

Time to review your Trust

The Trusts Act 2019 (“Act”) comes into force on 30 January 2021. As there are changes to this Act we recommend reviewing your trust arrangements and documentation before 30 January 2021.

Here are a few of the changes:

- Trusts can now have a lifetime of 125 years. Please note if you have an existing trust this does not automatically apply.
- Minimum trustee duties are split between mandatory (unchangeable) and default, and are specifically outlined in the Act.
- The Act requires each trustee to personally retain core documents. It is no longer sufficient to only have a solicitor or accountant hold these core documents.
- Beneficiaries now have a right to certain information regarding the trust. This includes being told they are a beneficiary, contact details of the trustees and letting them know they have a right to information about the trust.

A number of other changes have been made and can be found in [The Trust Act 2019](#).

Please contact your lawyer if you need your trust reviewed or if you would like a recommendation for a lawyer, let us know.

Summary of IRD help for small business

The Small Business Cashflow (loan) Scheme has been extended until the end of 2020. Applications opened on 12 May 2020 and can now be submitted up to and including 31 December 2020.

Organisations and small to medium businesses, including sole traders and the self-employed, who have been adversely affected by COVID-19, may be eligible for a one-off loan with a term of 5 years. For more information please visit the [IRD website](#).

From 17 March 2020 until 16 March 2021 any assets purchased for under \$5,000 (GST exclusive) can be expensed in the year they are purchased. So if you're thinking about buying any assets in this price range we suggest doing this before 16 March 2021 to take full advantage of the tax benefits.

January provisional tax

Christmas is fast approaching and on 15 January, provisional tax and GST are both due. We suggest you start saving for this now so you can enjoy the summer holidays rather than be stressed by money worries. We will be sending these notices out in early December 2020.

Regional Business Partners Network Funding

AccountantsNZ offers services that are registered with the COVID-19 Business Advisory Fund. Find out more by visiting www.regionalpartners.co.nz

Your business may be eligible for support under this fund. There is support in the form of expert advice in all aspects of business.

If you'd like to discuss any matters relating to the topics we've covered in this email, please contact us.

Kind regards,

Rachel