

FTSE Crypto Select Index Series

In Association with Digital Asset Research
v1.0

Contents

Section 1 Introduction	3
Section 2 Management responsibilities	4
Section 3 FTSE Russell Index policies	5
Section 4 Digital asset eligibility	6
Section 5 Periodic review of constituents	7
Section 6 Changes to the constituent digital assets	9
Section 7 Digital asset actions and network events	10
Section 8 Index calculation method	11
Appendix A Further information	13

Section 1

Introduction

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out the Ground Rules for the FTSE Crypto Select Index Series. The companion documents — [Guide to the Vetting of Digital Assets and Digital Asset Exchanges](#) and the [Guide to the Calculation of the FTSE DAR Digital Asset Prices](#) — should be read in conjunction with this document. Copies of both of these documents are available at www.lseg.com/en/ftse-russell/.
- 1.1.1 A digital asset is a Cryptographically Secured Digital Instrument for which the issuance, transfer and ownership is recorded on a data structure commonly referred to as a Blockchain.
- 1.1.2 The FTSE Crypto Select Index Series is designed to provide market participants a mechanism to evaluate digital asset investments and prices.
- 1.2 The FTSE Crypto Select Index Series does not take account of ESG factors in its index design.
- 1.3 The base currency of the FTSE Crypto Select Index Series is US Dollars (USD).
- 1.4 The FTSE Crypto Select Index Series incorporates the:
- FTSE Crypto 10 Select Index
 - FTSE Crypto 10 ex Bitcoin Select Index
- 1.5 Indices are calculated at Price Return levels only.
- 1.6 FTSE Russell**
- 1.7 FTSE Russell is a trading name of FTSE International Limited, Frank Russell Company, FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Limited (and its subsidiary FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Inc.,) FTSE Fixed Income LLC, FTSE (Beijing) Consulting Limited.
- 1.8 No liability whether as a result of negligence or otherwise is accepted by FTSE Russell (or any person concerned with the preparation or publication of these Ground Rules) for any losses, damages, claims and expenses suffered by any person as a result of:
- any reliance on these Ground Rules, and/or
 - any inaccuracies in these Ground Rules, and/or
 - any non-application or misapplication of the policies or procedures described in these Ground Rules, and/or
 - any inaccuracies in the compilation of the index series or any constituent data.

Section 2

Management responsibilities

2. Management responsibilities

2.1 FTSE International Limited (FTSE)¹

2.1.1 FTSE is the Benchmark Administrator of the Index Series.

2.1.2 FTSE is responsible for the daily calculation, production and operation of the index series and will:

- maintain records of the index weightings of all constituents;
- make changes to the constituents and their weightings in accordance with the Ground Rules;
- carry out periodic index reviews of the index series and apply the changes resulting from the reviews as required by the Ground Rules;
- publish changes to the constituent weightings resulting from their ongoing maintenance and the periodic reviews;
- disseminate the indices.

2.2 Digital Asset Research

2.2.1 Digital Asset Research (DAR) assesses the quality of pricing data, qualifies pricing sources, calculates the FTSE DAR Digital Asset Prices and supplies FTSE Russell with price feeds and advises on the eligibility of assets in the FTSE Crypto Select Index Series.

2.2.2 DAR is an independent, privately-owned research firm and data provider which partners with FTSE Russell in research into and providing data on digital assets.

2.2.3 DAR is responsible for the ongoing vetting of digital assets and of the Broker Dealer/Exchanges of digital assets. DAR collects and validates the data it obtains as Principal to identify ensuring both digital assets and Broker Dealer/Exchanges of digital assets pass a strict set of rules.

2.3 21Shares

2.3.1 21Shares is responsible for the submission of the inclusion list as detailed in section 4.1.2.

2.4 Amendments to these Ground Rules

2.4.1 These Ground Rules shall be subject to regular review (at least once a year) by FTSE Russell to ensure that they continue to best reflect the aims of the index series. The feedback from these consultations will be considered by the FTSE Russell Index Governance Board before approval is granted.

¹ The term administrator is used in this document in the same sense as it is defined in [Regulation \(EU\) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds](#) (the European Benchmark Regulation) and [The Benchmarks \(Amendment and Transitional Provision\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#) (the UK Benchmark Regulation).

Section 3

FTSE Russell Index policies

3. FTSE Russell Index policies

These Ground Rules should be read in conjunction with the following policy documents which can be accessed through the links below:

3.1 **Statement of Principles – Digital Asset Indices and FTSE DAR Digital Asset Prices**

FTSE Russell publish various transparent methodology documents that detail the construction, calculation and index inclusion rules for the FTSE Digital Asset Indices and the FTSE DAR Digital Asset Prices. Given the evolving nature of the digital asset markets, these methodology documents cannot anticipate or codify every eventuality. Where these documents do not fully cover a specific event or market structure development, FTSE Russell will seek to determine the appropriate treatment by reference to the guiding principles set out in the Statement of Principles which can be accessed through the following link:

[Statement of Principles - Digital Assets](#)

3.2 **Guide to Asset Class Coverage for FTSE Digital Asset Indices and FTSE DAR Digital Asset Prices**

FTSE Digital Asset Indices are designed to track the investable universe of digital assets that are available to global investors. The methodology for these indices is tailored to the unique market structure, regulatory landscape and risk profile of this asset class.

This guide details the manner in which the full universe of digital assets is narrowed to a universe of instruments that are considered for eligibility in the FTSE Digital Asset Indices. The key considerations include market capitalization, liquidity, investability, and the availability of index pricing and reference data inputs to support index calculations. The Guide can be accessed through the following link:

[Guide to Asset Class Coverage for FTSE Digital Asset Indices](#)

3.3 **Queries and Complaints**

FTSE Russell's complaints procedure can be accessed through the following link:

[Benchmark Determination Complaints Handling Policy.pdf](#)

3.4 **Policy for Benchmark Methodology Changes**

Details of FTSE Russell's policy for making benchmark methodology changes can be accessed through the following link:

[Policy for Benchmark Methodology Changes.pdf](#)

3.5 **Real Time Status Definitions**

3.5.1 For indices that are calculated in real time, please refer to the following guide for details of real time status definitions:

[Real Time Status Definitions.pdf](#)

Section 4

Digital asset eligibility

4. Digital asset eligibility

4.1 Eligibility requirements

- 4.1.1 Constituent digital assets in the FTSE Crypto Select Index Series are all selected from an eligible universe of digital assets that have been classified as Benchmark or Non-Benchmark Assets as they have met the eligibility requirements set out in the [Guide to the Vetting of Digital Assets and Digital Asset Exchanges](#).
- 4.1.2 Constituent digital assets are eligible for inclusion in the FTSE Crypto Select Indices if an underlying constituent is also a 21Shares single digital asset ETP as of the data cut-off date defined in Section 5.
- 4.1.3 Historical eligible constituent digital assets for the FTSE Crypto Select Index Series were based on the eligible constituents as of the review period prior to each index launch.

4.1.4 Asset exclusions

The following asset will be excluded from the below index:

- FTSE Crypto 10 ex Bitcoin Select Index – Bitcoin (BTC)

Section 5

Periodic review of constituents

5. Periodic review of constituents

5.1 Eligible digital assets

5.1.1 All digital assets in the FTSE DAR Reference Price – Benchmark or Non-Benchmark Assets universe are eligible for FTSE 21Shares Digital Asset Index Series.

[Guide to the Vetting of Digital Assets and Digital Asset Exchanges.pdf](#)

5.1.2 The starting universe for FTSE Crypto Select Index Series is based on an eligibility list provided by 21Shares on a quarterly basis.

5.2 FTSE DAR Reference Price

5.2.1 The price of each digital asset in a FTSE Crypto Select Index is the FTSE DAR Reference Price – Benchmark and Non-Benchmark Asset Fixes.

Details of the FTSE DAR Reference Prices are provided in this document: [Guide to the Calculation of the FTSE DAR Digital Asset Prices and FTSE DAR Reference Prices.](#)

5.3 Index reviews

5.3.1 The FTSE Crypto Select Index Series is reviewed on a quarterly basis in March, June, September, and December (the review month) using market information defined by circulating supply as at 22:00 UTC of the last day of the month prior to the review month (the data cut-off date).

5.3.2 The FTSE Crypto Select Index Series use the price as at 4:00pm Eastern Time on the Wednesday after the first Friday of the review month. The review is implemented on the third Friday, after close of the review month.²

5.4 Review process

5.4.1 Value eligible digital assets by circulating capitalisation (circulating supply * price) and rank digital assets by circulating capitalisation.

- A digital asset's circulating capitalisation will consist of any circulating supply as of the last day of the asset vetting rebalance month end as detailed in the Guide to the Vetting of Digital Assets and Digital Asset Exchanges, which can be accessed using the following link:

[Guide to the Vetting of Digital Assets and Digital Asset Exchanges.pdf](#)

5.4.2 FTSE Crypto 10 Select Index and FTSE Crypto 10 ex Bitcoin Select Index will consist of the largest 10 digital assets which qualify for inclusion in the index.

² Prior to March 2022, the indices were reviewed on a quarterly basis in January, April, July and October (the review month) using the price as at 4:00pm Eastern Time on the Wednesday before the first Friday of the review month. The FTSE 21Shares Digital Asset Index Series reviews were implemented at 4:00pm Eastern Time on the Sunday following the second Friday in the month following the month of the data cut-off date.

- 5.4.3 To reduce turnover in the FTSE Crypto Select Index Series, 'buffer zones' are applied to determine the cut-off points between the Top 10 – the buffers are detailed in the table below.

	Turnover bands (based on the eligible universe)	
	Eligible for inclusion	Eligible for exclusion
FTSE Crypto 10 Select Index	Risen to 8 or above	Fallen to 13 or below
FTSE Crypto 10 ex Bitcoin Select Index	Risen to 8 or above	Fallen to 13 or below

A digital asset will be inserted at the periodic review if it rises above the position stated below:

Risen to 8th or above of the eligible universe

A digital asset will be deleted at the periodic review if it falls below the position stated below:

Fallen to 13th or below of the eligible universe

- 5.4.4 A constant number of constituents will be maintained at quarterly reviews. Where a greater number of constituents qualify to be inserted in an index than those qualifying to be deleted, the lowest ranking constituents presently included in the index will be deleted to ensure that an equal number of constituents are inserted and deleted at the periodic review. Likewise, where a greater number of constituents qualify to be deleted than those qualifying to be inserted, the highest ranking constituents which are presently not included in the index will be inserted to match the number of constituents being deleted at the periodic review.

- 5.4.5 If there are less than 10 eligible digital assets in the eligible universe, then the indices will include only the eligible constituents.

- 5.4.6 The circulating supply of index constituents will be adjusted to reduce the review turnover for the FTSE Crypto Select Indices at the quarterly reviews provided the following conditions are met:

- 1) No constituent changes (adds/deletes)
- 2) The two-way change in turnover is less than 106 bps
- 3) The two-way change in turnover of any single constituent is less than 20 bps

If all three conditions are satisfied, the index constituent circulating supply adjustment factor is calculated using following formula:

$$f_{ei} = \frac{s_{ci} \times f_{ci}}{s_{ei}}$$

where:

f_{ei} is the circulation supply adjustment factor of cons i from effective date

f_{ci} is the circulation supply adjustment factor of cons i as of the review cutoff date

s_{ei} is the circulation supply of cons i from effective date

s_{ci} is the circulation supply of cons i as of the review cutoff date

5.5 Liquidity screen

- 5.5.1 Eligible digital assets will be tested for liquidity on a quarterly basis. For further details please refer to the Guide to Calculation Methods for Digital Asset Liquidity through the following link:

[FTSE Global Digital Asset Index Series Guide to Calculation Method for the Liquidity Test](#)

Section 6

Changes to the constituent digital assets

6. Changes to the constituent digital assets

6.1 Intra-review additions

The FTSE Crypto Select Index Series will not accept intra-review additions.

6.2 Intra-review deletions

A constituent will be removed from the FTSE Crypto Select Index Series if it is removed from the FTSE DAR Reference Prices – Benchmark or Non-Benchmark Assets Universe. The deletion will be concurrent with the deletion from the asset universe and its weight will be distributed pro-rata amongst the remaining constituents of each index.

Should an intra-quarter rebalance takes place, a minimum of two days' advanced notification with details on the review will be provided.

Section 7

Digital asset actions and network events

7. Digital asset actions and network events

- 7.1.1 Full details of changes to constituent digital assets at the quarterly review due to events can be accessed in the digital actions and network events guide through the following link:

[Digital Actions and Network Events Guide](#)

Section 8

Index calculation method

8. Index calculation method

8.1 Prices

- 8.1.1 FTSE calculates the FTSE DAR Reference Price for each digital asset using the method outlined in the [Guide to the Calculation of FTSE DAR Digital Asset Prices document and FTSE DAR Reference Prices](#).
- 8.1.2 Exchange rates used are WMR FX Benchmarks Closing Spot Rates hourly service, coinciding with the hourly production of the FTSE Crypto Select Index Series. For the indices which observe daylight-saving time, the exchange rates are mapped accordingly.

8.2 Calculation frequency

- 8.2.1 The FTSE DAR Reference Price is calculated hourly and the 4:00pm Eastern Time 1-hour lookback fix is used for the calculation of the FTSE Crypto Select Index Series and associated products.

8.3 Index calculation

- 8.3.1 The FTSE Crypto Select Index Series calculation formula is described below:

$$MC = \sum_{i=1}^N (p_i(t) \times e_i(t) \times s_i(t) \times f_i(t))$$

$$IV_t = IV_{t-1} * \left(\frac{MC_c}{MC_o} \right)$$

Where,

- $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ – digital assets;
- N is the number of digital assets in the index;
- t is the calculation date time;
- $p_i(t)$ is the FTSE DAR Reference Price of the digital asset i at calculation time t ;
- $e_i(t)$ is the exchange rate required to convert the digital asset i price into the index's base currency at calculation time t ;
- $s_i(t)$ is the circulations supply used by FTSE Russell for the digital asset, as defined in these Ground Rules at calculation time t ;
- $f_i(t)$ is the weight adjustment factor, observed as 1 for circulating weighted indices and between 0 and 1 for non-market cap weighted indices.
- MC is the Market capitalisation of the index with o and c subscripts observed as opening and closing market capitalisation values of the Index
- IV is the Index Level of the index.

8.4 Index opening and closing hours

8.4.1 The FTSE Crypto Select Index Series is calculated Sunday to Friday at 4:00pm Eastern Time.

Appendix A

Further information

A glossary of terms used in FTSE Russell's Ground Rule documents can be found through the following link:

[Glossary - Digital Assets.pdf](#)

Further information on the FTSE 21Shares Digital Asset Index Series is available from FTSE Russell.

For contact details please visit the FTSE Russell website or contact FTSE Russell client services at info@ftserussell.com.

Website: www.lseg.com/en/ftse-russell/

Disclaimer

© 2025 London Stock Exchange Group plc and its applicable group undertakings ("LSEG"). LSEG includes (1) FTSE International Limited ("FTSE"), (2) Frank Russell Company ("Russell"), (3) FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Inc. "FTSE Canada"), (4) FTSE Fixed Income LLC ("FTSE FI"), (5) FTSE (Beijing) Consulting Limited ("WOFE"), All rights reserved.

The FTSE 21Shares Digital Asset Index Series is calculated by or on behalf of FTSE International Limited or its affiliate, agent or partner. FTSE International Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority as a benchmark administrator.

FTSE Russell® is a trading name of FTSE, Russell, FTSE Canada, FTSE FI, WOFE, and other LSEG entities providing LSEG Benchmark and Index services. "FTSE®", "Russell®", "FTSE Russell®", "FTSE4Good®", "ICB®", "WMR™", "FR™" and all other trademarks and service marks used herein (whether registered or unregistered) are trade marks and/or service marks owned or licensed by the applicable member of LSEG or their respective licensors.

All information is provided for information purposes only. All information and data contained in this publication is obtained by LSEG, from sources believed by it to be accurate and reliable. Because of the possibility of human and mechanical inaccuracy as well as other factors, however, such information and data is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind. No member of LSEG nor their respective directors, officers, employees, partners or licensors make any claim, prediction, warranty or representation whatsoever, expressly or impliedly, either as to the accuracy, timeliness, completeness, merchantability of any information or LSEG Products, or of results to be obtained from the use of LSEG products, including but not limited to indices, rates, data and analytics, or the fitness or suitability of the LSEG products for any particular purpose to which they might be put. The user of the information assumes the entire risk of any use it may make or permit to be made of the information.

No responsibility or liability can be accepted by any member of LSEG nor their respective directors, officers, employees, partners or licensors for (a) any loss or damage in whole or in part caused by, resulting from, or relating to any inaccuracy (negligent or otherwise) or other circumstance involved in procuring, collecting, compiling, interpreting, analysing, editing, transcribing, transmitting, communicating or delivering any such information or data or from use of this document or links to this document or (b) any direct, indirect, special, consequential or incidental damages whatsoever, even if any member of LSEG is advised in advance of the possibility of such damages, resulting from the use of, or inability to use, such information.

No member of LSEG nor their respective directors, officers, employees, partners or licensors provide investment advice and nothing in this document should be taken as constituting financial or investment advice. No member of LSEG nor their respective directors, officers, employees, partners, or licensors make any representation regarding the advisability of investing in any asset or whether such investment creates any legal or compliance risks for the investor. A decision to invest in any such asset should not be made in reliance on any information herein. Indices and rates cannot be invested in directly. Inclusion of an asset in an index or rate is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold that asset nor confirmation that any particular investor may lawfully buy, sell or hold the asset or an index or rate containing the asset. The general information contained in this publication should not be acted upon without obtaining specific legal, tax, and investment advice from a licensed professional.

No part of this information may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior written permission of the applicable member of LSEG. Use and distribution of LSEG data requires a licence from LSEG and/or its licensors.