

Newsletter October-November 2021



Inland Revenue Te Tari Taake

Inland Revenue Update - The IRD have undertaken the final release of the Business Transformation programme and went live as planned on 28th October.

The outage was from 21st October to 8am Thursday 28th October 2021. During this time you were not able to file GST returns from within xero or via myIR. Due to the outage, the filing deadline and payment date for the September GST return has been extended to Thursday 4th November 2021. You won't be pinged for late filing or late paying, even though the due date will still show as due and payable on 28th October 2021.

Changes to the layout of myIR

You will notice an improved layout in myIR. You'll see more information and will be able to complete more actions from the myIR homepage. Some of the changes include:

- The way IRD manage payroll Employee/Employer relationships will change. If you haven't included an employee in your Employment Information and they have no cease date, or they continually show as having nil earnings, the relationship will be ceased after 3 months. In some circumstances the employee's details will need to be provided again if they return to work for you. For more information visit ird.govt.nz/changes-businesses
- If you have an employee who becomes liable for child support payments, IRD will contact you with the information needed to make these deductions on their behalf.

If COVID-19 has impacted your ability to pay, there are ways IRD can help, including, by setting up an instalment arrangement in myIR to pay off the tax over time. If COVID has impacted your ability to file or pay, then please let IRD know as soon as you can as you will not be charged penalties as long as you keep to the terms of the arrangement to pay off the outstanding tax. Alternatively, you can send IRD a message through myIR to explain the situation and they will take that into consideration.

Feel free to contact our Tax Administrator Diana on phone 376 0092 ext 811 and she can provide guidance and assistance to you OR contact IRD for you!



Payroll update from Kath

07 376 0092 extn 812 / 027 237 6675

Do you know the difference between a casual employee and a fixed term or part time employee?

Is your worker an employee or a Contractor?

Do you know how to correctly calculate Annual Leave or lump sum payments like final pays?

The Holidays Act is one of the most complicated pieces of legislation in New Zealand right now, The Ministry of Business, Innovation & Enterprise (MBIE) are currently looking at simplifying the Act, to make it more “user friendly”. Whilst this is a positive step in the right direction, the Act will still confuse the majority, and as a result, incorrect calculations can lead to extremely expensive outcomes for the employer – remember the recent payroll blunder affecting NZ Police which cost the Government \$30m to fix?

The root of this problem is likely to be widespread across many private businesses. Your business could be in danger of making a similar mistake, costing you thousands of dollars.

Here at Blackburne Group we realise that all businesses are different, our payroll client’s individual needs are the first thing that we take into consideration when setting up and administrating your payroll.

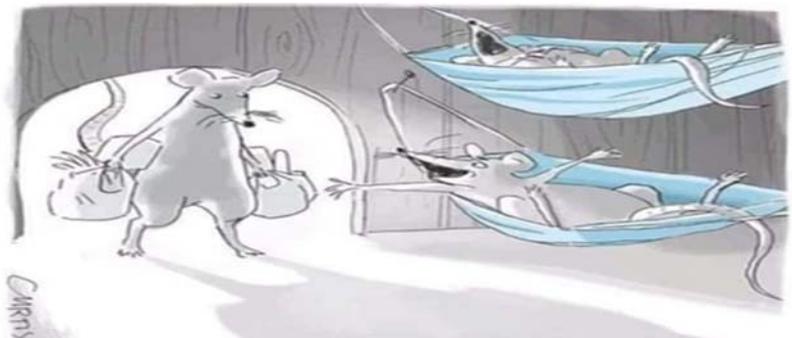
We process payrolls on behalf of employers with only one employee, to companies with multiple employees, from initial set up, to processing, to on-time reporting of tax to the IRD. We can take care of the payroll process from start to finish, keeping you and your employees informed with emailed reports and pay slips.

We can also provide an Individual Employment Agreement (IEA) package, again specifically tailored to your company’s needs, which contains all the forms and documentation required to ensure that your payroll is set up correctly – together with ongoing updates to these IEAs, as and when legislation is updated by the Government.

Winner of the Lazy Cat Award



If you are interested in any of the above, please feel free to call Kath our Payroll Administrator and she will be more than happy to assist.



“FREE HAMMOCKS, all over town. It’s like a miracle!”

Charities

Sports Club, Incorporated Society. Are you an office holder of a club?

As an officer your biggest responsibility is to act in the best interest of your charity or club, making sure it remains focused on its purpose and the benefit it provides to the public. The Charities Services have provided videos and resource sheets as a starting point to help you understand your role as an officer and how you can contribute to governing your charity well.

New documents have been designed to help you keep track of the information that you need to run your charity. After you’ve filled it out, you can also use it as a handover document for new members! Remember to keep it in a safe place. Any queries or for further information email info@charities.govt.nz or go to the link [Charities Services | Resources/](#)





WORKSAFE

NEW ZEALAND | MAHI HAUMARU
AOTEAROA

Media Release from Worksafe

Worksafe is warning company directors that if they are not making sure their company's operations are safe and healthy, they face enforcement under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015.

The warning follows the first WorkSafe prosecution and subsequent conviction and sentencing recently of a director and his company for health and safety failings.

"Directors have explicit legal duties to undertake due diligence on their company's adherence to health and safety obligations and failing to do so not only puts their workers at risk, but it also puts them in our sights" WorkSafe's Head of Specialist Interventions Simon Humphries said.

"As governors of their businesses, they have more ability than anyone else to influence their business' operations to ensure they're taking all the steps required to protect workers and others on their sites from health and safety risks. If they're not doing so, they're failing in their duties" Mr Humphries said.

Other baddies out there

If you thought it was just emails that the baddies are targeting.....Txt messages currently doing the rounds just affecting Android phones. Don't click on any links in txt messages unless you know the person sending the txt.

<https://www.cert.govt.nz/individuals/alerts/parcel-delivery-sms-infesting-android-phones/>



Xero increased monthly subscription prices for Stater, Standard, Premium plans on 23 September. You will have been contacted if this affects you.

Xero are planning to increase cashbook pricing plans in March 2022.

Xero are holding a cybersecurity month. See link below for Top 11 cybersecurity tips

[Top 11 cyber security tips for your business | CERT NZ](#)



Sixth round of wage subsidy support

A sixth Wage Subsidy is currently open for applications and closes 11.59pm 11 November 2021.

Businesses in any part of New Zealand can apply if 40% of their revenue decline is due to the effect of Alert Levels 3 or 4, and they meet the other eligibility criteria.

More information is available on the Work and Income website.

Ps with the IRD shutdown through to 28th October, there maybe delays to applications as MSD needs to verify information supplied by the IRD. You can check your application by calling the Wage Subsidy line on 0800 40 80 40.

Next Resurgence Support Payment

Another round of the COVID-19 Resurgence Support Payment was made available from 22 October and ending immediately before all areas of NZ return to alert level 1.

More information will be made available on the Inland Revenue website.

My COVID Record now live

People can now access their own vaccination records at www.mycovidrecord.nz. Users will need to create a My Health Account to access their records. Anyone who wishes to create an account must be at least 16 years old.

Covid19 Update

For the latest updates on financial support for businesses visit www.business.govt.nz

Unite
against
COVID-19

Cost Increases

An insurance assessor recently advised that costs of parts for repairs had increased 35% on average in the last 12 months.

A contractor advised they had recently received notice of a 13.8% increase in oil pricing.

Truck and machine fit out costs have increased by up to 60% in some instances.

Steel pricing for repairs up 10 – 25% in recent months.

Diesel prices have increased by around 17% in the last 6 weeks for some contractors

And so it goes on, and that's on top of the wage increases we know about.

It's important to continually monitor costs and review rates to accommodate cost escalations. Next problem is getting that past Forest Managers who much prefer continuing the historic rates which they are comfortable with, albeit no longer applicable. Not helped by the recent drop in the log market and high shipping costs.

Staffing at Blackburne Group

Katya Glover has returned to Taupo after working as a beauty therapist in Auckland. Katya has recently joined the team to provide admin assistance.



Sanket Salagare comes from an accounting background and loves the accounting industry. He joined us 2 days before the August Covid lockdown so had a disrupted start.



Some of you will remember **Sharon Sutherland** who was a long term employee and left for Australia several years ago. Sharon is still in Oz, but has recently started working remotely for us assisting with xero processing and GST returns.

Kristy Kewene is taking Sabbatical Leave and will use this time to concentrate on moving her son into supported living. Time to stop juggling and re set the path forward for Kristy, family, work, and their silviculture business. We wish Kristy well.

Disclaimer

This publication has been carefully prepared, but it has been written in general terms only. The publication should not be relied upon to provide specific information without also obtaining appropriate professional advice after detailed examination of your particular situation.