

CRS Self-Certification – Entity



Introduction

The automatic exchange of financial account information (AEOI) regime is based on the Common Reporting Standard (CRS), an internationally agreed standard developed by the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to combat tax evasion. AEOI refers to the regular exchange of financial account information between jurisdictions, the purpose of which is to deter and detect tax evasion by taxpayers using offshore bank accounts. **Sterling Bank Plc** must comply with the relevant AEOI requirements in all countries or jurisdictions in which **Sterling Bank Plc** operates and AEOI requirements are in effect. Under the AEOI requirements, **Sterling Bank Plc** must collect certain information and/or documentation from clients to establish their tax residence and classification status. In certain circumstances, **Sterling Bank Plc** may be required to report this information annually to relevant tax authorities. This information then may be exchanged with relevant tax authorities in other countries or jurisdictions, in accordance with applicable law.

This is a CRS Self-Certification that **Sterling Bank Plc** is requesting you to complete. The CRS Self-Certification and explanatory notes are not a substitute for understanding AEOI under CRS. The Bank does not, and cannot, provide tax or legal advice. If you have any questions about this Self-Certification or AEOI under CRS, please consult your tax, legal, or other professional advisor.

Please complete this Self-Certification if you are an entity Account Holder. For joint or multiple Account Holders, complete a separate Self-Certification for each entity Account Holder.

If you are an Individual (including a sole proprietor) Account Holder, do not use this Self-Certification. Instead, complete the 'Self-Certification – Individual'.

Please complete Parts 1 to 4 in BLOCK LETTERS and read the Instructions on how to complete this Self-Certification on page 5 and the Definitions on page 10.

Part 1 Identification of Account Holder

A) Name of Legal Entity or Branch	B) Country/Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organisation
	Place of Incorporation*:
	Country/Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organisation:
C) Current Residence Address**	D) Mailing Address (complete only if different from Section C)
Address Line 1:	Address Line 1:
Address Line 2:	Address Line 2:
City/Town:	City/Town:
Province/State/County:	Province/State/County:
Postal Code/ZIP Code:	Postal Code/ZIP Code:
Country/Jurisdiction:	Country/Jurisdiction:

Part 2 Tax Residence Information

Please complete the following table indicating (i) the country/jurisdiction (or countries/jurisdictions) in which the Account Holder is a resident for tax purposes and (ii) the Account Holder's Taxpayer Identification Number or functional equivalent (hereafter referred to as 'TIN') for each country/jurisdiction indicated. All countries/jurisdictions of tax residence should be included, regardless of whether the country/jurisdiction has adopted CRS.

If the Account Holder is not a resident for tax purposes in any country/jurisdiction, for example, it is fiscally transparent, please indicate that in the first column of the following table and provide its place of effective management or country/jurisdiction in which its principal office is located.

If the Account Holder is a resident for tax purposes of more than three countries/jurisdictions, please use a separate sheet.

If no TIN is provided, please indicate Reason A, B or C where appropriate:

- Reason A: Country/Jurisdiction does not issue TINs to its residents.
- Reason B: Country/Jurisdiction issues TINs, but the Account Holder is unable or not required to obtain a TIN (please explain why the Account Holder is unable or not required to obtain a TIN).
- Reason C: No TIN is required. Country/Jurisdiction issues TINs but the country/jurisdiction does not require Financial Institutions to collect TINs from its residents.

More details are available in the Instructions to this Self-Certification.

No.	Country or Jurisdiction of Tax Residence	Tax Identification Number [TIN]	If no TIN is provided, indicate Reason A, B or C
1.			
2.			
3.			

If Reason B is selected above, explain why the Account Holder is unable or not required to obtain a TIN below

Part 3 Entity Type

Only tick one box from 1A to 1H to provide the Account Holder's status.

Financial Institution (FI)

- **1A) Investment Entity located in a Non-Participating Jurisdiction and managed by another Financial Institution**
(complete the 'Controlling Person of Entity' section below if ticking this box)
- **1B) Other Financial Institution**

Non-Financial Entity (NFE)

- **1C) Active NFE – A corporation that is publicly traded or a Related Entity of a publicly traded corporation**
 - The Account Holder is a corporation, the stock of which is regularly traded on _____, which is an established securities market.
 - The Account Holder is a Related Entity of _____, a corporation, the stock of which is regularly traded on _____, which is an established securities market.
- **1D) Active NFE – A Governmental Entity**
- **1E) Active NFE – A Central Bank**
- **1F) Active NFE – An International Organisation**
- **1G) Active NFE (other than Entity 1C to 1F) – For example, an active business, liquidating company, holding company that is a member of a non-financial group, financial company of a non-financial group, start-up company, or a charity or non-profit organisation.**
(Please see Definitions)
- **1H) Passive NFE:** A NFE that is not an Active NFE (complete the 'Controlling Person of Entity' section below if ticking this box)

Controlling Person of Entity (to be completed only if you ticked box 1A or 1H above)

- **2A) Indicate the name of any Controlling Person(s) of the Account Holder:**

- **2B) Complete Entity Annex for each Controlling Person.**
Note: If there are no natural person(s) who exercise control of the Account Holder then the Controlling Person will be the natural person(s) who hold the position of senior managing official

Part 4 Declaration and Signature

I understand that this Self-Certification and the information supplied in it are subject to the terms and conditions governing the account(s) maintained with **Sterling bank Plc** which this Self-Certification relates.

I acknowledge that the information contained in this Self-Certification and information regarding the Account Holder and any Reportable Account(s) may be provided to the tax authorities of the country/jurisdiction in which this/these account(s) is/are maintained and exchanged with tax authorities of another country/jurisdiction or countries/jurisdictions in which this Account Holder may be a tax resident, pursuant to bilateral or multilateral agreements between governments to exchange financial account information.

I certify that I am authorised to complete and sign this Self-Certification for the Account Holder of all of the account(s) to which this Self-Certification relates.

I declare that all statements made in this declaration are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, correct and complete.

I undertake to notify the recipient of this Self-Certification within 30 days of any change in circumstances which affects the tax residency status of the Account Holder or which causes the information contained herein to become incorrect (including any changes to the information on Controlling Persons identified in Part 3 Question 2, if applicable), and to submit a suitably updated Self-Certification and Declaration within 30 days of such change in circumstances and to provide any additional information as may be required by Sterling Bank Plc and/or applicable law.

Sign Here



Signature of Account Holder (or individual authorised to sign for the Account Holder)

Print Full Name Date

(DD-MM-YYYY)

Capacity of the individual authorised to sign for the Account Holder

Company Stamp*

Entity Annex

This section is to be completed for each Controlling Person. Use a separate Entity Annex for each Controlling Person. Please complete Parts I to III in BLOCK LETTERS.

Part I Identification of a Controlling Person

A) Name of Controlling Person		B) Date of Birth	
Title:		DD-MM -YYYY:	
Surname(s):		C) Place of Birth	
First or Given Name:		Town or City of Birth:	
Middle Name(s):		Country/Jurisdiction of Birth:	
D) Current Residence Address		E) Mailing Address (complete only if different from Section D)	
Address Line 1:		Address Line 1:	
Address Line 2:		Address Line 2:	
City/Town:		City/Town:	
Province/State/County:		Province/State/County:	
Postal Code/ZIP Code:		Postal Code/ZIP Code:	
Country/Jurisdiction:		Country/Jurisdiction:	
F) Gender*		G) Country/Jurisdiction of Citizenship*	
Male			
Female		H) Identification Number*	
Others			

Part II Tax Residence Information

Please complete the following table indicating (i) the country/jurisdiction (or countries/jurisdictions) in which the Controlling Person is a resident for tax purposes and (ii) the Controlling Person's Taxpayer Identification Number or functional equivalent (hereafter referred to as 'TIN') for each country/jurisdiction indicated. All countries/jurisdictions of tax residence should be included, regardless of whether the country/jurisdiction has adopted CRS.

If the Controlling Person is a resident for tax purposes of more than three countries/jurisdictions, please use a separate sheet.

If no TIN or functional equivalent is provided, please indicate Reason **A**, **B** or **C** where appropriate:

- **Reason A:** Country/Jurisdiction does not issue TINs to its residents.
- **Reason B:** Country/Jurisdiction issues TINs, but the Controlling Person is unable or not required to obtain a TIN (please explain why the Controlling Person is unable or not required to obtain a TIN).
- **Reason C:** No TIN is required. Country/Jurisdiction issues TINs but the country/jurisdiction does not require Financial Institutions to collect TINs from its residents.

More details are available in the Instructions to this Self-Certification.

No.	Country or Jurisdiction of Tax Residence	Tax Identification Number [TIN]	If no TIN is provided, indicate Reason A, B or C
1.			
2.			
3.			

If Reason B is selected above, explain why the Controlling Person is unable or not required to obtain a TIN in the corresponding row below

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Part III Type of Controlling Person

Please provide the Controlling Person's status by ticking the appropriate box. Please refer to the Instructions for guidance on completing Part III.

Controlling Person of a Legal Person
Control by ownership
Control by other means
Senior managing official
Controlling Person of a Trust
Settlor
Trustee
Protector
Beneficiary
Other
Controlling Person of a Legal Arrangement (Non-Trust)
Settlor-equivalent
Trustee-equivalent
Protector-equivalent
Beneficiary-equivalent
Other-equivalent

Part VI Declaration and Signature of a Controlling Person


I understand that this Self-Certification and the information supplied in it are subject to the terms and conditions governing the account(s) maintained with **Sterling Bank Plc** which this Self-Certification relates.

I acknowledge that the information contained in this Self -Certification and information regarding the Account Holder and Controlling Person as well as any Reportable Account(s) may be provided to the tax authorities of the country/jurisdiction in which this/these account(s) is/are maintained and exchanged with tax authorities of another country/jurisdiction or countries/jurisdictions in which this Controlling Person may be a tax resident, pursuant to bilateral or multilateral agreements between governments to exchange financial account information.

I certify that I am the Controlling Person, Account Holder, or am authorised to sign for the Controlling Person, of all of the account(s) to which this Self-Certification relates.

I declare that all statements made in this declaration are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, correct and complete.

I undertake to notify the recipient of this Self-Certification within 30 days of any change in circumstances which affects the tax residency status of the Controlling Person or which causes the information contained herein to become incorrect, and to submit a suitably updated Self-Certification and Declaration within 30 days of such change in circumstances and to provide any additional information as may be required by Sterling Bank and/or applicable law.

Sign Here  _____
 Signature of Controlling Person, Account holder (or person authorised to sign for the Controlling Person) _____
 Print Full Name Date _____
 (DD-MM-YYYY)

 Capacity of the individual authorised to sign
 for the Controlling Person

Please note that in providing the certification, a statement that is false, misleading or incorrect may be regarded as an offence and, therefore may be subject to penalties under relevant law or regulation.

Instructions

Entity

The general instructions below are intended to assist you with the completion of this Self-Certification. This should be read with the **Definitions**, as well as the relevant CRS regulations, and related documents. Should you have any questions, please contact your tax, legal, and/or other professional advisor.

Part 1 Identification of Individual Account Holder

A) Name of Account Holder# (Legal Entity or Branch): Provide the full name of the **Account Holder#**. If it is a branch of a Financial Institution, provide the full name of the head office. This is a mandatory field.

B) Country/Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organisation: If the Account Holder is a corporation, enter its country of incorporation. If the Account Holder is another type of entity, enter the country under whose laws it is created, organised, or governed. It is mandatory to complete the 'Place of Incorporation' field, where the town or city is to be indicated, unless the incorporation documents do not indicate a 'Place of Incorporation'. Then, it is acceptable for the client to indicate the Country of Incorporation in this field. This is a mandatory field.

C) Current Residence Address: Enter the current operating or registered address of the Account Holder identified in Part 1. This is a mandatory field.

D) Mailing Address (only complete if different from Section C): Only complete this section if the address is different from the Current Residence Address.

#Please refer to the Definitions provided in this Self-Certification for an explanation of an Account Holder.

Part 2 Tax Residence Information

Please complete the table indicating (i) the country(ies)/jurisdiction(s) where the Account Holder is/are **Resident for tax purposes** and (ii) the Account Holder's TIN for each country/jurisdiction indicated. Please refer to the **Definitions** provided in this Self-Certification for an explanation on "Resident for tax purposes".

If the Account Holder is not resident for tax purposes in any jurisdiction, for example, it is fiscally transparent, please indicate that in the first column of the table and provide its place of effective management or country in which its principal office is located.

The requirement to pay tax in a particular country/jurisdiction does not necessarily signify tax residence in that country/jurisdiction; it is possible to have to pay tax in a country/jurisdiction in which one is not tax resident, and not to have to pay tax in a country in which one is tax resident. Whether a person is tax resident in a particular country/jurisdiction depends on whether that person meets the definition of a tax resident under the tax laws of that country/jurisdiction. For more information on tax residence, please consult your tax advisor or refer to the information at OECD automatic exchange of information portal at <http://www.oecd.org/tax/automatic-exchange/crs-implementation-and-assistance/tax-residency/#d.en.347760>.

If a TIN is unavailable, please indicate only one of the following reasons:

Reason (A): Country/Jurisdiction does not issue TINs.

Reason (B): Country/Jurisdiction issues TINs and requires Financial Institutions to collect TINs, but the Account Holder is unable or not required to obtain a TIN. Please provide an explanation as to why the Account Holder is unable or not required to obtain a TIN in the table.

Reason (C): No TIN is required. Country/Jurisdiction issues TINs but the country/jurisdiction does not require Financial Institutions to collect TINs from its residents.

This is a mandatory field.

Part 3 Entity Type

General: Only tick one box from 1A to 1H to provide the Account Holder's status. Please refer to the **Definitions** in providing the Account Holder's status.

Financial Institution: If the Account Holder is a Financial Institution, check the one box that applies. By checking a box, the entity is representing that it qualifies for the status indicated.

Non-Financial Entity: If the Account Holder is a Non-Financial Entity, check the one box that applies. By checking a box, the entity is representing that it qualifies for the status indicated.

Controlling Person of Entity: If box 1A or 1H was ticked, this section needs to be completed with the name of each Controlling Person. Additionally, an Entity Annex needs to be completed for each Controlling Person.

Part 4 Declaration and Signature

Declaration and Signature: The Self-Certification must be signed and dated by an authorised representative or officer of the Account Holder. By signing the Self-Certification, the authorised representative, officer, or agent of the entity also agrees to provide a new Self-Certification and Declaration within 30 days following a change in circumstances affecting the correctness of the Self-Certification.

Capacity: An authorised representative or officer must state the capacity in which he/she is signing for the Account Holder identified in Part 1. If this Self-Certification is completed by an agent acting under a duly authorised power of attorney, the Self-Certification must be accompanied by the power of attorney in proper form or a copy thereof specifically authorising the agent to represent the principal in making, executing, and presenting the Self-Certification. This is a mandatory field.

Entity and Entity Annex

Definitions

Central Bank: An institution that is by law or government sanction the principal authority, other than the government of the jurisdiction itself, issuing instruments intended to circulate as currency. Such an institution may include an instrumentality that is separate from the government of the jurisdiction, whether or not owned in whole or in part by the jurisdiction.

Controlling Person: The natural persons who exercise control over an Entity. In the case of a trust, such term means the settlor(s), the trustee(s), the protector(s) (if any), the beneficiary(ies), or class(es) of beneficiaries, and any other natural person(s) exercising ultimate effective control over the trust, and in the case of a legal arrangement other than a trust, such term means persons in equivalent or similar positions. The term 'Controlling Person' shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the Recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) provided as follows.

(i) For legal persons:

(a) Natural persons (if any – as ownership interests can be so diversified that there are no natural persons (whether acting alone or together) exercising control of the legal person or arrangement through ownership) who ultimately have a controlling ownership interest (a controlling ownership interest depends on the ownership structure of the company. It may be based on a threshold, e.g. any person owning more than a certain percentage of the company (e.g. 25%) in a legal person; and

(b) to the extent that there is doubt under (a) as to whether the person(s) with the controlling ownership interest are the beneficial owner(s) or where no natural person exerts control through ownership interests, the natural persons (if any) exercising control of the legal person or arrangement through other means.

(c) Where no natural person is identified under (a) or (b) above, the relevant natural person who holds the position of senior managing official.

(ii) For Trusts – the settlor, the trustee(s), the protector (if any), the beneficiaries or class of beneficiaries, and any other natural person exercising ultimate effective control over the trust (including through a chain of control/ownership)

(iii) Other types of legal arrangements (non-trust) – Persons in equivalent or similar positions.

For purposes of determining the Controlling Persons of an Account Holder, reference should be made to the AML/KYC Procedures pursuant to the anti-money laundering or similar requirements as implemented in the domestic law applies.

Custodial Institution: Any Entity that holds, as a substantial portion of its business, financial assets for the account of others. An Entity holds financial assets for the account of others as a substantial portion of its business if the Entity's gross income attributable to the holding of financial assets and related financial services equals or exceeds 20 percent of the Entity's gross income during the shorter of: (i) the three-year period that ends on 31 December (or the final day of a non-calendar year accounting period) prior to the year in which the determination is being made; or (ii) the period during which the Entity has been in existence.

Depository Institution: Any Entity that accepts deposits in the ordinary course of a banking or similar business.

Entity: A legal person or a legal arrangement, such as a corporation, organisation, partnership, trust or foundation.

Established Securities Market: An exchange that is officially recognised and supervised by a governmental authority in which the market is located and that has a meaningful annual value of shares traded on the exchange.

Financial Institution: Any of the following: (i) A Depository Institution (ii) A Custodial Institution (iii) An Investment Entity

(iv) A Specified Insurance Company

Governmental Entity: The government of a jurisdiction, any political subdivision of a jurisdiction (which, for the avoidance of doubt, includes a state, province, county, or municipality), or any wholly owned agency or instrumentality of a jurisdiction or any one or more of the foregoing (each, 'Governmental Entity'). This category is comprised of the integral parts, controlled entities, and political subdivisions of a jurisdiction.

(i) An integral part of a jurisdiction means any person, organisation, agency, bureau, fund, instrumentality, or other body, however designated, that constitutes a jurisdiction, with no portion inuring to the benefit of any private person. An integral part does not include any individual who is a sovereign, official, or administrator acting in a private or personal capacity.

(ii) A controlled entity means an Entity that is separate in Form from the jurisdiction or that otherwise constitutes a separate juridical entity, provided that:

(a) The Entity is wholly owned and controlled by one or more Governmental Entities directly or through one or more controlled entities;

(b) The Entity's net earnings are credited to its own account or to the accounts of one or more Governmental Entities, with no portion of its income inuring to the benefit of any private person; and

(c) The Entity's assets vest in one or more Governmental Entities upon dissolution.

(iii) Income does not inure to the benefit of private persons if such persons are the intended beneficiaries of a governmental program, and the program activities are performed for the general public with respect to the common welfare or relate to the administration of some phase of government. Notwithstanding the foregoing; however, income is considered to inure to the benefit of private persons if the income is derived from the use of a Governmental Entity to conduct a commercial.

International Organisation: Any international organisation or wholly owned agency or instrumentality thereof. This category includes any intergovernmental organisation (including a supranational organisation)

(1) that is comprised primarily of governments; (2) that has in effect a headquarters or substantially similar agreement with the jurisdiction; and

(3) the income of which does not inure to the benefit of private persons.

Investment Entity: There are two types of Investment Entities:

(i) Entity that primarily conducts as a business (or is managed by an Entity that conducts as a business) one or more of the following activities or operations for or on behalf of a customer:

(a) trading in money market instruments (cheques, bills, certificates of deposit, derivatives, etc.); foreign exchange; exchange, interest rate and index instruments; transferable securities; or commodity futures trading;

(b) individual and collective portfolio management; or

(c) otherwise investing, administering, or managing funds or money on behalf of other persons; or

(ii) The second type of 'Investment Entity' ('Investment Entity managed by another FI') is any entity the gross income of which is primarily attributable to investing, reinvesting, or trading in Financial Assets where the Entity is managed by another Entity that is a Depository Institution, a Custodial Institution, a Specified Insurance Company, or the first type of Investment Entity.

Participating Jurisdiction: A jurisdiction –

(i) with which an agreement is in place pursuant to which it will provide the specified information under CRS, and

(ii) which is identified in a published list.

Passive NFE: Any NFE (being an entity that is not a FI) that is not an Active NFE. (Note: Similar treatment will be applied to an Investment Entity located in a Non-Participating Jurisdiction and managed by another Financial Institution).

Related Entity: An Entity is regarded as being related to another Entity if:

(i) One controls the other; or (ii) The two Entities are under common control.

Control means: Direct or indirect ownership of more than 50 percent of the vote and value in an Entity.

Reportable Account: An account that, pursuant to due diligence procedures consistent with CRS, has been identified as an account that is held by one or more persons that are Reportable Persons or by a Passive NFE with one or more Controlling Persons that are Reportable Persons with respect to another Jurisdiction.

Reportable Person: A Reportable Jurisdiction Person other than:

(i) 3a corporation the stock of which is regularly traded on one or more Established Securities Markets;

(ii) 3any corporation that is a Related Entity of a corporation described in clause (i);

(iii) a Governmental Entity;

(iv) an International Organisation; \ (v) a Central Bank; or

(vi) 3a Financial Institution (except for an Investment Entity located in a Non-Participating Jurisdiction and managed by another FI).

Reportable Jurisdiction Person: An Individual or Entity that is resident in a Reportable Jurisdiction under the tax laws of such jurisdiction, or an estate of a decedent that was a resident of a Reportable Jurisdiction. For this purpose, an Entity such as a partnership, limited liability partnership or similar legal arrangement that has no residence for tax purposes shall be treated as resident in the jurisdiction in which its place of effective management is situated.

Reportable Jurisdiction: A Reportable Jurisdiction is a Participating Jurisdiction with which an obligation to provide financial account information is in place and that is identified in a published list.

Resident for tax purposes: Each jurisdiction has its own rules for defining tax residence, and jurisdictions have provided information on how to determine whether an entity is tax resident in the jurisdiction on the OECD automatic exchange of information portal. Generally, an Entity will be resident for tax purposes in a jurisdiction if, under the laws of that jurisdiction (including tax conventions), it pays or should be paying tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of management or incorporation, or any other criterion of a similar nature, and not only from sources in that jurisdiction. Dual resident Entities may rely on the tiebreaker rules contained in tax conventions (if applicable) to solve cases of double residence for determining their residence for tax purposes. An Entity such as a partnership, limited liability partnership or similar legal arrangement that has no residence for tax purposes shall be treated as resident in the jurisdiction in which its place of effective management is situated. For additional information on tax residence, please talk to your legal, tax, or other professional advisor or refer to the OECD automatic exchange of information portal on tax residency: <http://www.oecd.org/tax/automatic-exchange/crsimplementation-and-assistance/tax-residency/#d.en.347760>.

Specified Insurance Company: Any Entity that is an insurance company (or the holding company of an insurance company) that issues, or is obligated to make payments with respect to, a Cash Value Insurance Contract or an Annuity Contract.

Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN): Taxpayer Identification Number or a functional equivalent in the absence of a TIN. A TIN is a unique combination of letters or numbers assigned by a jurisdiction to an Individual or an Entity and used to identify the Individual or Entity for the purposes of administering the tax laws of such jurisdiction. Further details of acceptable TINs can be found at: <http://www.oecd.org/tax/automatic-exchange/crs-implementation-and-assistance/tax-residency/#d.en.347760>

Some jurisdiction do not issue a TIN. However, these jurisdictions often utilise some other high integrity number with an equivalent level of identification (a 'functional equivalent'). Examples of that type of number include, for individuals, a social security/insurance number, citizen/personal identification/service code/ number, and resident registration number.

