

Subject: Covid - Update 11th May

Date: 11 May 2020 at 20:29

[View this email in your browser](#)



ALLENSACCOUNTS

We hope everyone had an enjoyable bank holiday weekend.

Business Books and Tax Return Information Request

As most of you know our office has remained open throughout the lockdown and our team are here to help during this period of continuing uncertainty.

Following Boris Johnson's address last night, and the guidance issued today, the lockdown measures are gradually starting to ease and hopefully we can all get back to some sort of normality in the near future.

Before our hectic lives do resume we thought it would be the perfect time to ask for your **business books and personal tax return details for the year ended 5 April 2020**.

In the last week we have endeavoured to send a checklist to every client of what we will need and we would be grateful if you could let us have this information as soon as possible.

If you have any questions about what we need, please contact our office.

If your **business year end** has also passed, and your books and records are ready (whether on Xero, Sage, excel, hard copy), please let us know.

[Job Retention Scheme \(JRS\)](#)

In response to feedback HMRC have today added a 'save and return' option to the service. This means that you can now return to a partially completed claim, rather than having to do it all in one go.

HMRC have also today reiterated that they are working on a process to enable a claim to be amended if a mistake has been made. In the meantime, they have asked for claimants not to amend their next claim to reflect any errors that may have been made in a previous one, as this could delay payment.

As you are probably aware this scheme is due to finish at the end of next month. However the press are reporting that the Chancellor will announce an extension for certain sectors this week, albeit a number of newspapers are reporting that he is considering reducing the amounts paid from the current 80% (up to a maximum of £2,500). As soon as we hear more on this we will let you know.

Self-employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS)

The SEISS portal open for applications in phases between 13 and 18 May.

As reported last week, HMRC's eligibility checker went live on 4 May and is available to taxpayers <https://www.tax.service.gov.uk/self-employment-support/enter-unique-taxpayer-reference>

The eligibility checker prompts the taxpayer to log in to or create a Government Gateway accounts and to check or provide contact details.

Most taxpayers will want to claim the grants as soon as possible. However, at the moment there is no specific deadline for making claims for SEISS grants. Taxpayers who claim universal credit may be better off if they delay the claim so that receipt falls into a later monthly assessment period.

During the application process the taxpayer is presented with a calculation of the amount of the grant. The taxpayer does not need to enter any figures or information regarding their income. There is no option to claim an increased or reduced amount of grant. **Instead the taxpayer should claim the amount**

of the grant as calculated by HMRC and request a review, via the link provided, if they think that the amount should be higher or lower.

As a reminder **we cannot make these claims on behalf of clients** but will, most likely, be able to check the amount of the grant. We are awaiting clarification on this from HMRC.

Those who are digitally excluded and unable to claim online are expected to be able to make claims by phoning HMRC's SEISS helpline, albeit more details are awaited.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs/contact/get-help-with-the-self-employment-income-support-scheme>

The SEISS helpline is also available for other SEISS related queries, but demand is likely to be high and it should be used only where it has not been possible to resolve queries or request a review using the online systems and guidance. HMRC has asked that webchat be used in preference to phoning to help manage demand.

The Allens Team



Copyright © 2020 Allens Chartered Accountants, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this message as a connection of Allens Chartered Accountants. You can unsubscribe at any time.

Our mailing address is:
Allens Chartered Accountants
123 Wellington Road South
Stockport, Cheshire SK1 3TH
United Kingdom

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)