



Press release

Standard Chartered introduces Signature Witness & Documents Verification Service for Hong Kong residents in the Greater Bay Area

Enhancing cross-boundary financial service and the connectivity with Mainland China

20 January 2025, Hong Kong — Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited (“Standard Chartered Hong Kong”) has launched the Signature Witness & Documents Verification (“SWDV”) Service in the Greater Bay Area (“GBA”), which enables Hong Kong residents to apply for a personal bank settlement account (“Type II account”) at Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited (“Standard Chartered China”)¹ through SWDV at a designated Standard Chartered Hong Kong branch. Once the Type II account is set up, clients can remit funds to the account via Standard Chartered Hong Kong’s online or mobile banking and link it to Mainland China payment platforms, facilitating easier living, travel, and spending in Mainland China for Hong Kong residents who frequently cross the border. Prior to the launch, Standard Chartered Hong Kong and Standard Chartered China had completed testing smoothly and provided training to the staff.

With Standard Chartered Hong Kong’s SWDV Service in the GBA, Hong Kong residents no longer need to apply for a bank account in Mainland China in person. By presenting a Hong Kong permanent identity card, a Mainland Travel Permit for Hong Kong and Macao Residents (Home Return Permit) or a travel document valid for travel to the Mainland, and a Mainland/Hong Kong mobile phone number, clients can apply for a Standard Chartered China Type II account² at any designated Standard Chartered Hong Kong branches³. The account can be set up within a few working days, after which clients can activate the account through Standard Chartered China Online

¹ Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited (“SCB China”) was established in Mainland China and is a subsidiary of Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited (“SCB Hong Kong”). SCB China is not an authorized institution in Hong Kong under the “Banking Ordinance” and is not subject to the supervision of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority. SCB China cannot carry on banking business or take deposits in Hong Kong. Any deposits in the SCB China are protected by the “Deposit Insurance Regulations of the People’s Republic of China” and not protected by Hong Kong’s Deposit Protection Scheme. Standard Chartered is one of the oldest international banks in China, with our first branch in Shanghai set up in 1858 and continuous operations thereafter. We were among the first batch of international banks locally incorporated in China in April 2007. As of 31 December 2023, Standard Chartered China’s paid-up capital was RMB10.7 billion, with reserve RMB19.5 billion.

² Type II Bank Account Services are currently only available in Standard Chartered China branches and sub-branches within the same city (excluding other cities branch) in Guangzhou and Shenzhen in the Greater Bay Area of the Mainland.

³ [Link to “Greater Bay Area Cross Border Witnessing Service Designated Branches”](#)

Banking, linking it to Mainland payment platforms for mobile payments and purchases. Priority Private and Priority Banking clients can enjoy fee waiver for outbound remittance.

Mary Huen, Chief Executive Officer for Hong Kong and Greater China & North Asia at Standard Chartered, said, “In recent years, there is a growing trend of Hong Kong residents living and working in the GBA and the rising demand for cross-boundary payment solutions. Our SWDV Service in the GBA makes everyday spending in the Mainland, particularly in the GBA cities, even more convenient. At Standard Chartered, capitalising on China’s opportunities remains one of our core strategic priorities. We are committed to leveraging our unique strengths to deliver increasingly convenient and high-quality cross-boundary financial experiences for our valued clients.”

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Standard Chartered

Standard Chartered a leading international banking group, with a presence in 52 of the world’s most dynamic markets. Our purpose is to drive commerce and prosperity through our unique diversity, and our heritage and values are expressed in our brand promise, here for good.

Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong stock exchanges.

The history of Standard Chartered in Hong Kong dates back to 1859. It is currently one of the Hong Kong SAR’s three note-issuing banks. Standard Chartered incorporated its Hong Kong business on 1 July 2004, and now operates as a licensed bank in Hong Kong under the name of Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Standard Chartered PLC.

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