

## **FINAL NOTICE – SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

**Date of issue: 28 June 2002**

### **Paul Stephen Sinton**

The FSA has refused an application for the approval of Mr Sinton to perform the investment adviser (trainee) function with a firm of independent financial advisers as it was not satisfied that he was a fit and proper person to perform that function at the firm concerned.

In 1994, Mr Sinton received a final written warning from his firm – a life office – after having admitted forging a client’s signature on an amendment form on two occasions. In 1995, Mr Sinton was dismissed by the firm after it was found that, on thirteen occasions when Mr Sinton claimed to have given advice to clients, the advice had in fact been given by an unauthorised person.

In his representations in relation to his application for approval, Mr Sinton stated that he had not forged the two signatures in 1994, but had admitted doing so at the time in order to deflect attention from other issues at his branch. He also stated that he had submitted the thirteen cases under his name at the instigation of his manager.

The FSA considers that Mr Sinton either committed serious breaches of regulatory rules and was now giving a false explanation to the regulator, or had made false statements to a regulated firm during the course of an investigation. The FSA further considers that these events demonstrated a failure to be candid and truthful in his dealings with a previous regulator and to demonstrate readiness and willingness to comply with the requirements of the regulatory system. It has therefore determined that it is not satisfied that Mr Sinton is a fit and proper person to perform the investment adviser (trainee) function at the applicant firm.