Ulster Bank, a subsidiary of NatWest Group (formerly Royal Bank of Scotland), has faced significant allegations of white-collar fraud in the sale of financial derivatives, particularly interest rate swaps and embedded features in fixed-rate loans. These practices, peaking around the 2008 financial crisis, involved senior bank officials and departments systematically deceiving small and mediumsized enterprises (SMEs) and developers to offload the bank's credit risk, inflate profits, and facilitate aggressive debt recovery. While no individual officials have been criminally prosecuted to date, the schemes have led to civil lawsuits, regulatory investigations, and fines for related misconduct, with experts like former NatWest executive Ian Tyler labeling them "appalling accounting fraud" due to deliberate non-disclosure and falsified risk representations. These cases exemplify how derivatives were weaponized in predatory lending, embedding fraud into standard loa products under Ireland's and the UK's

¹ Copied from post on X on October 2, 2025