



Dear all,

We hope everyone is staying well as we move into the next phase of the Covid-19 response.

COVID-19 BUSINESS SUPPORT

There are some key updates expected later this week in relation to the Job Retention Scheme for furloughed employees which is currently scheduled to cease at the end of June, but possibly may be extended as far as September on potentially reduced terms. Other expected financial support updates include the reclaiming of Statutory Sick Pay. We will provide complete updates on these other support measures when the official announcements are made.

In relation to this week, the most important update is as follows:

SELF EMPLOYED INCOME SUPPORT SCHEME [SEISS]

This scheme is going live this week from Wednesday 13 May 2020. The key points remain:

- **IMPORTANT: A tax agent or adviser cannot make the claim for/on behalf of a self-employed individual. HMRC are insisting that all claims must be made by the individual directly. As your agent, we can provide help or support – including talking you through the application process, but the application itself must be made directly by you.**
- You will need the following to make a claim:
 - Your **Individual Self-Assessment Unique Taxpayer Reference (UTR)** number – available on the front of your last tax return
 - Your **National Insurance number** – available on the front of your last tax return
 - **A Government Gateway user ID and password - if you do not have one of these currently set up, you must do this IMMEDIATELY. This will not have been set up by us**, as we have our own separate agent login for the filings we make on your behalf. If you do not have a login you should take action **now**. The sign up can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/personal-tax-account>.
 - A **Bank account number and sort code** for where you want HMRC to pay the grant
 - You must **confirm that your business has been adversely affected** by Coronavirus
- You do not need any accounting figures to make the claim. **HMRC will be calculating the grant themselves** from records already submitted.

- **NB:** If you feel that the SEISS claim has been calculated incorrectly, you can contact us and we can check the calculation for you from the records we hold.
- HMRC have provided a checking service to make sure you are eligible prior to the rollout of the scheme on Wednesday. This can be found here: <https://www.tax.service.gov.uk/self-employment-support/enter-unique-taxpayer-reference>. You will need to enter your UTR and your NI number. If you enter your details and this indicates you are not eligible when you feel you should be, please contact us **immediately** so that we can investigate your position prior to Wednesday morning.

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