

Notes on Trust and Estate Non-residence

Tax year 6 April 2025 to 5 April 2026 (2025–26)

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Residence status – general

These notes will help you to work out:

- if the trustees or personal representatives are
 - not resident in the UK for Income Tax purposes
 - not resident in the UK for Capital Gains Tax purposes
- how residence affects Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax and the amount of tax the trustees or personal representatives have to pay
- what double taxation agreements are and how they can reduce the UK tax the trustees or personal representatives have to pay
- what to do if the trustees are resident in the UK and, for tax purposes, also resident in a country with which the UK has a double taxation agreement
- how, in general terms, other supplementary pages relevant to the Trust and Estate Tax Return are to be completed as a result of the trustees or personal representatives' tax status
- what other information is available (also read the Trust and Estate Tax Return Guide for advice on where to get more help generally)

Deciding the trustees' residence status for Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax purposes

Deciding the trustees' residence for IT and CGT purposes is a 2-stage process.

First you work out the residence of the persons who are actually trustees. For example, if those persons are individuals you use the Statutory Residence Test (SRT). For more information about the SRT, go to www.gov.uk and search for 'RDR3' or 'Residence and FIG Regime Manual' (RFIG).

Second, you use that residence to determine the residence of the trustees as a whole.

You can find out the residence of the trustees as a whole for Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax purposes by working through questions 1 to 3, taking into account Notes 1 to 3 below.

1. **Were all the trustees resident in the UK for the year to 5 April 2026?** Yes No

If Yes, the trustees as a whole are resident in the UK for Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax purposes. Tick boxes 6.1 and 6.3 of the 'Trust and Estate Non-residence' pages.

If No, go to question 2.

2. **Were all the trustees not resident in the UK for the year ended 5 April 2026?** Yes No

If Yes, the trustees as a whole are not resident in the UK for Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax purposes. Tick boxes 6.2 and 6.4 of the 'Trust and Estate Non-residence' pages. Please also fill in boxes 6.7 to 6.16, 6.19 and 6.20 as appropriate.

If No, go to question 3 (read Note 3).

3. **At the time funds were provided for the trust, was any person who provided such funds (directly or indirectly) resident in the UK or, if the trust was created before 6 April 2025, resident in the UK or domiciled within some part of the UK?** Yes No

If Yes, the trustees as a whole are resident in the UK for Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax purposes. Tick boxes 6.1 and 6.3 of the 'Trust and Estate Non-residence' pages.

If No, the trustees as a whole are not resident in the UK for Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax purposes. Tick boxes 6.2 and 6.4 of the 'Trust and Estate Non-residence' pages. Please also fill in boxes 6.7 to 6.16, 6.19 and 6.20 as appropriate.

Note 1 – Non-UK resident professional trustees

For the purposes of questions 1 and 2, a trustee who is actually non-UK resident is treated as UK resident if acting as trustee in the course of a business which the trustee carries on in the UK through a branch, agency or permanent establishment.

Note 2 – Residence of an individual and split-year treatment under SRT rules

An individual is resident or not resident in the UK for the whole year under the SRT rules. However, if resident they may be entitled to split-year treatment. Where an individual is entitled to split-year treatment and that individual was a trustee of the settlement at any time during the part of the split-year in which they were in the UK, the answer to question 1 is not affected by split-year treatment for that individual. Where an individual is entitled to split-year treatment but has only been a trustee of the settlement in the overseas part of the split-year, then for the purposes of questions 1 and 2 above they can be treated as if they were not resident for the year.

Note 3

If, for part of the year to 5 April 2026, all the trustees were corporate trustees and not resident in the UK, then the trustees as a whole will not be resident in the UK for that period for Income Tax purposes.

Tick box 6.2 of the 'Trust and Estate Non-residence' pages. Please also fill in boxes 6.7 to 6.12 as appropriate. In completing the Trust and Estate Tax Return, do not include overseas income arising during the period of non-residence but remember to include all income arising during the period of residence.

Deciding the personal representatives' residence status for Income Tax purposes

You can find out the personal representatives' residence status for Income Tax purposes by working through questions 4 to 6.

4. Were all the personal representatives resident in the UK for the year to 5 April 2026?

Yes No

If Yes, the personal representatives as a whole are resident in the UK for Income Tax purposes. Tick box 6.1 of the 'Trust and Estate Non-residence' pages. Go to question 7.

If No, go to question 5.

5. Were all the personal representatives not resident in the UK for the year to 5 April 2026?

Yes No

If Yes, the personal representatives as a whole are not resident in the UK for Income Tax purposes. Tick box 6.2 of the 'Trust and Estate Non-residence' pages. Please also fill in boxes 6.7 to 6.12 as appropriate. Go to question 7.

If No, go to question 6.

6. At the time of death, was the deceased person whose estate is being administered, resident in the UK or, if they died before 6 April 2025, resident or domiciled in the UK?

Yes No

If Yes, the personal representatives as a whole are resident in the UK for Income Tax purposes. Tick box 6.1 of the 'Trust and Estate Non-residence' pages. Go to question 7. Also, if at the date of their death, the deceased was resident in the UK but domiciled outside of the UK, read the notes below on 'Personal representatives: application to Income Tax'.

If No, the personal representatives as a whole are not resident in the UK for Income Tax purposes. Tick box 6.2 of the 'Trust and Estate Non-residence' pages. Please also fill in boxes 6.6 to 6.12 as appropriate. Go to question 7.

Deciding the personal representatives' residence status for Capital Gains Tax purposes

You can find out the personal representatives' residence status for Capital Gains Tax purposes by answering question 7.

If there's more than one set of personal representatives for the purposes of general law, for Capital Gains Tax purposes they are all treated as a single body.

7. At the time of death, was the deceased person whose estate is being administered resident in the UK?

Yes No

If Yes, the personal representatives as a whole are resident in the UK for Capital Gains Tax purposes. Tick box 6.3 of the 'Trust and Estate Non-residence' pages.

If No, the personal representatives as a whole are not resident in the UK for Capital Gains Tax purposes. Tick box 6.4 of the 'Trust and Estate Non-residence' pages. Please also fill in boxes 6.13 to 6.16 as appropriate.

Tax implications

Trustees: application to Income Tax

If the trustees are not resident for Income Tax purposes, they will not be liable to Income Tax on overseas income. In such circumstances, when completing the 'Trust and Estate Trade', 'Partnership', and 'Foreign' pages and boxes elsewhere on the Trust and Estate Tax Return, do not include that income.

Details of such income may, however, be required from the trustees if the beneficiary has made or intends making a claim to relief under 'Extra-Statutory Concession B18'. The HM Revenue and Customs office responsible for dealing with these claims is:

HM Revenue and Customs
Trusts
BX9 1EL
United Kingdom

UK customers – phone: 0300 322 9640

Overseas customers – phone: +44 300 123 1072

HMRC Trusts may contact you for this additional information when they receive a claim. If you need more information about how 'Extra-Statutory Concession B18' applies, please contact them.

Trustees: application to Capital Gains Tax

If the trustees are not resident for Capital Gains Tax purposes, they will not be liable to Capital Gains Tax except in the special circumstances specified below. Therefore, you do not need to give information about Capital Gains Tax unless these circumstances apply.

Special circumstances

Trustees who are not resident but are carrying on a trade in the UK through a branch, agency or permanent establishment, are subject to Capital Gains Tax on gains resulting from the disposal of:

- assets situated in the UK and used in, or for the purposes of, the trade at or before the time when the capital gains accrued
- assets situated in the UK and used or held for the purposes of the branch, agency or permanent establishment at or before that time, or assets acquired for use by, or for the purposes of, the branch, agency or permanent establishment

(the charge does not, however, arise unless the disposal is made at a time when the trustees are carrying on the trade in the UK through a branch, agency or permanent establishment).

Trustees who were required to make a non-resident Capital Gains Tax Return for a disposal of an interest in residential property in the UK.

Enter relevant details on the 'Trust and Estate Capital Gains' pages.

Personal representatives: application to Income Tax

If the personal representatives are resident in the UK, their taxable income will depend on the residence of the deceased, whose estate is being administered, at the date of death.

If the deceased was resident in the UK, then the personal representatives will be taxable in the normal way on both UK and overseas income.

If the deceased was not a long-term UK resident within the meaning of IHTA 1984, they will be taxable only on UK income. Please also tick box 6.6 of the 'Trust and Estate Non-residence' pages.

If the personal representatives are not resident in the UK, they will not be taxable on foreign income. In such circumstances, do not include such income. In addition, such personal representatives will not need to include details of income from UK government securities that has been paid without deduction of tax.

However, this does not mean that income which is not taxable on personal representatives is not chargeable to tax on a UK resident beneficiary. Details of such income may be asked for by the beneficiary to allow them to complete their personal tax return.

Personal representatives: application to Capital Gains Tax

If the personal representatives are not resident for Capital Gains Tax purposes, they will not be subject to Capital Gains Tax except in the special circumstances specified below. Therefore, they do not need to make any entries for Capital Gains Tax on page 3 of the Trust and Estate Tax Return or the 'Trust and Estate Capital Gains' pages unless these circumstances apply.

Special circumstances

Personal representatives who are not resident but are carrying on a trade in the UK through a branch, agency or permanent establishment are subject to Capital Gains Tax on gains resulting from the disposal of:

- assets situated in the UK and used in, or for the purposes of, the trade at or before the time when the capital gains accrued
- assets situated in the UK and used or held for the purposes of the branch, agency or permanent establishment at or before that time, or assets acquired for use by, or for the purposes of, the branch, agency or permanent establishment

(the charge does not, however, arise unless the disposal is made at a time when the personal representatives are carrying on the trade in the UK through a branch, agency or permanent establishment).

Personal representatives who were required to make a non-resident Capital Gains Tax Return for a disposal of an interest in residential property in the UK.

Enter relevant details on the 'Trust and Estate Capital Gains' pages.

Double taxation agreements

A double taxation agreement is an arrangement by the governments of 2 countries to resolve taxation issues affecting them both. Agreements contain detailed provisions designed to eliminate or relieve the double taxation that can occur when income arises in one country to a resident of another. They do this either by exempting the income from tax in one country, or by reducing the rate at which tax is charged in one country and allowing credit for that reduced rate of tax in the other country.

You can find a list of countries with which the UK has double taxation agreements in the Digest of Double Taxation Treaties on our website. Go to www.gov.uk/government/publications/double-taxation-treaties-territory-residents-with-uk-income

Non-UK residents

If the trustees or personal representatives are not resident in the UK but resident in a country with which the UK has a double taxation agreement, they may be able to get relief from UK tax under the terms of that agreement for income arising in the UK from:

- royalties
- dividends
- interest

Some agreements require the trustees or personal representatives to be subject to tax in the other country on the income in question before they get relief from UK tax.

You can find the precise conditions for exemption or relief in the relevant agreement. It is not possible to give full details here as they vary from agreement to agreement. If you need more help to decide if any relief is due under a double taxation agreement, ask us or your tax adviser.

Dual residents

It may be that the trustees or personal representatives are resident in the UK under UK domestic tax law and also resident for the same period in another country under that country's rules (that is, they are 'dual resident'). If the other country is one with which the UK has a double taxation agreement, the agreement will usually provide special rules for determining, but only for the purpose of applying its detailed provisions, in which of the 2 countries they are regarded as a resident.

If they are 'dual resident', the trustees or personal representatives may be able to claim the exemptions and reliefs from UK tax granted to residents of that other country. For the purposes of certain Capital Gains Tax reliefs, dual resident trustees are treated as not resident.

The rules for determining residence for the purposes of a double taxation agreement can be complex. Broadly, the standard provisions look at criteria such as the availability of a 'permanent home', personal and economic relations with both countries, 'habitual abode' and nationality. For trustees, the provisions look at where the effective management of the trust is situated.

Some of these terms have special meanings and interpretation of them is not always straightforward. Not all agreements have identical rules, or a similar effect on tax liability.

You can find the precise conditions for exemption or relief in the relevant agreement. If you need more help to decide if any relief is due under a double taxation agreement, ask us or your tax adviser.

If you intend to make a claim, tick box 6.5 of the 'Trust and Estate Non-residence' pages. Please also fill in boxes 6.21 to 6.34 as appropriate and contact us for more advice. You'll also need to get a certificate from the overseas tax authority showing that they regard the trustees or personal representatives as residents under the domestic tax law of that country for the period of claim. This should be stated on the certificate. Keep it in case it's needed later to support your claim.