

MONEY LAUNDERING REGULATIONS

The **Money Laundering Regulations** apply to many UK businesses, including banks, building societies, money lending businesses, insurance companies, investment companies, currency exchange bureaux, cheque cashing services, casinos, accountants, lawyers, estate agents, and businesses that deal in high-value goods, to name but a few!

The Money Laundering Regulations also apply to individual people if they're carrying out particular investment activities specified by the Financial Services and Markets Act.

If your business comes under the Money Laundering Regulations, then it must, by law, be registered to be monitored by a supervisory authority, such as HMRC.

There must be someone in your organisation who is responsible for looking after money laundering - the Nominated Officer or Money Laundering Reporting Officer. Their job is to receive suspicious transaction reports from members of staff, consider the threat and, if necessary, pass the report on to the National Crime Agency. Large organisations may also have deputies, in case the nominated officer isn't available.

And your organisation must have adequate policies and procedures - including **risk assessment**, record keeping, reporting and due diligence -- to avoid getting involved in any financial crime.

A financial crime does **NOT** have to have happened for a business to be in breach of the Money Laundering Regulations. If the anti-money laundering systems in an organisation aren't adequate, or it isn't registered with an appropriate supervisory authority, then senior managers could be fined or imprisoned (or both).