funds are the excess of the value of its assets over the value of its liabilities (though certain subordinated liabilities are treated differently, as shown below). As at 31 December 2024, CLL's Own Funds consisted of:

As at 31 December 2024	(£m)		
Tier 1 - unrestricted			
Issued share capital	342		
Share premium account	812		
Initial funds	397		
Reconciliation reserve	1,342		
Tier 2			
Subordinated liabilities	352		
Ancillary Own Funds	200		
Tier 3			
Tier 3 assets	-		
Own Funds	3,446		

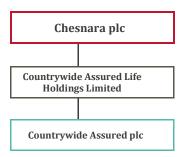
- 2.38 Own Funds are divided into three tiers based on their permanence and ability to absorb losses with Tier 1 being the highest quality.
- 2.39 CLL aims to manage its Own Funds so that its solvency position stays above a Capital Operating Target set by the Board from time to time, as governed by the Capital Management Operating Policy. The Capital Operating Target is determined to ensure sufficient coverage above the SCR to enable CLL to meet its financial liabilities and have sufficient headroom to continue to operate its strategic plans following severe stress.
- 2.40 CLL has a solvency monitoring framework that provides proactive escalation and reporting to the Board in the event that the solvency ratio begins to deteriorate. Falling below the Capital Operating Target would prompt the consideration of planned capital management activities that aim to move the ratio back above that level.
- 2.41 CLL's Capital Management Operating Policy is supported by its Capital Management Plan. The Capital Management Plan is produced annually and forecasts CLL's solvency position. This plan also includes any additional capital requirements (e.g., arising from writing planned new business) and dividend payments expected to be made in the three-year forecast.
- 2.42 CLL's reported solvency ratio as at 31 December 2024 was 162% as shown below.

Solvency II (£m) as at 31 December 2024	CLL
Own Funds	3,446
Solvency Capital Requirement (SCR)	2,124
Excess Own Funds over SCR	1,322
Solvency Ratio	162%

# 3. Overview of Countrywide Assured plc

#### **Introduction and Company History**

- 3.1 CA plc is a UK based life insurance company, regulated by the PRA and the FCA, and is one of the subsidiaries owned by the holding company, Chesnara plc.
- 3.2 Chesnara plc and its subsidiaries, including CA plc administers over £14 billion of Assets Under Management as at 31 December 2024.
- 3.3 Some of Chesnara plc's other subsidiaries do sell new business where there is value in doing so.
- 3.4 The proposed transfer of CLL's onshore unit linked bond and pension business under the Scheme is in line with CA plc's focus.
- 3.5 The organisation structure of the business is as follows:



- 3.6 CA plc has prior experience of acquiring business via Part VII transfers. CA plc's most recent Part VII transfers are as follows:
  - Save & Prosper Insurance Limited (2011), comprised of with-profits, index-linked & unit-linked insurance contracts. CA plc acquired the company.
  - Direct Line Insurance Group (2014) comprised of "other" life insurance contracts.
  - CASLP Ltd (2023), comprising of UK life and pension business.
  - CLL (2025), comprising of individual protection business.

#### The Business of CA plc

- 3.7 CA plc is closed to new business, with the exception of a limited amount of new business which is almost entirely single premiums from its onshore bond business, and its focus is on the efficient run-off of existing portfolios of policies that it acquires from other companies.
- 3.8 Chesnara plc is the parent of a group of companies and is a listed life insurance and pension consolidator holding company that does not write insurance or reinsurance business.
- 3.9 CA plc is a UK subsidiary of Chesnara plc and the business that it holds consists of both participating (also called "with profits") policies and non-participating policies. The majority of the with profits business resides in two ring-fenced funds and the remainder of the business (including a small amount of with profits business) sits in another fund (denoted "Non-Profit Fund" below).

3.10 As at 31 December 2024, the Technical Provisions for CA plc by line of business, as determined in accordance with the Solvency UK regulations, are detailed below.

CA plc Solvency UK Technical Provisions (£m) 31 December 2024	Technical Provisions Net of Reinsurance
Life Insurance	
With Profits	184
Index-linked and Unit-linked	3,653
Other Life	80
Accepted Reinsurance	(7)
Sub-total	3,909
Health Insurance	36
Total	3,946

- 3.11 It is noted that CA plc does not apply a Matching Adjustment measure. However, CA plc has received approval to apply a Volatility Adjustment and does this for liabilities in respect of its non-linked, non-profit contracts (excluding accepted reinsurance) and contracts of its Save & Prosper Pension with-profits fund.
- 3.12 CA plc does not apply a TMTP to its Technical Provisions.
- 3.13 Further details of CA plc's business can be found in CA plc's Solvency and Financial Condition Report ("SFCR") published on its website<sup>2</sup>.

#### **Risk Management System**

- 3.14 CA plc has an established risk management system, which incorporates an overall strategy and risk management policies, as well as processes and reporting. CA plc has a defined categorisation of risks that are relevant to its business model and strategic focus. The company recognises that risks within each of these categories need to be identified, measured, monitored, managed, and reported upon on a continuous basis. This approach determines what business activity is appropriate for CA plc to take.
- 3.15 CA plc has a Board-approved risk appetite statement and risk tolerance limit for each of the categories of risk. This provides guidance to enable management to take on appropriate risks, and the appropriate amount of risk.
- 3.16 CA plc has an established internal control system to support the achievement of CA plc's objectives in terms of operational effectiveness, reliable financial reporting, and compliance with laws, regulations and policies. CA plc (consistent with CLL) operates a three lines of defence model for the management of risks and internal control.
- 3.17 The CA plc Board is responsible for the adequacy of the design of the risk management system and ensuring it is consistent with the practices defined by the company. All significant decisions for the development of the risk management system are the board's responsibility. This includes developments in risk strategy, developments in risk management policies, and development in risk management tools, methodologies and processes.
- 3.18 CA plc also produces an ORSA which considers the operating environment and wider risks to which CA plc is exposed and provides a forward-looking assessment of the potential risks and capital impacts, within the wider context of the CA plc business strategy.
- 3.19 The Chief Risk Officer (CRO) is responsible for providing management information to the board regarding the effectiveness of the risk management system and reporting to the board regarding the risk profile of CA plc. The CRO has direct access to the board.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.countrywideassured.co.uk/our-governance/reports/

#### **Risk Profile Summary**

- 3.20 The objective of CA plc's risk management system is to maintain solvency and liquidity of CA plc whilst delivering continuity of business services; fair customer outcomes; and a regulatory compliant service to customers and making dividend payments to Chesnara in line with expectations.
- 3.21 CA plc holds capital in respect of the risks it is exposed to and assesses its capital requirements (i.e., its SCR) using the Standard Formula established in the Solvency UK regulations.
- 3.22 The SCR as at 31 December 2024 is split by risk category in the following table.

As at 31 December 2024 (£m)	(£m)
Standard Formula Risks	
Market	64
Counterparty Default	7
Life Underwriting	53
Health Underwriting	4
Diversification	(30)
Other Adjustments	
Operational Risk	8
Loss Absorbing Capacity of Deferred Taxes	(9)
(LACDT)	(9)
Solvency Capital Requirement	96

- 3.23 CA plc is exposed to mortality and morbidity risk, although much of this is mitigated through the use of reinsurance. CA plc is less exposed to anti-selection risk arising from writing new policies, given that CA plc is substantially closed to new business and existing business has been in force for a significant period.
- 3.24 Mortality risk is further mitigated to some extent as CA plc is able to increase mortality charges on some in-force contracts. CA plc is subject to longevity risk through deferred annuities and annuities in payment, although the majority of this is mitigated through reinsurance. The transfer of the annuity book CA plc transferred from CASLP brings a moderate exposure to longevity risk which is not currently reinsured. Overall, the longevity risk from annuities also serves to offset mortality risk exposures on CA plc's protection book.
- 3.25 CA plc's lapse risk arises mainly on unit-linked business due to the loss of future charge income if lapses are higher than expected. Given that the business has been in-force for a significant period, lapse experience tends to be relatively stable over time. In addition, as the CA plc book has a substantial proportion of pensions business, where policies under the age of 55 can only be transferred and not surrendered, it is less exposed to mass lapse type events. To mitigate the risk of more extreme mass lapse events, during 2023 CA plc put in place a mass lapse reinsurance arrangement covering the CA book, and a further mass lapse reinsurance arrangement has been established for business transferred from CASLP and the CLL individual protection business.
- 3.26 The reinsurance arrangements in place create some counterparty default exposure. This is mitigated by legal charges and collateral arrangements. A control process limits the level of exposure to any single counterparty and imposes limits on exposure by credit rating.
- 3.27 Market risk emerges in different ways through each of the different funds:
  - For the with profits funds, it arises from a combination of the mismatch between assets and liabilities caused by the guaranteed benefits provided and the way in which funds are invested.
  - For the Non-Profit fund, the principal cause of market risk results from the indirect impact on unit-linked funds where future charge income is dependent on the investment performance of the underlying assets.
  - Other minor causes of market risk in the main fund result from small asset/liability mismatches on the non-linked business and the investment policy adopted for surplus assets.

- There is currently no material direct exposure to assets denominated in foreign currencies.
- Various risk mitigation techniques are employed, such as investing in a wide range of funds, with fund mandates to diversify risk, as well as matching assets and liabilities to avoid interest rate risk.
- 3.28 The CA plc operating model is to outsource support activities to specialist service providers typically covering IT, policy administration, accounting, actuarial, investment operations and fund management. Consequently, much of the operational risk within CA plc arises within its outsourced providers, and therefore operational risk management is heavily focused on appropriate due diligence in the selection of CA plc's outsourcing providers and ongoing review, oversight and monitoring performed by the corporate governance team within CA plc. Mitigants include:
  - Monitoring of key performance indicators and comprehensive management information flows under its contractual arrangements.
  - Effective governance of outsourced service providers including regular financial assessments, risk management oversight and internal audits.
  - Under the terms of the contractual arrangements the company may impose penalties and/or exercise step-in rights in the event of specified adverse circumstances.
  - Regular monitoring and testing of business continuity plans.
  - Oversight of information security by the Chief Technology Officer and the Information Security Steering
     Group (ISSG), with a regular programme of assurance activity including phishing and penetration testing.
  - Operational resilience framework and test plans to identify vulnerabilities in important business services and implement actions to improve processes and controls to remain within impact tolerances.

#### **Capital Management Policy**

3.29 CA plc's Own Funds are composed of the excess of its assets over its liabilities. As at 31 December 2024, the Own Funds consisted of:

As at 31 December 2024 (£m)	CA plc
Tier 1 - unrestricted	
Issued share capital	40
Reconciliation reserve	137
Less Foreseeable dividends	45
Less Ring-fenced funds	2
Tier 2	
Subordinated liabilities	0
Ancillary Own Funds	0
Tier 3	
Tier 3 assets	0
Own Funds	130

- 3.30 Own Funds are divided into three tiers based on their permanence and ability to absorb losses with Tier 1 being the highest quality. CA plc does not have any non-tier 1 Own Funds items.
- 3.31 Central to managing the Own Funds of CA plc is the application of the company's Capital Management Policy. The policy is reviewed and approved by the CA plc Board at least once per year, and, is designed to achieve the objectives around the appropriate management of its Own Funds, outlined as follows:
  - to hold sufficient levels of capital to safeguard the interests of policyholders;
  - to hold appropriate levels of capital

- to have a policy in place that describes the parameters that are considered in the context of dividend distributions;
- to strike a balance between holding too much capital and too little capital when optimising the balance sheet;
- to provide a good foundation for further UK acquisitions;
- to establish a policy that reflects the board's risk appetite with regards to the level of Own Funds held; and
- to set tolerance levels associated with the board's risk appetite regarding Own Funds and ensure that these are monitored.
- 3.32 CA plc aims to maintain a capital buffer above the regulatory capital requirements. The adequacy of the capital buffer is reviewed and tested as part of the ORSA each year by running a range of stresses and scenarios.
- 3.33 CA plc's Capital Management Policy sets out anticipated management actions if Own Funds deteriorate below defined proportions of SCR. The management actions include an initial suspension of dividend payments and additional remediation with further deterioration of solvency coverage.
- 3.34 CA plc's reported solvency ratio as at 31 December 2024 was 135% as shown below.

Solvency UK (£m) as at 31 December 2024	CA plc
Own Funds	130
Solvency Capital Requirement (SCR)	96
Excess Own Funds over SCR	34
Solvency Ratio	135%

# 4. Reinsurance Agreement Preceding the Scheme

- 4.1 On 20 December 2024 CA plc and CLL entered into a reinsurance agreement (the "Reinsurance Agreement") that effectively transferred the economic interests of the Transferring Business to CA plc pending the business being transferred to CA plc pursuant to the Scheme.
- 4.2 The Reinsurance Agreement took effect from 1 January 2024 (the "Reinsurance Effective Date") whereby in exchange for business charges, CA plc is fully reinsuring the policyholder non-unit liabilities of the Transferring Business including cost of accruing loyalty bonuses and covering expenses incurred by CLL on a pre-defined basis. The arrangement also includes transfer of various tax attributes between the parties, whereby the tax charged to the unit linked funds will be passed to CA plc in return of settlement of the tax charge payable to HMRC.
- 4.3 Automatic termination of the Reinsurance Agreement will happen upon the Scheme Effective Date. The Reinsurance Arrangement will also terminate if the transfer does not proceed or if the Scheme is not sanctioned by the Court. CA plc and CLL can also terminate the Reinsurance Agreement upon payment default or fraud.
- 4.4 While the Reinsurance Agreement remains effective CLL will continue to administer the policies of the Transferring Business.

## 5. Summary of the Scheme

#### Rationale for the Scheme

- 5.1 The majority of the onshore bonds and pension products were closed to new business by 2015 while the remaining onshore bonds and pension products were closed in January 2024 following a strategic review.
- 5.2 The Scheme will allow CLL to refocus its resources and investment on other areas of its business, including Annuities, Group Protection as well as the Offshore Bond range sold via businesses in the Isle of Man and Ireland.

#### **Summary of the Scheme**

- 5.3 CLL is proposing to transfer a closed book of onshore unit linked business comprising of approximately 16,058 policies to CA plc.
- 5.4 The Transferring Business comprises of policies sold for 4 unit linked onshore bond products and 2 unit linked onshore pension products.
- 5.5 The effect of the Scheme is to transfer to CA plc the policies which are in scope and remain in force as at the Scheme Effective Date, without affecting the contractual policy benefits.
- 5.6 On the Scheme Effective Date:
  - CA plc will become responsible for all liabilities and risks arising under the policies in the Transferring Business.
  - The Reinsurance Agreement between CLL and CA plc in place (see Section 4), which has transferred the economic risk and reward of the business from CLL to CA plc, will cease.
  - Policyholders' investments in CLL unit-linked funds will transfer to equivalent CA plc unit linked funds which
    will be created to mirror existing CLL funds. CA plc will enter into fund link agreements (FLA) and investment
    management agreements to manage and administer the various range of funds (see section on Unit Funds
    below for more details).

#### **Transferring Business**

- 5.7 As at 31 December 2024, the Transferring Business represented less than 10% of CLL's Technical Provisions (see table below Paragraph 2.9) and is expected to represent over 25% of CA plc's Technical Provisions. However, given the nature of the Transferring Business there is limited insurance risk for the company that holds the liabilities for this business which mainly consists of the unit funds. The non-unit liability of the Transferring Business represents around 0.01% of CLL and less than 2% of CA plc's non-unit liabilities on 31 December 2024.
- 5.8 The Transferring Business is CLL's closed book of onshore Unit Linked Bonds and Unit Linked Pension business, though some of these products are open to top-ups and will continue to be so at the Scheme Effective Date after the transfer.
- 5.9 Persistency (or loyalty) bonuses on some of the unit-linked bond products are in effect a guaranteed benefit contingent on the policy remaining in-force. These bonuses will be unaffected by the Scheme.

#### **Unit Funds**

- 5.10 Policyholders' unit-linked investments will be transferred to CA plc with the aim that policyholders' underlying investment exposure is materially unchanged by the transfer, subject to CA plc agreeing terms with the fund managers. Equivalent new CA plc funds will be created to mirror the existing CLL unit linked funds. The investment management of the underlying funds will continue to operate with the same investment objectives and charges.
- 5.11 The majority of the unit funds for the transferring business own units in either Canada Life Asset Management Limited's (CLAM) Open-Ended Investment Company (OEIC) fund range or in OEICs (or authorised unit trusts i.e.

- AUTs) operated by investment managers external to the Canada Life group of companies. CA plc will enter into FLA with the respective fund houses for investment administration purposes of each of these funds, with the FLA for CLAM's range set for a minimum duration of 5 years from the Scheme Effective Date. This is supported by the Framework Agreement (FWA) which ensures that CLAM OEICs will receive equal prominence to other funds in the range and that CA plc will not actively disinvest from the CLAM OEICs, subject to certain provisions.
- 5.12 There are some bespoke multi-asset CLL funds managed by CLAM within the fund range offered by CLL to the transferring policyholders. CA plc will enter into an investment management agreement (IMA) with CLAM for managing the multi-asset funds that will transfer to CA plc.
- 5.13 CLL's unit-linked property funds, which are invested in the WS (Waystone) Canlife UK Property ACS fund, are in wind-up. Distributions are being received regularly from Waystone which is reducing the size of the fund. The date of the final distributions and full closure is not yet known and therefore the transfer process required is yet to be confirmed. I will comment on this further in the Supplementary Report.
- 5.14 CA plc will have the same permissive rights to merge or close any of its unit funds created to receive the Transferring Business, except where this is precluded by policy terms and conditions or considered impracticable or inappropriate having regard to the interests of the policyholders, as CLL has in respect of its unit funds.

#### **Operational Considerations**

- 5.15 The policies of the Transferring Business are currently administered by CLL.
- 5.16 From the Scheme Effective Date, the administration of these policies is anticipated to transfer to CA plc, who will outsource this to a third party, SS&C Technologies, a provider of technology and administration services.
  Commentary around the level of service between CLL and CA plc in respect of the Transferring policyholders is outlined within Section 9.
- 5.17 CLL and CA plc are closely monitoring, and intend to continue to monitor, the progress of the migration to SS&C's policy administration platform, and expect the technical requirements to effect the migration in relation to the Transferring Business to be in place by the time of the expected Scheme Effective Date (7 December 2025).
- 5.18 If CLL and CA plc agree that the Scheme Effective Date should occur after 23.59 on 7 March 2026, the CLL and CA plc must apply to the Court for a further order permitting such Effective Date, provided that in any such case:
  - the UK Insurance Regulators shall be notified in advance and as soon as reasonably practicable of, and shall have the right to be heard at, any hearing of the Court at which such application is considered;
  - such application shall be accompanied by a supplementary report from Loic Bellettre of Ernst & Young
    LLP or any other independent expert approved pursuant to section 109(2)(b) of FSMA to the effect that in
    their opinion the proposed amendment will not materially adversely affect the holders of Transferring
    Policies or Residual Policies or Excluded Policies or Policies of the CA plc (including the security or
    reasonable expectations of such Policyholders); and
  - a notice of the making of such order is published on the websites of CLL and CA plc within 5 days of the making of such further order.
- 5.19 Save where otherwise agreed, CLL will meet all its own costs and expenses incurred in connection with the Scheme. Certain costs, for example, of the Independent Expert and of the Counsel jointly appointed by the parties in connection with the Scheme, will be borne 50% by CLL and 50% by CA plc. Each party will meet any costs of communicating with its own policyholders (where applicable), save that the cost of notifying the policyholders with Transferring Policies (and other interested third parties) will be borne equally by the CLL and CA plc.

#### 6. Financial Position of CLL Before and After the Scheme

#### **Impact of the Scheme**

6.1 Under the terms of the Scheme CA plc will adopt the liabilities of the Transferring Business.

#### **Balance Sheet Impact**

- 6.2 The following table shows CLL's reported Solvency UK balance sheet as at 31 December 2024 (see second column).
- 6.3 Furthermore, the table shows the balance sheet as at the same date assuming that the Scheme had taken place as at 31 December 2024 (see third column).
- 6.4 The table also shows the balance sheet as at the same date assuming that the Scheme is not sanctioned (see final column). This scenario reflects the following:
  - Termination of the Reinsurance Agreement (see Section 4) between CLL and CA plc. This results in CLL
    holding Technical Provisions in respect of the Transferring Business without the offsetting impact of
    financial instrument that was held in assets (as stated in section 2.13) leading to a reduction in Own
    Funds by £10.2m.
  - Further, owing to the Reinsurance Agreement, the net settlement amount in respect of the period from 1st January 2024 (i.e. the date reinsurance agreement becomes effective) to 31 December 2024 would be settled in full. This settlement amount represents the net exchange of business economics mentioned in section 4.2 and is equal to £12.2m for the said period. However, since a provision for this has already been considered in the closing position as at 31 December 2024, it is not expected to further impact Own Funds for this scenario.
  - In addition to the net settlement amount mentioned above, a reinsurance termination amount, pursuant to the Reinsurance Agreement, which is calculated to be £8m as at 31 December 2024, payable by CA plc to CLL has been assumed to be settled which will lead to an increase in Own Funds by £8m.
  - Assumes that the full costs of the transfer are still incurred.
  - CLL is also holding provisions of £2m in respect of warranties for any mis-selling claims or customer complaints as at 31 December 2024. These provisions will be released if the scheme is not sanctioned and if no claims are made. However, for this scenario it has been assumed that the claims against the warranties would be incurred, and no provisions will be released. This produces a prudent scenario avoiding overstating of Own Funds and thus the Solvency Ratio.
  - Since the costs and the provisions for warranties were already considered in the closing position as at 31 December 2024, these are not expected to further impact Own Funds for this scenario.
  - The summation of the items above corresponds to the estimated £2m fall in CLL's Own Funds between the current position and the position if the Scheme is not sanctioned (see second versus fourth columns).
  - The SCR is estimated to increase by c£2m.

CLL Solvency UK Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024	CLL (£m)	CLL Post- Scheme (£m)	CLL if Scheme not Sanctioned (£m)
Own Funds	3,446	3,447	3,444
Solvency Capital Requirement (SCR)	2,124	2,123	2,125
Excess Own Funds over SCR	1,322	1,323	1,319
Solvency Ratio	162%	162%	162%

- 6.5 As can be seen, CLL's position compared to the post-Scheme position (second compared to third column) is broadly unchanged since the interim Reinsurance Agreement between CLL and CA plc has already transferred the economic effect of the business from CLL to CA plc.
- 6.6 An immaterial reduction in the SCR owing to residual expense risk can be seen. Similarly, a reduction in risk margin held is leading to the slight increase in Own Funds, overall resulting in an insignificant impact on the Solvency Ratio.
- 6.7 Furthermore, the increase in SCR and reduction in Own Funds (second column compared to last column) if the business was to be retained and recaptured if the Scheme is not sanctioned is immaterial on overall CLL balance sheet with the Solvency Ratio reducing by approximately 0.2%.
- 6.8 The above is based on market conditions and the business that CLL had in force as at 31 December 2024. Market movements and changes to CLL's composition of business up to the Scheme Effective Date are not expected to materially change the impact outlined above.

#### **Risk Profile**

6.9 As demonstrated earlier the Transferring Business represents a small proportion of CLL's business in terms of contribution to Technical Provisions. Further, given the unit linked nature of the Transferring Business there is limited insurance risk for the company that holds the liabilities for this business. Therefore, the Scheme will not have a material impact on the overall risk profile of CLL. This view is supported by the minimal change to CLL's SCR, as outlined above.

# 7. Financial Position of CA plc Before and After the Scheme

#### **Balance Sheet Impact**

7.1 The following table shows CA plc's reported Solvency UK balance sheet as at 31 December 2024. It also shows the balance sheet at the same date assuming that the Scheme had taken place on the same date.

CA plc Solvency UK Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024	Actual Published (£m)	Post-Scheme (£m)
Own Funds	130	130
Solvency Capital Requirement (SCR)	96	96
Excess Own Funds over SCR	34	35
Solvency Ratio	135%	136%

- 7.2 As can be seen, the Solvency Ratio in the table marginally changes post-Scheme as the Reinsurance Agreement has largely transferred the economic effect of the business from CLL to CA plc. The marginal improvement in the ratio is due to a slight reduction of about £0.5 m in SCR post the transfer.
- 7.3 The above is based on market conditions and the business that CA plc had in force as at 31 December 2024. Market movements and changes to CA plc's composition of business to the Scheme Effective Date are not expected to materially change the impact of the Scheme outlined above.

#### **Risk Profile**

7.4 The Scheme will not materially impact the overall risk profile of CA plc noting the lack of material changes as shown above.

## 8. Effect of the Scheme on Non-Transferring CLL Policyholders

#### Introduction

8.1 In this section I consider the impact of the Scheme on Non-Transferring CLL Policyholders, in particular, considering the security of policy benefits, their benefit expectations and policy administration.

#### **Security**

- 8.2 Protection of CLL policyholder benefits is afforded by the assets that CLL holds to cover its Solvency II capital requirements and by the additional requirements of CLL's Capital Management Operating Policy.
- 8.3 The Scheme is not expected to materially impact on CLL's ratio of Own Funds to its Solvency Capital Requirements, as demonstrated in Section 6.
- 8.4 The Capital Operating Target for CLL's solvency ratio will be unaffected by the Scheme and the movement of the ratio due to the Scheme, as outlined in Section 6, represents an immaterial impact on the security of policyholder benefits.
- 8.5 It is my view that the protection of benefits for those policyholders who are not transferring will not be materially adversely affected by the Scheme.

#### **Policyholder Benefit Expectations**

8.6 The Scheme does not introduce any changes to the contractual terms of policies not being transferred. Non-Transferring policyholders will continue to receive the same benefits after the Scheme becomes effective.

#### **Administration**

- 8.7 No changes will occur for the administration of Non-Transferring CLL policies as a result of the Scheme.
- 8.8 I believe there is no reason to believe that service standards for the Non-Transferring CLL policyholders will be materially adversely affected.

#### **Policyholder Communications**

- 8.9 The FSMA regulations applicable to Part VII transfers of insurance business require appropriate notice to be sent to all policyholders of the parties involved in a business transfer.
- 8.10 A waiver is being sought such that (among other matters) notification will not be sent to Non-Transferring CLL policyholders, on the grounds that the existing CLL policyholders will not be materially impacted by the Scheme and contacting those policyholders would represent a disproportionate cost. The estimated mailing cost is £4.2m for all CLL policyholders, including group scheme members. Targeting only individual policyholders and group scheme holders reduces this to approximately £680,000. By comparison, mailing solely the Transferring Policyholders would cost around £20,000. Hence, individual notifications can be expected to be of limited benefit to Non-Transferring CLL policyholders whilst giving rise to not inconsiderable cost for CLL's shareholders.
- 8.11 In light of the above, I believe that the proposal to not communicate with Non-Transferring policyholders is appropriate for this Scheme. Details relating to communications with Transferring policyholders, and other notifications that will be made, are included in Section 9.

# 9. Effect of the Scheme on Transferring CLL Policyholders

#### Introduction

- 9.1 In this section I consider the impact of the Scheme on Transferring CLL policyholders, in particular the security of policy benefits, their benefit expectations and policy administration.
- 9.2 The Transferring Business is comprised of unit linked bond and pension policies, that offer capital growth through investment in a range of professionally managed funds.

#### **Security**

- 9.3 CA plc will become liable for the benefits of the Transferring policies following implementation of the Scheme.
- 9.4 The reported Own Funds and solvency ratios for CLL and CA plc were £3,446m and 162%, and £130m and 135% respectively as at 31 December 2024.
- 9.5 As noted in Section 6, CLL expects to see minimal change to its financial strength following the Part VII transfer. Furthermore, as outlined in Section 7, it is expected that CA plc will not see a material change to its financial strength following the transfer.
- 9.6 The security of benefits for the Transferring policyholders will be provided by the assets held to cover the Solvency UK capital requirements and the additional requirements of CA plc's risk appetite. The capital requirement under Solvency UK is assessed by considering the loss that might be incurred in an adverse scenario of such severity that it is expected to occur only once in every 200 years.
- 9.7 Owing to the Reinsurance Agreement in place between CLL and CA plc (see Section 4) there will be no significant change in CA plc's capital requirements as a result of the Scheme taking effect.
- 9.8 In the absence of the Reinsurance Agreement the capital requirements of the Transferring Business would be similar between CA plc and CLL, as both the entities apply Standard Formula to calculate the requirements for unit linked business.
- 9.9 Transferring policyholders will continue to have access to the UK Financial Services Compensation Scheme ("FSCS"). The FSCS would provide protection for 100% of the claim payments if CA plc was unable to make payments to policyholders, which is the same protection that is provided while they are policyholders of CLL.
- 9.10 CA plc holds Own Funds that adequately exceeds its capital requirements in respect of the risk profile above, which is expected to continue to be the case following the transfer. As such, I do not believe that the security of policyholders' benefits will be materially impacted owing to the difference in risk profile between CLL and CA plc.
- 9.11 I note that CLL and CA plc are different in terms of the composition of risks to which these entities are exposed. CLL is most exposed to credit, market and longevity risk, which stems from its large block of annuity business. CA plc is most exposed to market and lapse risk arising from its life and pension and unit-linked business. There is no concern arising from this difference in risk exposure.
- 9.12 The above demonstrates that Transferring policyholders will continue to be policyholders of an insurer that offers an adequate level of protection to their policyholders.

#### **Policyholder Benefit Expectations**

- 9.13 The Transferring policyholders are unit-linked, whose policy benefits are mainly determined by reference to the value of unit funds.
- 9.14 At the Scheme Effective Date, the unit-linked business will be transferred to CA plc and those investments currently linked to CLL internal unit funds will be linked to CA plc unit funds, with the policyholders' underlying investment exposure not expected to change as a result of the Scheme (detailed in section 5 under sub-heading 'Unit Funds').

- 9.15 It should be noted that policyholders' benefits in the future will reflect the performance of the CA plc's funds rather than the CLL funds, except from CLAM funds which are aligned for a period of at least 5 years through the investment management agreement. Overall, I do not expect that there should be any material change in benefit expectations in respect of the changes for the unit-linked policies.
- 9.16 CA plc could in future choose to amend its fund range subject to appropriate governance. This is no different to the position which exists within CLL whereby CLL can currently make changes to its fund range subject to appropriate governance.
- 9.17 The charges on the transferring unit-linked business will not be changed as a result of the Scheme. Charges could be amended in future subject to appropriate governance in an equivalent manner to that which applies to the unit-linked funds within CLL.
- 9.18 Persistency (or loyalty) bonuses on some of the unit-linked bond products are in effect a guaranteed benefit contingent on the policies remaining in-force. These bonuses will be unaffected by the Scheme.

#### **Consumer Duty**

- 9.19 In line with FCA Consumer Duty regulation in-force from July 2023, CLL has developed a set of consistent frameworks and reporting across its product portfolios that enable higher standards of care and protection for its policyholders. The products under Transferring business were fully reviewed by CLL in line with consumer duty.
- 9.20 From the Scheme Effective Date, CA plc will ensure compliance in all respects of Customer Duty for the Transferring Business.

#### **Administration**

- 9.21 The policies of the Transferring Business are currently administered by CLL.
- 9.22 From the Scheme Effective Date, the administration of these policies is anticipated to transfer to CA plc who will outsource administration to SS&C Technologies.
- 9.23 A comparison of the Service Level Agreement (SLA) and corresponding metrics between CLL and CA plc has been conducted and summarized by the two tables that follow.
- 9.24 The following table shows a comparison of CLL's and CA plc's SLAs.

Service Level Agreement	Canada Life	CA plc
Claim Processing	3 days	5 days
Monies In/Direct Debit Mandate	2 days	3 days
Monies out	4 days	2 days
Policy Maintenance	4 days	5 days
Quote/Illustration	n/a	3 days
Commission Queries	5 days	5 days
Contact Centre	85% accessibility	80% in 10 secs
Abandon Rate <sup>3</sup>	5%	3%
Complaints	5 days	10 days
Document Dispatch	3 days	1 day
Unit Pricing/Switch	1 day	1 day
Reconciliations	Daily	Daily

9.25 The comparison above shows that the CLL and CA plc SLAs are broadly in line.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Percentage of calls received where customer aborts call before Customer Service team answer.

9.26 The following table shows a comparison of CLL's and CA plc's RAG thresholds.

RAG Thresholds	Canada Life	CA plc
Green	95%+	98%+
Amber	70-95%	95-98%
Red	<70%	<95%

- 9.27 The table above shows that the CLL and CA plc thresholds for measuring 'Red', 'Amber' and 'Green' ("RAG") levels of service are higher for CA plc than CLL.
- 9.28 Based on the comparison above, CLL's Head of Customer Services (Wealth) has deduced that the expected service provided for CLL's customers should not be compromised when the business transfers.
- 9.29 I also note that CA plc has an existing agreement with SS&C Technologies under which there is a governance model in place between the two entities to monitor service. The model in place includes both weekly service issue log meetings and monthly service reviews. At the review meetings, SS&C Technologies report their RAG rating performance versus the key performance indicators that have been put in place as part of the agreement.
- 9.30 The Transferring Policies currently have access to the services of the UK Financial Ombudsman Service ("FOS") to help resolve any disputes or complaints they may have with their insurance company, in this case, CLL. After the Scheme, policyholders will continue to have access to this service since CA plc is a UK based company.
- 9.31 Noting the points above I believe there is no reason to expect that the Scheme will have a material impact on the quality of service standards for the Transferring policyholders.

#### **Policyholder Communications**

- 9.32 The FSMA regulations applicable to Part VII transfers of insurance business require appropriate notice to be sent to all policyholders of the parties involved in a business transfer. However, waivers will be sought from the Court as detailed below and taking into consideration the principles governing the application of waivers.
- 9.33 It is intended that the Transferring policyholders will be notified of the Scheme. Notices will also be published in London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes as well as The Daily Mail and The Times newspapers of the UK.
- 9.34 The following is proposed to be sent to the Transferring policyholders in the form of a policyholder pack (the "CLL Policyholder Pack"):
  - A covering letter;
  - A detailed guide to the Scheme, which includes: a statement setting out the terms of the Scheme and a summary of the Independent Expert's Report; the Notice; and a section with commonly asked questions and answers.
- 9.35 The CLL Policyholder Pack will also explain the sources from which the Transferring policyholders can obtain further information about the Scheme, this will include:
  - Details of the information available from Canada Life by written request;
  - Telephone number(s) and email address(es) which policyholders can use in order to contact a trained call
    centre dealing with queries relating to the Scheme; and
  - The information available from Canada Life's website.
- 9.36 CLL expects that the precise form of the CLL Policyholder Pack will be tailored having regard to the information requirements of different policyholder groups.
- 9.37 CLL will also make the following available on its website:
  - CLL Policyholder Pack (including sample copies of each variation of the covering letter);

- A copy of the Scheme;
- A copy of the Independent Expert's Report;
- A copy of the CLL and CA plc Chief Actuary reports; and
- Updates (such as the outcome of the Final Hearing and confirmation that the Scheme Effective Date has occurred), together with any additional documents produced after the mailing of the CLL Policyholder Pack, such as supplementary reports produced by CLL's Chief Actuary and the Independent Expert.
- 9.38 CLL intends to seek an additional waiver from the Court permitting it not to send the notification to certain Transferring policyholders or individuals otherwise connected to Transferring Policies in the following circumstances:
  - Gone-aways and address unknowns
  - Trustees who are not the principal trustees
  - Beneficiaries (but will send to trustees)
  - Trustees in bankruptcy, receivers, and administrative receivers where we don't have the requisite details on the Policyholder Register
  - Power of attorneys (unless there is an instruction on file to direct all future correspondence to the attorney)
  - Persons named in a court order (will send only to legal policyholder)
  - Executors and personal representatives of deceased policyholders unless notified of a death of a policyholder.
  - Accidental omission
- 9.39 Policyholders are entitled to register their objections to the Scheme and appear in Court in person. Help desk arrangements will be put in place to answer policyholder questions received by phone or by mail (including email). A summary of calls and correspondence will be provided to the Court along with an outline of the substance of any objections raised by policyholders.
- 9.40 In my opinion the communication strategy is appropriate on the basis that the Transferring CLL policyholders are not likely to be materially adversely affected by the Scheme.

#### 10. Other Matters

## Transfer of Individual Protection business to CA plc

- 10.1 There has been another scheme that took effect on 23 February 2025 between CLL and CA plc through which CLL has transferred its individual protection business to CA plc.
- 10.2 The numbers presented in this report consider CLL's financial position as of 31 December 2024 and therefore include this individual protection business.
- 10.3 However, the transfer of individual protection business was preceded by another reinsurance arrangement between CLL and CA plc, which was signed on 16 May 2023 and became effective from 1 January 2023. Since then, the economic interests of the business were transferred to CA plc and as a result immaterial technical provisions were held for this business as shown in section 2.9.
- 10.4 Hence, I do not expect this transfer to have any material impact on any numbers or opinions I have shared in this report.

#### **Market Volatility**

- 10.5 Extensive tariff's announcements following Donald Trump's election victory has led to volatility in the market. To facilitate capital management on an on-going basis, CLL approximates a weekly solvency position allowing for the impact of movements in the main drivers (for example interest rates, spreads and exchange rates) on Own Funds and SCR.
- 10.6 The impact seen on the solvency ratio since YE24 due to the fall in equity (Irish Life Participation) is estimated to be less than 2.5% at the beginning of April 2025. This fall is offset by other movements, which includes an uplift due to widening of credit spreads and movement in the swap rate, and the total impact from both of these is a c3.5% increase.
- 10.7 Overall, I do not expect market volatility to drastically impact the solvency ratio, and I will continue to track market movements and its impact on the ratio to ensure it's within the target range.

#### 11. Conclusions

- 11.1 In my opinion, the Scheme will not have a material impact on the solvency of CLL. I therefore consider that the security of benefits and expectation of benefits of the Non-Transferring CLL policyholders will not be materially adversely affected by the Scheme.
- 11.2 CA plc is an adequately capitalised company and supported by an adequately capitalised parent company,

  Chesnara plc. As such, I do not consider that there will be a material adverse impact on the security of benefits for the Transferring policyholders.
- 11.3 The Transferring policyholders are unit-linked, whose policy benefits are mainly determined by reference to the value of unit funds. In my opinion I do not expect any change to the benefit expectations of the Transferring policyholders as a result of the Scheme.
- 11.4 There will be no changes to the contractual terms of any Transferring Policies under the terms of the Scheme, other than the change of insurer.
- 11.5 The administration of the Transferring Business is expected to move to CA plc's outsourcer, SS&C Technologies, upon implementation of the Scheme. Based on the analysis conducted I believe that the expected service provided for customers should not be compromised when the book migrates.
- 11.6 No changes will occur for the administration of the Non-Transferring CLL policies as a result of the Scheme.
- 11.7 In my opinion, there is no reason to believe that service standards for the Non-Transferring CLL policyholders will be materially adversely affected.
- 11.8 In conclusion, it is my opinion that, under the implementation of the Scheme, all groups of CLL policyholders are treated equitably and fairly, and:
  - the security and reasonable benefit expectations of remaining CLL policyholders will not be materially adversely affected;
  - the security and reasonable benefit expectations of the Transferring CLL policyholders will not be materially adversely affected;
  - there is no reason to believe that service standards for the Transferring CLL policyholders will be materially adversely affected; and
  - there is no reason to believe that service standards for the Non-Transferring CLL policyholders will be materially adversely affected.

Mark Pibworth

Mark

Director of Capital Management and Actuarial Function Head

08/07/2025

# 12. Reliances

In addition to various sources prepared internally within CLL, I have considered the following key documents and data in the preparation of the Report.

Item	Description
The Proposed Scheme	Scheme for the transfer of the insurance business of Canada Life Limited to Countrywide Assured plc. under Part VII of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.
The Countrywide Assured plc Chief	The Report of the Chief Actuary on the impact of the Scheme on
Actuary Report	Policyholders of Countrywide Assured plc.
The Countrywide Assured plc With	The Report of CA plc's With Profits Actuary which considers the effect of the
Profits Actuary Report	Scheme on CA plc's with-profits policyholders.
The Countrywide Assured plc First	The First Witness Statement to the court sets out the corporate history of CA
Witness Statement	plc and provides background to the business transfer.
Countrywide Assured plc Year-End	Countrywide Assured plc Solvency and Financial Condition Report 2024 for
2024 SFCR	the year ended 31 December 2024.

# **Appendix 1: Glossary of Defined Terms and Abbreviations**

Term	Definition
APS	Actuarial Professional Standards. Standards for the actuarial profession produced by the IFoA which all members must adhere to regardless of location or area of practice.
AUM	Assets Under Management. The total market value of assets managed by a company.
BEL	Best Estimate Liability.
Buffer	This general term refers to an amount of capital held in addition to the regulatory capital requirements. The purpose of this additional capital is to seek to ensure that regulatory capital requirements can still be met after an adverse event.
CA plc	Countrywide Assured plc. A UK life insurance subsidiary of the Chesnara Group focused on growing its position with the UK consolidation market.
Catastrophe risk	Catastrophe risk, or life catastrophe risk, is the risk of adverse change in the value of insurance liabilities resulting from the significant uncertainty of pricing and reserving assumptions related to extreme or irregular events.
CASLP Ltd	CASLP is one of the UK subsidiaries of Chesnara and its Group. The company previously operated with a trading name of "Sanlam Investments and Pensions" prior to its acquisition by Chesnara.
Chesnara	Chesnara plc. The UK-listed holding company of the Chesnara Group of which CA plc is a subsidiary.
CLG	The Canada Life Group (U.K.) Limited. CLG is an indirect subsidiary of GWL and is the parent company of the sub-group of companies of which CLL is a part.
CLL	Canada Life Limited. A UK life insurance subsidiary of CLG with a business strategy of being a leader in its chosen market of retirement, investments and protection.
CLL Policyholder Pack	An information pack distributed to policyholders setting out the details of the Scheme. This includes a cover letter and the Customer Guide which will contain details on how policyholders can raise responses, enquiries and objections in respect of the Scheme.
Counterparty default risk	Counterparty default risk reflects possible losses due to unexpected default, or deterioration in the credit standing, of the counterparties and debtors of insurance and reinsurance undertakings over the following 12 months, taking appropriate account of collateral and the risks associated therewith.
Credit risk	Credit risk, or spread risk, is the sensitivity of the values of assets, liabilities and financial instruments to changes in the level or in the volatility of credit spreads over the risk-free interest rate term structure.
Court	Collectively, the High Court of Justice, Business and Property Courts of England and Wales, the Companies List, and the Court of Session (The supreme civil court in Scotland).
EU	The European Union.

Term	Definition
Expense risk	Expense risk, or life expense risk, is the risk of loss, or of adverse change in the value of insurance liabilities, resulting from changes in the level, trend, or volatility of the expenses incurred in servicing insurance or reinsurance contracts.
FCA	Financial Conduct Authority. Responsible for regulating the conduct of financial services firms in the UK. Its roles include protecting consumers, supporting a stable financial sector and promoting healthy competition between financial service providers.
FOS	Financial Ombudsman Service. A service in the UK which settles claims between consumers and businesses that provide financial services.
Framework Agreement	A framework agreement is a legal contract that provides guidelines to regulate projects or transactions between two or more parties.
FSCS	Financial Services Compensation Scheme. A scheme which provides compensation to holders of long-term insurance policies in the event of the insolvency of a UK or an EEA or other overseas insurer in respect of its UK customers.
FSMA	Financial Services and Markets Act 2000. An Act that makes provision about the regulation of financial services and markets, provides for the transfer of certain statutory functions relating to building societies, friendly societies, industrial and provident societies and certain other mutual societies.
Goneaways	Policies where the company does not have a valid address for the policyholder, and subsequent reasonable attempts to trace the policyholder have been unsuccessful.
GWL	Great-West Lifeco Inc., the ultimate parent company of The Canada Life Assurance Company and consequently of CLG, CLL and others.
Health underwriting risk	Health underwriting risk refers to the risk arising from health insurance obligations, comprising at least mortality risk, longevity risk, morbidity risk, expense risk, revision risk, lapse risk and catastrophe risk.
IFoA	Institute and Faculty of Actuaries, the UK chartered professional body which is responsible for regulating actuaries.
ILG	Irish Life Group Limited, an Irish insurance group which is a subsidiary of CLL.
Interest Rate Risk	Interest rate risks is the sensitivity of the values of assets, liabilities and financial instruments to changes in the term structure of interest rates, or in the volatility of interest rates.
LACDT	Loss absorbing capacity of deferred tax. A balance sheet item under Solvency II that represents to the fact that, in a stressed situation, a deferred tax asset would arise, and therefore the Own Funds are increased.
Lapse risk	Lapse risk is the risk of loss, or of adverse change in the value of insurance liabilities, resulting from changes in the level or volatility of the rates of policy lapses, terminations, renewals and surrenders.
Life underwriting risk	Life underwriting risk refers to the risk arising from life insurance obligations, comprising at least mortality risk, longevity risk, morbidity risk, expense risk, revision risk, lapse risk and catastrophe.

Term	Definition
Longevity risk	Longevity risk is the risk of loss, or of adverse change in the value of insurance liabilities, resulting from changes in the level, trend, or volatility of mortality rates, where a decrease in the mortality rate leads to an increase in the value of insurance liabilities.
Market risk	Market risk reflect the risk arising from the level or volatility of market prices of financial instruments which have an impact upon the value of the assets and liabilities, comprising at least interest rate risk, equity risk, property risk, credit risk, currency risk and market concentration risk.
Matching Adjustment	The Matching Adjustment or MA is an upwards adjustment to the risk-free rate sometimes used under Solvency II or Solvency UK to discount long-term liabilities, where those liabilities are well-matched by long-term assets and the intention is to hold those assets to maturity. Its effect is to reduce the market value of the assets that must be held by an insurer to cover the relevant BEL. MA is a more extensive form of the Volatility Adjustment with consequently more onerous requirements.
Ernst and Young	Ernst and Young LLP registered in England and Wales.
Morbidity risk	Morbidity risk is the risk of loss, or of adverse change in the value of insurance liabilities, resulting from changes in the level, trend or volatility of disability, sickness and morbidity rates.
Mortality risk	Mortality risk is the risk of loss, or of adverse change in the value of insurance liabilities, resulting from changes in the level, trend, or volatility of mortality rates, where an increase in the mortality rate leads to an increase in the value of insurance liabilities.
Non-Profit Fund	The main fund of CA is referred to in this Report as the Non-Proft Fund to distinguish it from the two ring-fenced with-profits funds.
Operational risk	Operational risk refers to those operational risks to the extent they are not already reflected in the life underwriting risk, health underwriting risk, market risk and counterparty default risk.
ORSA	Own Risk and Solvency Assessment. A requirement under Solvency II whereby insurers must regularly undertake a forward-looking assessment of risks, solvency needs and adequacy of their capital resources.
Other liabilities	These are liabilities under Solvency II other than Technical Provisions which need to be added to the Technical Provisions in arriving at the total liabilities. For example, accounting liabilities such as tax due.
Own Funds	The excess of an insurer's assets over its liabilities on a Solvency II basis.
Part VII Transfer	The transfer of long-term insurance business under UK law in accordance with Part VII of the FSMA.
PIM	Partial Internal Model. An approach to calculating the SCR under Solvency II where the Standard Formula is not used. Use of and the nature of a Partial Internal Model must be approved by the appropriate regulator.
PRA	Prudential Regulation Authority. Responsible for the prudential regulation and supervision of banks, building societies, credit unions, insurers and major investment firms in the UK.
PPFM	PPFM stands for Principles and Practices of Financial Management, a document that covers how a company manages its with-profits policies.

Term	Definition
Report	The report of the Canada Life Limited Chief Actuary on the impact of the Scheme.
Reinsurance Agreement	The reinsurance agreement entered into by CLL and CA plc on 20 December 2024 that in effect transfers the economic interests of the Transferring Business to CA plc.
Reinsurance Effective Date	Date on which the Reinsurance Agreement took effect.
Risk Margin	The amount held under Solvency II or Solvency UK as part of Technical Provisions which is based on the cost of holding capital in relation to the non-hedgeable components of the SCR.
Scheme	The proposed insurance business transfer scheme under Part VII of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 in respect of the Transferring Business.
Scheme Effective Date	Date at which the Scheme is expected to take effect (if sanctioned).
SCR	Solvency Capital Requirement. One of the regulatory capital requirements under Solvency II. Intended to represent the amount required to ensure that an insurer's assets continue to exceed its liabilities over a one-year time period with a probability of 99.5%.
SFCR	Solvency and Financial Condition Report. A public report which firms must complete under the requirements of Solvency II.
SLA	Service Level Agreement. A target set of metrics for the performance of specific customer services provided.
Solvency Ratio	The Solvency Ratio, or Solvency Coverage Ratio, is the ratio of the eligible Solvency II Own Funds divided by the Solvency II SCR. It represents the extent to which an insurer covers their SCR and is required to be at least 100%.
SS&C	SS&C Technologies. A third-party outsourcing company, specialising in insurance policy administration, used by CA to administer certain blocks of business, including ultimately the Transferring Business.
Standard Formula	The prescribed method for calculating the SCR where an approved Internal Model (or Partial Internal Model) is not used. Insurers are required to calculate their SCR using either the Standard Formula or an approved Internal Model.
Supplementary Report	A further report produced prior to the Sanction Hearing to provide an update for the Court on the Chief Actuary's conclusions in the light of any significant events subsequent to the date of the finalisation of this Report.
TAS	Technical Actuarial Standards. The TASs are standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council which apply to work in the UK involving the use of actuarial principles and/or techniques and the exercise of judgement. Compliance with the TASs for work in their scope is required for members of the IFoA.
Technical Provisions	The value of the technical insurance liabilities of an insurer, as determined for regulatory purposes. Under Solvency UK, the Technical Provisions comprise the BEL and the Risk Margin. There are also Other Liabilities which need to be added to the Technical Provisions in arriving at the total liabilities.

Term	Definition
ТМТР	Transitional Measure on Technical Provisions. The TMTP is intended to phase in (over 16 years) any increase in reserves that must be held for business written prior to 2016 arising from the introduction of the Solvency II regime on 1 January 2016. Insurers must apply to the regulator (the PRA in the UK) to use a TMTP.
Transferring Business	The business being transferred under the Scheme.
Transfer Certificate	Means a certificate signed by a duly authorised representative of each of the Transferee and the Transferor confirming the Scheme Effective Date, which shall be published on the Transferor's website on or after the Scheme Effective Date.
Transferring Policies	The policies being transferred to CA plc under the Scheme.
Unit-Linked Funds	These are funds of assets maintained separately within a life company, with the value of these funds being used to determine the benefits under unit-linked policies.
Volatility Adjustment	An increase to the discount rate sometimes used under Solvency II or Solvency UK in the calculation of the BEL (other than for liabilities that are subject to the Matching Adjustment) based on the rationale of avoiding forced sales of assets in the event of extreme bond spread movements. Its effect is to reduce the market value of the assets that must be held by an insurer to cover the relevant BEL.