

Are you like us and wondering where the first half of 2021 has gone!?! Before the year slips away, now is a good time to check how your business is tracking and identify the accounting related tasks that need your attention.

In this email, we're covering a range of topics - please take the time to check the ones that are relevant to you and your business. You'll find information on:

- End of financial year questionnaires
- Changes to Xero pricing
- Smart Payroll
- The importance of keeping good records
- Digital support for small and medium-sized businesses
- Cryptocurrencies

End of financial year questionnaires

Completed questionnaires are rolling in each day, thank you. Remember that once you've submitted the questionnaire, you also need to send the relevant records to us. If you're not sure about what to send, please give us a ring.

Changes to Xero pricing update

Xero has announced changes to its pricing structure, effective from 23 September 2021. The changes affect the Starter, Standard and Premium plans only. There's no increase in the prices of any of the optional add-ons.

Here are the price changes (in NZD, excluding GST):

- Starter will be \$29 per month (an increase of \$1.50)

- Standard will be \$62 per month (an increase of \$2)
- Premium will be \$78 per month (an increase of \$3)

You can expect to see the new prices reflected in your invoice from September onwards.

Smart Payroll

If you're looking for a simple, easy-to-use programme to manage your payroll, Smart Payroll seems like a good option. As well as doing all your payday filing, you can opt for it to hold your PAYE, pay details, and pay these on the due dates. For more information including cost. <https://smartly.co.nz/payroll/features>

Keeping good records

Keeping good records is always important for the obvious reasons of tax and GST audits. But if you're thinking about selling your business either now or in the future, then it becomes even more important.

Creating a comprehensive Information Memorandum, showcasing the business with a set of backup documents, asset lists, etc that satisfies a potential buyer's needs is a big job. Good, clear records equate to more value for the purchaser.

If you're thinking of selling, you'll need a plan to make sure you maximise the sale value. Get in touch with us to discuss your plans and what needs to be in place.

Digital Boost

To help small and medium-sized businesses harness the power of digital technologies, the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE) has just launched Digital Boost Alliance Aotearoa.

Many NZ businesses aren't yet utilising technology and that was highlighted in 2020 when we were hit with Covid and the lockdowns. With a lot of uncertainty and volatility both in NZ and around the world because of the impacts of the virus, the

NZ government is keen to ensure small and medium-sized businesses are supported to embrace technology.

Barriers such as cost and lack of access to education and experienced digital practitioners have stopped businesses from using digital technologies to grow and develop, and the Alliance has been developed to address this.

The Alliance consists of 20 major NZ businesses and organisations that are committed to providing free or discounted **products or services**, subsidised or free **digital training**, and **funding/supporting research** to understand barriers to using digital technologies.

For more information about Digital Boost <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/business-and-employment/business/support-for-business/digital-boost/digital-boost-alliance-aotearoa>

Cryptocurrencies explained

Cryptocurrencies, also known as digital currencies, have been talked about a lot in the media for some time but what exactly are they and what do you need to know about them from an accounting and financial reporting perspective?

Digital currencies provide a way of paying for goods and services online without needing a debit or credit card or using services like PayPal.

In most cases the gains you make from selling, trading, or exchanging cryptoassets are taxable (this includes when you exchange one type of cryptoasset for another). You may have to pay tax because you're:

- acquiring cryptoassets for the purpose of disposal (for example to sell or exchange)
- trading in cryptoassets
- using cryptoassets for a profit-making scheme.

If you are using cryptocurrencies, it's important that you keep good records of all transactions so the relevant details can be included in your end of financial year reporting.

Inland Revenue (IR) provides comprehensive information about taxes and cryptoassets which you can access <https://www.ird.govt.nz/cryptoassets> . If you have any questions please get in touch with us.

Finally, if you haven't already, remember to complete the end of financial questionnaire and send us the required documents. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us.

Kind regards,

Rachel and the team