

## **Leaving Guernsey\***

\* For income tax purposes, “Guernsey” includes Alderney and Herm

### **Do I have to notify the Income Tax Office if I leave Guernsey?**

Yes. In order for us to bring your assessments up to date, please complete a Leaving Guernsey checklist (available from our website at <http://www.gov.gg/tax> under “Other tax forms”).

If you are leaving Guernsey permanently and your only source of income is employment income and/or bank interest, you will not need to complete a separate income tax return for the year of departure, provided all relevant information is provided on the form.

If your departure is not permanent or you receive income from sources other than earnings and bank interest, you will need to complete an income tax return for the year of departure, even if you have completed form leaving Guernsey form. Tax returns can be completed online at <https://eforms.gov.gg> and must be submitted by 30 November to avoid late filing penalties.

### **What does “permanently depart” mean?**

A permanent departure from Guernsey means that you have made a decision to leave and set up home elsewhere. You will also be treated as having permanently departed from Guernsey if you leave Guernsey and come back in the following year on a regular basis.

You will not be treated as having permanently departed from Guernsey if:

- you leave Guernsey but return in the same calendar year as you left, or
- you take a long holiday each year but return to your home in Guernsey.

### **How does a permanent departure from Guernsey affect my allowances?**

If you permanently depart from Guernsey, your personal tax allowances will be based on the number of weeks you spent in Guernsey in the year in which you permanently depart.

### **How will any repayment be dealt with?**

If you are due a repayment, a cheque will be sent to you. We can also make the repayment direct to a Guernsey, Jersey, Isle of Man or United Kingdom bank account but in order for this to be possible you will need to let us know the following details:

- account name,
- bank or building society name and address,
- account number,
- sort code.

If the repayment needs to be made to a non-Guernsey, Jersey, Isle of Man or United Kingdom bank account, we will also need, in addition to the above, the following:

- IBAN number,
- BIC / SWIFT,
- the currency that the bank account is held in.

You can request a repayment by completing a Repayment Request form (available from our website at <http://www.gov.gg/tax> under “Other tax forms”).

However, if a repayment is made to a non-UK bank account, charges will be need to deducted by the bank and your repayment will be paid minus these charges.

### **What if I still have Guernsey sources of income?**

If you are still in receipt of sources of Guernsey income after your departure (for example, Guernsey rental income, Guernsey occupational pensions, maintenance, etc) you may need to pay Guernsey income tax on this income but we will let you know if this is the case. You may also need to submit a non-resident return annually, but we will let you know if this is required.

### **Will I still need to pay Guernsey income tax on my occupational/personal pension from Guernsey following my permanent departure?**

If you are liable to pay Guernsey income tax on your occupational/personal pension from Guernsey will depend on the tax rules in the jurisdiction where you move to and become resident for tax purposes. In addition, Guernsey has signed a number of Double Taxation Arrangements (“DTAs”) which may include provisions regarding the allocation of taxing rights on pensions. The relevant DTAs can be found at <http://www.gov.gg/article/151825/Double-taxation-arrangements-DTA> and selecting the relevant country will enable you to review the text of that Arrangement.

For example, under the provisions of the revised DTA between Guernsey and the United Kingdom, with effect from 1 January 2010 all Guernsey pensions paid to residents of the United Kingdom are longer subject to Guernsey income tax when an Application for relief from Guernsey income tax (form 675) (available from our website at <http://www.gov.gg/tax> under “Other tax forms”) has been completed, but will, instead, only be subject to United Kingdom income tax. Please complete this form you wish to claim exemption from Guernsey income tax in respect of your pension.

If, however, you live in a jurisdiction other than the United Kingdom and your personal pension fund is left in Guernsey, any pension paid will be subject to Guernsey income tax at 20%. With effect from 1 January 2010 you are entitled to claim, against your Guernsey pension, the personal and other allowances to which you would have been entitled had you been resident in Guernsey. If you wish to make such a claim, please complete the application for Non-residents to claim for personal and other allowances (pensions) (form 676) (available from our website at <http://www.gov.gg/tax> under “Other tax forms”).

**What happens if I leave Guernsey and receive a Guernsey Old Age (“States”) Pension?**

By concession, if you are not resident in Guernsey, Guernsey income tax will not be due on a Guernsey Old Age (States) Pension but it may need to be declared in your country of residence (depending on the taxation rules in your country of residence).

**What happens if I own a Guernsey property and leave Guernsey but continue to receive Guernsey rental income?**

If you have left Guernsey and receive rent from a property situated in Guernsey, you will be chargeable to Guernsey income tax at 20% on the gross rent received (after the standard deduction for repairs). If an estate agent is managing the property for you, it will be the responsibility of the estate agent to deduct the tax on your behalf. If you are dealing directly with your tenant, the tenant will be treated as the ‘agent’ and responsible for deducting the tax from the payments they make to you.