

## Prudential Communication 4 of 2024

### Financial Sector Regulations Act 9 of 2017

### Mutual Banks Act 124 of 1993

## The 2024 Flavour-of-the-year topic communication to mutual banks and auditors of mutual banks

### ***Objective of this Prudential Communication***

This communication provides information on the Prudential Authority's 2024 calendar year (2024) flavour-of-the year topic for mutual banks namely, *Strategic business growth and resilience of the regulated financial institutions' business models in the current environment.*

### **1. Application**

1.1 This Prudential Communication is applicable to mutual banks.

### **2. Purpose**

2.1 The purpose of this Prudential Communication is to provide information on the 2024 flavour-of-the year (FOTY) topic for mutual banks.

### **3. Introduction**

3.1 Annually, the Prudential Authority (PA) considers whether any current developments and/or emerging risks affecting regulated financial institutions at an industry level are of such significance that additional focus is required from a supervisory perspective. The topic(s), selected through the PA's governance processes, are communicated to regulated financial institutions in the first quarter of the relevant year and are referred to as 'flavour-of-the- year' topic(s).

3.2 The PA has determined that for the 2024 FOTY topic will be Strategic business growth and resilience of regulated financial institutions' business models in the current economic environment.

#### **4. Strategic business growth and resilience**

##### 4.1 Background

4.1.1 The PA has noted over the past few years that with increasing uncertainty in the macroeconomic environment, the risk and probability of failure of certain regulated financial institutions has increased. This is in part attributable to the non-viability and unresponsive business models and weak strategies, inadequate capital and liquidity planning, underpinned by poor governance and risk management practices.

4.1.2 Through focused engagement on this topic, financial institutions will be able to reflect on and refine their strategic business models and processes and provide the PA with information to inform further regulatory and supervisory work that may be required.

#### **5. Acknowledgement of receipt**

5.1 A written acknowledgement of receipt of this communication, signed by the Chief Executive Officer of the mutual bank should be submitted to the PA Frontline team responsible for the supervision of the mutual bank within 10 working days of receipt. Should you have any queries in this regard, please contact the relevant PA Frontline team.

Fundi Tshazibana  
**Chief Executive Officer**

Date: