

## **Furlough Scheme extended to October.**

### **Self-employed income support scheme launch.**



#### **To all our clients and friends,**

I hope you are keeping safe and well....and alert!

The government yesterday announced changes to their assistance measures available to companies and individuals - below, I outline our understanding of these measures.

#### **Furlough Extension to October and new flexibility from August**

Chancellor Rishi Sunak has announced that the government will be extending the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) until the end of October. In the government press release, it was confirmed that:

- Furloughed workers will continue to receive 80% of their current salary, up to £2,500
- New flexibility will be introduced from August with the aim of getting employees back to work part-time
- Employers will be asked to contribute a percentage towards the salaries of furloughed staff from August

Although the exact details are not 100% clear in terms of whether this employer contribution relates only to staff working part time from August or to furloughed employees in general on the scheme, these employer contributions will substitute part of the government contribution towards the 80% of staff salary being paid. There is currently no further guidance on how this will be rolled out in August; however, I will update you further once I am aware of the details - which are expected to be announced towards the end of May.

#### **Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS)**

As of today (13/05/20), the government's Self-Employed Support Scheme has launched. Those eligible can receive a government grant of up to £7,500, and the money is expected to be received from 25th May onwards.

#### **Eligibility**

To be eligible for this scheme, you must have traded in the 2019/20 tax year, intend to continue trading, and:

- Earn at least half of your income through self-employment
- Have trading profits of no more than £50,000 per year
- Traded in the 2018/19 tax year and submitted this tax return no later than 23rd April 2020

HMRC will automatically calculate the amount to be paid to eligible claimants, based on the average of their income from the 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19 tax years. You can check if you are eligible for the scheme by following [this HMRC link](#).

Customers should have already been invited to claim their SEISS grant on a specified day between 13-18 May 2020. Individuals won't be able to make their claim before their allotted day; however they can claim after the date given. In order to check your assigned date, please use the following [link from HMRC](#) (you will need your 10-digit Unique Tax Reference number, which can be found on your tax return).