

# IHT: It's Here, Thursday

- Introduction
- IHT for domicile versus non-domicile
- Tax planning opportunities and reliefs
- Ten common pitfalls
- Questions



## **BKL** in numbers

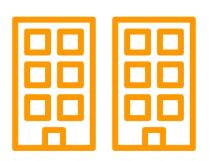
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A growing and ambitious
Top 50 firm of accountants
and tax advisers

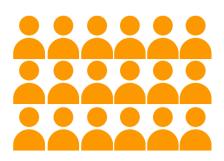
Established in

1980





Two offices: London and Cambridge



More than 190 staff



### **Our services**



#### **Audit and Assurance**

We treat audit as a powerful diagnostic tool rather than a statutory requirement, and are a significant audit firm for the ICAFW.



### Management accounting, payroll and outsourcing

Free up your business and enjoy expert service on demand, including access to the latest software such as Xero.



### **Corporate finance**

Our team has a strong reputation, achieving great results for raising finance and selling businesses.



#### **Business tax**

Our tax team is one of the most highly regarded in the country and covers our key sectors in great depth.



#### **Private clients**

We act for many high net worth individuals, be they domiciled in the UK or overseas. We specialise in wealth preservation and are highly experienced in managing complex tax and dynamic planning (including IHT).



### **Our sectors**



### **Property**

Property is a cornerstone of BKL. It can be time pressured and a tax minefield, and it requires calmness and clear understanding for effective decision making.



### **Technology and digital businesses**

Up-to-date advice for a fast moving industry. We understand technology and its impact on the marketplace and those that succeed in this sector.



#### **Financial services**

We understand the complex issues which financial traders and brokers deal with daily, and the value of the right business structure for maximising returns.



### Farms and family estates

We are building an enviable reputation for helping landowners old and new enjoy their assets and get the best from them.



### Hospitality

We understand the stresses, risks and opportunities of the industry through many years of hands-on experience.





## **Death and taxes**



It's not that I'm afraid to die, I just don't want to be there when it happens.

Woody Allen



### Inheritance tax and domicile

Inheritance tax is a domicile based tax.

The estate of a UK domiciled individual will be liable to inheritance tax on worldwide assets.

The estate of a non-UK domiciled individual will be liable to inheritance tax on UK assets only.



### What is domicile?

Domicile is a general legal concept. It describes the country that you consider to be your home or the country where you have your permanent home. It is not the same as nationality, citizenship or residence.

Domicile is a connecting factor which links a person with a particular legal system, and the law of his domicile is his personal law. (Dicey & Morris)

Thus domicile connects an individual to either a country or, in the case of federal countries, a state.



## What is domicile?

Domicile of origin

Father if legitimate

Mother if illegitimate

Domicile of dependency

Follows dependent parent

Married women pre 1 January 1974 (not USA)



## What is domicile?

Domicile of choice

From age of 16

Acquisition and abandonment

Returning formerly domiciled individuals
 UK resident, born in UK with UK domicile of origin

Deemed domicile

Resident in the UK for 15 of the last 20 years

Three year tail from losing domicile of choice

If no longer resident in the UK and abandons a domicile of choice in the UK then only need to be non-resident for three years



### Unusual situations

Illegitimate individuals: follows mother

Adopted individuals: follows adoptive parents

Foundlings: follows place where found

Divorcing parents: no change. However, see adoptive parents above

Sharia law: forced inheritance tax 2/3 to son 1/3 to daughter



# **Examples**

Jane born in UK, with a UK domicile of origin, marries a Frenchman in 1969. She continues to live in the UK until 1980 when they move to New South Wales, Australia. They live a happy and long life.

Jane has a domicile of origin in the UK. She acquires a domicile of dependency from her husband in France and then acquires a domicile of choice in New South Wales.



# **Examples**

UK domicile of origin. Moves to East Coast of the US at 45 years of age. Moves between Massachusetts, New York State and Maine. Never spends more than seven years in any one. Dies prematurely in a car crash.

Probably still UK domiciled. Did not spend enough time in any one state to create a domicile of choice.



# **Examples**

Baby found on the steps of the Spanish Embassy in Rome. Adopted by a French couple.

Baby has initial domicile of origin in Spain (check where sovereign territory begins and ends). Domicile then switches to adoptive father.



# Inheritance tax planning



He's spending a year dead for tax reasons.

Douglas Adams, The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy





## Where there's a will...

- Inland Revenue
- Estate Duty Office/Capital Taxes Office
- Management Division
- Policy Division
- The Great Escape of 1988

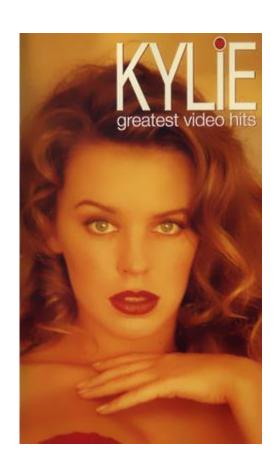


### Inheritance tax and domicile

- Domicile based
- General law domicile and deemed domicile
- Spouse/CP exemption
- NB lifetime transfers and estate on death
- Normally unlimited
- Except on transfer from UK domicile to non-UK domicile
- Exemption then £325,000
- Can be used against lifetime transfers
- PET & GROB rules may need to be considered



# What does a non-domicile look like?





# What about this one?





## Domicile election

- Election for UK domicile
- Corollary is worldwide assets within scope of IHT
- Election is irrevocable but falls away after four years' nonresidence
- What if already non-resident when election made?
- Interpretation of IHTA 1984 s 267 ZB (10)



## Wills

- Will planning with spouses
- Outright gift?
- IPDI?
- Overriding power of appointment
- Stealing the spouse's nil rate band



## Instruments of variation

- Within two years of death
- Fiscal fictions
- In reality lifetime gifts by original beneficiary
- Retrospective treatment for IHT & CGT
- Can elect for both or either
- Obtain spouse exemption
- The Lau case
- "Killing-off" discretionary will trusts



# Promises, promises...





### Residence nil rate band

- The residence nil rate band (RNRB)
- In force at £125,000 (£150,000 then £175,000)
- Transferable in (roughly) same way as NRB
- Doesn't matter when first spouse died
- Doesn't matter if (s)he owned property
- Tapers if estate exceeds £2m
- Available to benefit stepchildren





# House style

- Specialist in field of trusts, landed estates, probate and charities
- Long career with two of the Big Four
- Member of STEP
- Director of trusts team at BKL



## **Estates**

- 1. Gifts out of income or a lack of...
  - Income from ISAs is included in the calculation



## **Estates**

## 2. Deathbed planning

Mitigation of CGT

### 3. ISA

 AIM ISA – 100% IHT exemption on investments held for two years



### **Estates**

### 4. Missed opportunities

Director's loan accounts – rights issues

### 5. Residence nil rate band

Property passing into a discretionary trust



## **Trusts**

### 1. FA2006 – 18-25 Trusts

Appointment prior to age 18



### **Trusts**

### 2. IHT exempt investments

Missed opportunities

## 3. Missed ten year charges

- Misinterpretation of trust terms
- Terry's synopsis



### **Trusts**

### 4. Missed exit charges

Restriction of income to avoid 'tax pool' charge

### 5. Accumulation of income

Undistributed income – five year plus



# How BKL can help

- Team of experienced trust and estate practitioners entirely dedicated to trust and estate work
- We have the latest technologies but work in the 'traditional way'
- Over 40 years' experience combined
- Speak to Michael Perin or me after the presentation



# Thank you



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