NEWSLETTER

Housing Affordability Measures Introduced

On 7 September 2017, a series of Bills were introduced into Parliament to move forward with the Housing Affordability announcements made as part of the 2017/18 budget.

First Home Super Saver Scheme

From 1 July 2018, individuals can contribute up to $30,000 (up to $15,000 a year within existing caps) into superannuation and will be able to withdraw the contributions for the purpose of a deposit on their first home. The contributions along with deemed earnings can be withdrawn for a deposit with withdrawals taxed at a marginal tax rate less a 30% offset.

Downsizing the Family Home & Growing your Super Balance

From 1 July 2018, people aged over 65 will be able to make an additional non-concessional contribution of up to $300,000 into superannuation when they sell their home which they have held for at least ten (10) years.

Both members of a couple can take advantage of this measure meaning up to $600,000 of contribution may be made by a couple form the proceeds of selling their home.

If you would like more information contact Adam on 08 8391 2099

This Issue

Tax Debt Payment Plans

Tax payers with a debt of $100,000 or less can take advantage of the ATO's self-help services to set up a payment plan by following these 2 steps.

- Use the payment plan estimator on the ATO Website to work out options that could be accepted by the ATO
- With your TFN or ABN on hand, set up a payment plan by either;
    - Phoning the ATO's automated service on 13 72 36; or
    - Using the online services for sole traders or individuals through your myGov account.

Note that once you have entered into a payment plan it is your responsibility to ensure that;

- All payments are made before the agreed upon dates
- All lodgements (including activity statements & tax returns) are made on time

While on a payment plan any other debts incurred **do not** automatically get included in your current agreement and need to be treated as a separate debts to be paid by the due date.

If you require assistance please contact the office on 08 8391 2099

We believe the best form of Advertising is **Word of Mouth**
If you believe we do a great job, why not let your friends and business associates know too?

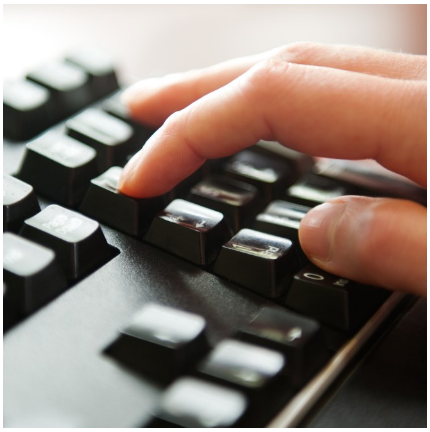
Limiting Rental Property Deductions

From 1 July 2017, owners of residential investment properties will have their deductions limited as:

- Travel costs for individual investors inspecting & maintaining residential investment properties will no longer be deductible; and
- Changes will affect Plant & Equipment depreciation for residential properties purchased after 9 May 2017. Capital works depreciation remains unaffected.

To find out how this could affect you please contact our office

Changes to Super Contribution Deductions



In the 2016/17 Budget, the government announced changes to extend the eligibility rules for claiming a tax deduction for personal super contributions.

From 1 July 2017, then 10% maximum earning condition will be removed. Meaning most people under 75 years old will be able to claim a tax deduction for personal super contributions (including those aged 65-74 who meet the work test).

You can claim a deduction for personal super contributions made after 1 July 2017 if;

- You made the contribution to a complying super fund or a retirement savings account
- You meet the age restrictions
- You notify your fund in writing of the amount you intend to claim as a deduction
- Your fund acknowledges your notice of intent to claim a deduction in writing prior to lodging your tax return for the relevant year.

The contributions that you claim as a deduction will count towards your concessional contributions cap.

To find out more please contact Adam on 08 8391 2099

Focus on Travel Allowance Claims

A Travel Allowance is an allowance paid by an employer to cover the cost of meals, accommodation and/or incidentals incurred by an employee while travelling away from their ordinary residence, in the course of carrying on their employment duties (ie while travelling overnight *on work,* not to work).

Generally before an employee can claim a deduction it must be substantiated by providing written evidence in the form of Receipts, invoices or similar. However as an exemption these requirements do not apply to certain domestic & overseas travel allowance expense where all the following conditions are satisfied.

- The employee is paid a 'bona fide' travel allowance and appears on your payment summary
- The travel allowance is paid to cover a specific trip.
- The deduction does not exceed the relevant reasonable allowance amounts.
- The expenses must actually be incurred (eg. You can provide receipts)

If you would like further information about Travel Allowances please contact Adam on 08 8391 2099

Oaten & ASSOCIATES
accounting | business development

58 Adelaide Rd, Mt Barker SA

PO Box 225, Mt Barker SA 5251

p: 08 8391 2099 f: 08 8398 3420

e: admin@oatens.net.au