Foreword

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Now that TikTok have increased their standard contribution model from 60 seconds to three minutes (to allow for more in-depth analysis) and with many of us starting to look for legal or regulatory advice with a Google search, some might ask if there is any need for a 336 page legal and compliance guide to financial regulation and technology. Even the sparest of readers will quickly put any doubts aside. This is a book every financial services lawyer and compliance officer will benefit from, not because it delivers all the answers but because it makes you think about the problems posed and how an answer might be arrived at.

Mr Sheridan has succeeded not only in covering lots of ground, bringing together a wide range of diverse subjects, but doing so in a way that is both interesting and stimulating. You will find the answer to any number of specific questions here but, more importantly, you will find new ways of thinking. Mr Sheridan's approach to his material is as innovative as some of the technology he explains (not to mention being at the same time readable, entertaining even).

When the scientists involved in new technologies like quantum computing cannot agree on exactly how it works, legislators and regulators are going to be a considerable way behind. This leaves legal and compliance teams trying to guess at how to apply old rules to new problems. Mr Sheridan's work helps to plug that gap. Time is obviously our most precious resource but, as Mr Sheridan suggests, if you can find an hour here or there to dip in to this new treatise it will be time well spent.

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