

ATO Correspondence

Please **do not ignore any letters you receive from the ATO**, if you bring the correspondence to us, and we volunteer any information the Tax Office are asking for, this will potentially avoid a costly outcome.

Pay As You Go (PAYG) Instalments

If you receive a PAYG Instalment notice, the payment is not voluntary, it is a bill, you cannot ignore these.

We can vary the amount the Tax Office is asking you to pay to suit your current and estimated end of year situation.

Outstanding ATO Accounts

The ATO offers a number of different payment options, as well as payment plans. Contact them sooner rather than later to discuss your options. The ATO will impose interest and penalties against overdue accounts.

ATO Scams

If you are contacted by a person claiming to be from the ATO, demanding payment of an account, tell them to contact your accountant, us. Never pay any money to the "Tax Office" over the phone without first checking with us that you do in fact owe the ATO money. It is not a genuine Tax Office operation to threaten bailiffs, or police, visiting your home.

Outstanding Tax Returns & Late Lodgements

Has someone you know fallen behind with their taxation matters. We don't judge. Don't let them wait to receive a fine in the mail from the Tax Office. Lodging a number of tax returns doesn't

have to be hard work and there may even be a refund waiting.

Other Items for Discussion

Are you considering become and **Uber** driver, or opening an **Air BnB**? Unique GST and tax deductions apply.

If you sell goods on **EBay** and turn over more than \$10,000 annually, the Tax Office is aware of your activities. Bring your records to your appointment so that we may correctly declare this information on your tax return.

It's Time for Action

Appointments are now available. As always, we offer out of hours and Saturday appointments for your convenience. No time to attend an appointment, other arrangements can be made:

Phone: 08 8522 3800

Post: PO Box 351, Gawler 5118

Email: prmreception@bigpond.com

Please use our Guide to Tax Returns when preparing your information. If you have any queries regarding information we require, or expenses you may be able claim, please contact our office.

Myself, and the team, look forward to assisting you with your next tax return and all your accounting needs.

Pauline R. Murray

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FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

Your Money Your Way

TAXATION NEWSLETTER 2016

Happy New Tax Year!

It's that time of year again. Collect your receipts. Think about the questions you need to ask. Book your appointment.

What's new at Pauline R Murray Accountants?

We have opened an **additional office at 84 Adelaide Road**, Gawler South. Special, opening rates are available for tax returns prepared at this office. We would appreciate your recommendations to family and friends, so that they may take advantage of the ease we bring to taxation.

Here at our Cowan Street office, for Pauline and the team, it is business as usual.

Motor Vehicles

The ATO continues to audit past and new taxation returns, particularly those with motor vehicle claims. Keep a log book. Keep your receipts for fuel, maintenance and repairs.

Telephone/ In Home Office/ Internet Usage

Clarity from the ATO confirms that they have the potential for tax deductions.

Work Travel

Who's paying? Why are you going? Where are you going? Keep receipts for accommodation and meals.

Rental Properties

Some items you can claim:

- Interest paid on the loan for the property
- Property management, Agent commissions, Quality Surveyors Reports
- Emergency Services Levy
- Repairs
- Water Rates
- Travel to the property - keep a logbook and all receipts for flights

Did you start to rent a property that you have previously lived in? Did you inherit a rental property? Is it a holiday rental? Ask questions, keep records, we want to work with you to maximise your incentives.

Income Tax Variations

Do you receive a large refund at the end of the year as a result of negative gearing against your rental property or shares portfolio? You may be eligible to vary the amount of tax you pay during the year. Ask us how.

FIFO and DIDO

There are **no longer any Zone claims** available for FIFO and DIDO. Travel to the airport and parking continue to be non-tax deductible.

There are exceptions however, including if your principal place of residence is within the Zone, ask about these at your appointment.

Self Education

It is possible to claim expenses related to education and training that directly relates to your current employment. If you're unsure whether your training or related expenses are deductible, contact us.

HELP Debt Repayments

You will need to make repayments when you have an annual income, including salary sacrifice, of over \$54,868. You now need to **make repayments even if you move overseas**, you will still need to make repayments if your income exceeds the threshold.

Capital Gains Tax

The Tax Office holds information regarding share sales going back to 1985 and land transactions dating back to the early 2000's. If you have omitted any sales of shares, they need to now be declared.

Did you live on a property larger than two hectares? There are Capital Gains Tax implications. Ask us for further information!

What's New for Business in 2016?

An offset for small businesses of up to \$1,000 to reduce the amount of tax you pay.

The tax rate for Pty Ltd Companies has been reduced to 28.5%.

The Small Business Concession of \$20,000 will continue through to 30th June, 2017. This is also available to Primary Producers.

Primary Producers will also continue to benefit from deductibility of fencing, sheds and grain storages.

Contractors vs Employees

Is your contractor really an employee? Although a person may have an ABN, this does not mean they are a contractor.

If you are paying contractors we need to discuss if they are true contractors and your superannuation liabilities. You will also need to **complete a TPAR** by August 14th. Not sure? Ask us!

Superannuation Platform

For those paying superannuation on behalf of employees, you must register on the superannuation platform as at the 1st July, 2016.

Benchmarks

The Tax Office expects a business to perform at a level to maintain a reasonable lifestyle. They have created benchmarks to track this. Please ask us to discuss with you how you measure up.

Additional Services for Businesses

We can help, from start to finish, including ABN, GST and Business Name registrations. Do you require assistance with bookkeeping, BAS lodgements, payroll obligations? Let us help ease any confusion regarding what you are required to do.