

TRUST CHECKLIST - FOREIGN COMPLIANCE

1.		Know your Client - identify all people who control / benefit from or who have contributed towards the trust assets (N.B. look through all structures to identify the ultimate individual/s who benefit from or who exercise control or who have introduced assets)							
	Parti (exa	ies mples)	Nationalities (all)	Tax residence (all)	Date and country of birth	US person (e.g.parent, green card)	Long-term residence intention		
	Settlor								
	Trustees								
	Beneficiaries								
	Protector								
	Attorney								
	Bank	signatories							
	(a) Is there a continental Europe connection with any party?								
	(b) If yes, what forced heirship regimes are applicable/ have there been lifetime transfers to consider / how does this jurisdiction treat its residents' interests in a trust/ what reporting obligations are required?								
	(c) Is any party subject to the law of another jurisdiction, and, if yes, how does that jurisdiction treat its residents'/ citizens'/ no domiciled residents' interests in a trust/ what reporting obligations are required?								
	(d) Purpose of the structure/ current compliance with foreign jurisdictions?								
	(e) Beneficiaries – understand their needs and how an interest in the trust will be treated								
2.	Suc	cession							
	(a)								
	(b) Has the NZ will been prepared so that it compliments the foreign treatment?								
	(c) If there is a continental Europe connection (will maker, assets, beneficiary) : i) One law will apply for worldwide estate								
	ii) Particular care if a life interest is being created or if a settlement is being made on a trust in the will								
3.	Cros	ross Border transparency							
	(a)	Standard for Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information/ The Common Reporting Standard ("CRS")							
	(b)	(b) AML/ CFT concepts/ not limited to information for the tax position/ AML/ CFT compliance shortly for lawyers & accountants.							
	(c)	Examples of systems implemented in New Zealand							
		i. New Zealand property conveyance							
		 residential land withholding tax ("RLWT") (New Zealand citizen/ presence in NZ within the past 3 years/ visa/ presence in NZ within past 12 months) 							
		Intent/ two year bright-line test							
		Responsibility with conveyancer – identify offshore RLWT person							
		Worldwide Tax Information Numbers to be provided							
		ii. Foreign directors – change to Companies Office procedures							
	(d)	Which adopting their residents?		nation be forwarded	to in respect of the true	st/ what is their treatmen	nt of interests held by		
4.	Tax	x obligations							
	(a)	Review New Ze	ealand tax residenc	e:					
		 i. Availability of a permanent place of abode in NZ (structure doesn't matter) ii. Consider overall circumstances, memberships, items in storage, rented home, NZ bank account 							
				•	items in storage, rented	d home, NZ bank accour	nt		
		iii. Time spent in various countries							
				-	trust obligations in NZ				
	v. UK national settlor leaving New Zealand – reacquire UK domicile/ inheritance tax liability (b) Review foreign connections for all parties regularly to ensure compliance with foreign obligations - not always obvious								
	(b)	_		-			•		
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5.		Administration							
	(a) Importance of administration with integrity								
	(b) Fiduciary obligations – understanding obligations to beneficiaries and enforceability against trustees via the courts						a tne courts		
	(c) Transparent view / compliance before planning								
	(d)	d) Knowledgeable legal and tax partners							