

eNews

21 DECEMBER 2021

Welcome to haysmacintyre's regular 'e-news alert' for corporates and private individuals.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR MANAGING PARTNER, JEREMY BEARD

2021 has been another challenging year for us all and one in which, once again, the support and loyalty of our clients has been hugely appreciated – thank you. Our partners and staff have continued to show tremendous dedication and determination to ensure we continue to deliver our services and advice to our clients in the most difficult circumstances. It is a privilege to work with such a talented group of colleagues. On behalf of all the partners and staff of haysmacintyre, I would like to wish you all a peaceful festive season and good health for 2022.





THE VALUE OF TALKING

The London Chamber of Commerce and Industry has recently launched the [London Chamber of Arbitration and Mediation](#) (LCAM) which brings access to a powerful panel of experienced arbitrators and mediators. Earlier this month we were privileged to hear from Tim Hardy, one of LCAM's panel, about how arbitration and mediation can provide a cost-effective alternative to litigation when disputes arise. He also discussed the importance of using LCAM's model contract clauses to embed alternative dispute processes into commercial contracts. Please contact your usual haysmacintyre advisor, or [Ian Daniels](#), if you think [LCAM's services](#) would benefit your business.

REVIEW OF OTS PUBLISHED

The Government has published its report on the Treasury's five year [review of the Office of Tax Simplification](#) (OTS) which found it plays an important role in advising the Chancellor on simplifying the tax system. It also made a number of recommendations to increase its future impact, including a project to clarify its aims and appropriate success measures. The [Treasury's response](#) confirmed that it would not be taking forward the OTS's proposed technical simplifications in Inheritance Tax but has accepted five of the proposed changes to Capital Gains Tax, including the extension of the property return to 60 days.

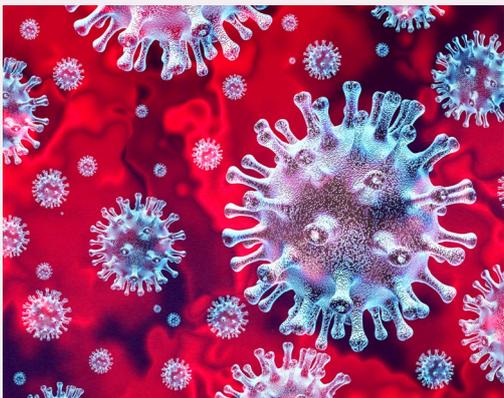


FRS 101 REVIEW: NO CHANGES PROPOSED

The Financial Reporting Council has issued '[FRED 79: FRS 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework – 2021/22 cycle](#)' following its annual review. Although the FRED proposes no amendments to FRS 101, comments on FRED 79 are requested by 1 March 2022.

DON'T GET CAUGHT OUT CAMPAIGN

HMRC has launched a series of '[don't get caught out](#)' campaigns aimed at workers who are sole traders or working through umbrella companies, including IR35 arrangements. The campaign will initially look at arrangements which include the following characteristics: increase in take-home pay; introducer fees; and use of complicated contractual arrangements. Whilst the campaign is part of HMRC's challenge against tax avoidance, this can be seen as a gearing-up to a further challenge of IR35 arrangements. Please contact our [Employment Tax](#) team for further advice and assistance.



SELF-ASSESSMENT AND COVID-19 GRANTS

HMRC has issued a reminder to taxpayers to declare on their self-assessment tax return any COVID-19 grant payments received during 2020/21. This includes payments from the: Self-Employment Income Support Scheme; test and trace or self-isolation payments in England, Scotland and Wales; Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme; Eat Out to Help Out; Coronavirus Statutory Sick Pay Rebate; and Coronavirus Business Support Grants. Please contact Katharine Arthur if you require assistance with your personal tax affairs.

HMRC'S ONLINE TIME TO PAY ARRANGEMENTS

HMRC has announced that over 20,000 taxpayers have used its online monthly payment plan since April 2021 to spread the cost of their tax liability. Taxpayers can set up their own Time to Pay arrangements if they: have filed their tax return for the 2020 to 2021 financial year; owe less than £30,000; are within 60 days of the payment deadline; and plan to pay their debt off within the next 12 months. This is an online service which creates a bespoke monthly payment plan and does not need the taxpayer to speak with HMRC.



CIPFA AND ICAEW CONSIDER COLLABORATING

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Chartered Institute of Accounts in England and Wales (ICAEW) have announced that they are in discussions to explore the potential of working more closely together. The objective is to combine their strengths and resources to better equip them to serve the public interest across all areas of economic activity. It is intended to publish formal proposals early next year. Any changes are likely to require both member and various regulatory approvals.

LATE FILING PENALTY APPEALS

Due to longer response times to appeals, Companies House has edited its guidance to confirm that it will suspend all recovery action until an appeal has been considered. Those appealing should receive a full reply in due course and Companies House have said there is no need to contact them.



NMW MISCREANTS IDENTIFIED

Over 200 employers have been named and shamed by the Government for failing to pay staff the minimum wage. Investigations by HMRC found 208 employers, both large and small, had failed to pay their workers the National Minimum Wage (NMW), leaving around 12,000 workers out of pocket. The businesses have since had to pay back what they owe to staff and also face financial penalties of up to 200% of the underpayment.

TAXI! THAT MIGHT COST 20% MORE

Earlier this year, the Supreme Court found that Uber drivers should be treated as workers rather than contractors, raising the question of whether the passenger's contract was with the driver or Uber. This month, in a case relating to Private Hire rules, the High Court has ruled that Uber, not the drivers, supply the cabs as the principal licensed by Transport for London, meaning Uber must charge VAT for these supplies. This has consequences for operators throughout the industry who will need to consider their VAT position. Please contact Stephen Patey if you require assistance with VAT supply issues.



WHEN I'M SIXTY-FOUR PLUS FOUR

The Government has started a second review on extending the state pension age with indications that it will bring forward the start date for the increase to 68 from the currently legislated 2044-2046 to, possibly, 2037-2039. The review must be published by May 2023 and will, inter alia, consider the metrics used in setting the state pension age.

AND FINALLY... TAX RELIEF ON CHEESE AND WINE EVENINGS

Whilst many Christmas parties have been cancelled this year, 'virtual' Christmas parties may qualify for tax-free treatment. Existing tax rules allow employers to spend up to £150 per head (including VAT) on an annual function, or functions, such as a Christmas party, without creating a tax liability on the employees or themselves, provided certain conditions are met. The cost of 'virtual' parties, such as quizzes, food tastings, cooking lessons or 'live' entertainment, can also qualify for this tax exemption. A remote cheese and wine evening could qualify for this relief. Please contact our Employment Tax team for further assistance.

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Shortlisted 2019 National Firm of the Year



Shortlisted 2019 Tax Team of the Year



Highly Commended Partner of the Year



2021: Best auditor
2020: Best outsourced finance service



Winner: Audit Team of the Year



Top 15 auditor to quoted companies in Adviser Ranking Listing



An eprivateclient top accountancy firm 2021