



Dear all,

COVID-19 BUSINESS SUPPORT- JOB RETENTION SCHEME

On Tuesday 12 May, the Chancellor announced some important updates in relation to the Job Retention Scheme (JRS). The key points for employers to consider are summarised below:

- The JRS has been **extended to 31 October 2020**. This means the furlough scheme will be in place for a combined total of eight months for employers who need to use it.
- There will be no changes to the makeup or terms of JRS until 31 July 2020.
 - *All furloughed workers must continue to **not**:*
 - (1) *make money for their employers or any organisation linked or associated with their employer.*
 - (2) *provide services for their employers or any organisation linked or associated with their employers.*

Training or volunteer work can be undertaken at the employee's discretion.

- The JRS will continue to run between 1 August and 31 October 2020; with employers to be given the option of bringing furloughed workers back part-time, sharing the salary cost between Government and the Businesses involved.
 - More specific details and information around its implementation will be made available by the end of this month by the Chancellor. It could be that the Government chooses to reduce the 80% salary they are currently covering, but this will depend on the wider economic status of the UK and the impact of the changes to the Lockdown this week.

Practical points

For the time being, claims should continue on a predominately monthly basis, in line with payroll, until the end of July 2020 for employees that remain furloughed and do not return to work. We will continue to keep you informed and updated as to the changes beyond this date, but the scheme will exist in some form to support employers at certain levels across the summer and into autumn.

We hope you find the above of interest; as ever, please do get in touch with your regular point of contact or Russell Nash (russell@butler-co.co.uk) if you have any questions or concerns regarding any of the above points raised.

Best regards and Stay Well