

# Housing Benefits in Hong Kong

## Stamped tenancy agreements



**In August 2024, the Inland Revenue Department ("IRD") issued a new Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQ") document<sup>1</sup> pertaining to the Stamping of Tenancy Agreements. In the FAQ, the IRD highlights the importance of stamping by the Stamp Office. Any unstamped agreements are generally not considered as evidence of a genuine tenancy.**

With the IRD reiterating the importance of stamped tenancy agreements, the FAQ should also be considered in the context of an employer operating a rental reimbursement arrangement. Aside from the employer's intention and employee's entitlements to rental reimbursement, the IRD suggests that employers should operate a system of control. In cases where the landlord-tenant relationship is scrutinised, the stamping of the lease agreement is a key factor in determining the authenticity of the relationship.



Employers who already operate rental reimbursement should review their arrangements to ensure alignment with the latest guidance and prevailing principles.



Employers without a rental reimbursement scheme should consider offering one as part of a competitive remuneration package.



KPMG People Services provides a full range of Rental Reimbursement solutions to support organisations and participants. We have extensive experience and have assisted many employers of all employee sizes. Our services include:



Set up / expand - for employers looking to introduce or broaden a scheme.



Review - for employers who already operate a scheme and are looking to ensure their arrangements are in compliance and in line with the current market practice.



Operate - for employers looking to ensure efficient and compliant administration, KPMG offers a seamless employee experience.

For more details, please click [here](#) to visit our website or contact us directly.

<sup>1</sup> FAQ on Stamping of Tenancy Agreement ([ird.gov.hk](http://ird.gov.hk)), <https://www.ird.gov.hk/eng/faq/sta.htm>

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