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Cayman Commits to Introducing a Public Beneficial Ownership Register

开曼承诺引入实益拥有权公众纪录册

The Government of the Cayman Islands has announced its intention to introduce a public register of company beneficial ownership. In anticipation of public registers of beneficial ownership becoming the international standard, and at least implemented by the EU Member States by 2023, the necessary legislative changes are expected to be proposed in 2022. Links to the Government media release of 9 October 2019 and details of the Government commitment can be found here: release and commitment.

The Cayman Islands Government has indicated that the introduction of a public register of beneficial ownership is in line with evolving standards and international obligations such as those reflected in the principles of the European Union 5th Anti-Money Laundering Directive. The UK already has in place a public beneficial ownership register which is currently being reformed in order to provide the UK Companies House with more power to check identities and to give directors more control over their personal information to prevent identity theft. Cayman's strategy for implementation of the public register will be shaped by the UK reforms and also the results of the European Union's Implementation Review of the 5th Anti-Money Laundering Directive.

The aim of this initiative is to affirm Cayman's standing as a leading international financial centre. The Cayman Islands have a longstanding commitment to meet the highest global standards for financial transparency and a well-documented history of cross-border cooperation with tax and law enforcement authorities. Financial services providers in the Cayman Islands have collected verified beneficial owner information for more than 15 years. Such information is currently available to be shared with law enforcement and tax authorities in more than 100 countries worldwide including the UK, all Member States of the European Union and G20 countries. The intention to introduce a public beneficial ownership register confirms Cayman's ongoing commitment to meet international standards and to adopt global best practices as they evolve.

This article is not intended to be a substitute for legal advice or a legal opinion. It deals in broad terms only and is intended to merely provide a brief overview and give general information.

开曼群岛政府宣布计划引入公司实益拥有权公众纪录册。 鉴于实益拥有权公众纪录册将成为国际标准,且至少会由 欧盟成员国在 2023 年之前实施,因此预期将会在 2022 年 提出必要的立法变更。有关 2019 年 10 月 9 日发布的政府 新闻稿及政府承诺详情,可参考链接:新闻稿及承诺。

开曼群岛政府表示,引入实益拥有权公众纪录册符合不断 演变的标准和国际义务(如欧盟第五项反洗钱指令的原则 所反映的标准和义务)。英国已设有实益拥有权公众纪录 册,目前正在进行改革,以使英国公司登记局拥有更多核 查身份的权力,并赋予董事对其个人信息的更多控制权, 以防止身份盗用。开曼实施公众纪录册的方式将受英国改 革及欧盟对第五项反洗钱指令实施审查结果的影响。

引入实益拥有权公众纪录册的计划旨在证实开曼作为领先 国际金融中心的地位。开曼群岛长期致力于保持全球最高 标准的财务透明度,与税务和执法当局的长期跨境合作亦 有目共睹。开曼群岛金融服务提供商收集经核证的实益拥 有人信息已有逾 15 年的时间,该等信息目前可与包括英 国、欧盟所有成员国和 G20 国家在内的全球 100 多个国 家的执法和税务机关共享。引入实益拥有权公众纪录册的 计划印证了开曼接轨国际标准及在发展过程中采纳全球最 佳做法的一贯承诺。

本文并非法律意见,其内容亦非详尽无遗,只可作为概览及一般参考资料。 感谢您的垂阅!

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