

Guidance Note

NON-STERLING AND INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS

Who should read this Guidance Note?

This Guidance Note is designed to help you if:

- You are considering opening a non-Sterling account with Alliance & Leicester International - we currently offer Euro and US Dollar savings accounts; **or**
- You already hold a Euro or US Dollar account with Alliance & Leicester International; **or**
- You hold a Sterling account with us and want to make a transaction in a non-Sterling currency - for example if you have non-Sterling funds to deposit, or if you wish to withdraw non-Sterling funds and debit your Sterling account with us; **or**
- You wish to make an International transaction - sending funds from your account with Alliance & Leicester International outside the domestic banking system of the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man, in any currency, or depositing funds with Alliance & Leicester International, in any currency, from outside the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

The position of the Isle of Man in relation to the International Banking Community

It is important that customers who intend to open Euro or US Dollar savings accounts with Alliance & Leicester International Limited recognise that transactions will take place in the context of the position of the Isle of Man in relation to the International banking community.

- The Isle of Man is a dependency of the British Crown but is not part of the United Kingdom.
- The Isle of Man is not a member of the European Union or the EMU.
- Sterling is the domestic currency of the Isle of Man.
- Banks in the Isle of Man generally clear their Sterling cheques through the main UK clearing system. The electronic CHAPS system is available for domestic Sterling electronic transactions, i.e. transactions within the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

However, the processes, timescales and charges applying for most non-Sterling transactions and for International Sterling transactions are different from those applying for domestic Sterling transactions made within the UK, Channel Islands or Isle of Man.

Therefore before you make non-Sterling or International transactions, please read this booklet in order to anticipate the timescales and charges which will apply to your transaction.

The use of International payment and collection systems means that in general, the costs for non-Sterling and International transactions are higher than for domestic Sterling transactions, and the timescales are longer.

Please note, however, that where Euro or USD cheques are drawn on a bank within the UK, Channel Islands or Isle of Man, costs may be lower and clearance times shorter than for cheques drawn on banks in any other country, in which case International banking processes apply.

Please read the following sections for further details.

1. Deposit of non-Sterling funds by electronic transfer

It is generally more efficient, both in terms of cost and timescale, to deposit funds held in non-Sterling currencies into your account by electronic methods. It is essential that when sending funds to us, you quote the correct Alliance & Leicester International Limited account number at our bankers HSBC on your transfer. **We strongly recommend that, when sending non-Sterling currencies, you send Euro remittances to our Euro Account and US Dollar remittances to our US Dollar Account at HSBC. Details of our Euro and US Dollar accounts at HSBC Bank plc are shown in the table below.**

If you send one currency to an account denominated in a different currency, the receiving bank (in this case HSBC) will automatically convert the funds into the currency of the account quoted. **This may cause currency exchange losses and charges. Alliance & Leicester International Limited cannot be held responsible for unwanted currency exchanges or associated costs arising as a result of funds being sent to the wrong currency account.**

If you do in fact require a currency conversion, for example if you wish to send Euros to deposit into your Sterling account with us, please send the Euros to our Euro account at HSBC. Instruct us to make a currency conversion from Euro to Sterling and we will do this for you at the bank's rates available on the day of the transaction. If the funds you hold are not one of our three main currencies of Sterling, Euros or US Dollars, please telephone us for help on how to send your funds before making the remittance. Details of our Sterling account at HSBC are included for completeness - **but remember not to send Euros or USD to our Sterling Account.**

The Santander Group has more than 150 years' experience in banking, and more branches worldwide than any other international bank.



ALLIANCE & LEICESTER INTERNATIONAL'S ACCOUNTS FOR DEPOSIT OF YOUR FUNDS

	SENDING STERLING	SENDING EURO	SENDING US DOLLAR
Bank name:	HSBC, Douglas	HSBC, London	HSBC Bank USA, New York
Sort code:	40 - 19 - 38	40 - 05 - 15	N/A
SWIFT code:	MIDLGB22	MIDLGB22	MRMDUS33
Account name:	Alliance & Leicester International Limited	Alliance & Leicester International Limited	Alliance & Leicester International Limited
IBAN:	GB14MIDL40051539777296	GB10MIDL40051539778241	N/A
Routing:	N/A	N/A	021001088 (ABA 0108)
Account no:	52424436	39778241	000137502
Reference - Opening Deposit	Your surname and initials, and 'New GBP/ USD/EUR Account' as applicable	Your surname and initials, and 'New GBP/ USD/EUR Account' as applicable	Your surname and initials, and 'New GBP/ USD/EUR Account' as applicable
Reference - Further Deposit	Your account number followed by your surname and initials	Your account number followed by your surname and initials	Your account number followed by your surname and initials

If you wish to deposit a specific sum into your account, please remember that the amount of money deposited will be the net amount after deducting charges for processing the transfer. If the sum you wish to deposit is of significance, for example if you wish to hold a deposit within a particular interest rate tier, please consider sending additional funds to allow for charges. Otherwise you may find that your deposit earns less interest than you expected.

2. Deposit of non-Sterling funds by cheque

Foreign currency cheques and Sterling cheques drawn on a bank outside of the Sterling Area are not accepted.

3. Withdrawals in a non-Sterling currency

If you wish to make a non-Sterling withdrawal from an account with Alliance & Leicester International Limited, the withdrawal will be subject to a call period of two working days. This call period is required for us to put the necessary non-Sterling funds in place, and it applies even if the withdrawal is in the same currency as the currency of your account with us. This is in accordance with our General Terms & Conditions and the Special Conditions of our Euro and US Dollar accounts.

We recommend that, where possible, you opt to send funds by electronic transfer rather than by cheque. Electronic funds transfer is generally more efficient and less costly, when all charges are taken into account. Electronic transfer of funds gives greater reassurance of the date of cleared funds for the payee, and greater ease of tracing for the remitter.

4. Charges for non-Sterling transactions

Charges apply for transactions in accordance with our Schedule of banking charges. Our charges are subject to change without notice. We cannot influence or be responsible for charges levied by other banks and/or agents.

You should be aware that other banks and/or agents may levy charges for processing electronic funds transfers and any such charges will be your responsibility. If you wish to obtain information on the likely level of charges before you make a transaction, we advise you to contact either your own local bankers (if you are sending funds to us) or our own International Customer Service Centre on: +44 (0) 1624 641888 if you are making a payment from your account with us.

If you contact us to make an enquiry, we will endeavour to give you our best estimate of the total costs of making a transaction, but we may not be able to predict the route by which the transaction will be made within the international banking system, and therefore any indication of the costs likely to be levied by banks or agents other than ourselves will only be an estimate. Our own charges for non-Sterling transactions are set out in our current charges schedule, which indicates whether or not you should expect other banks and/or agents to levy their own charges in addition to ours. We recommend that you review our charges schedule before giving us your instruction.

This Guidance Note is designed to assist customers in operating their accounts and making transactions with Alliance & Leicester International Limited. The contents of this Guidance Note do not in any way alter or amend any of our General Terms & Conditions or the Special Conditions applying to any account held with Alliance & Leicester International Limited.

