

A guide to Autumn Budget 2018

A SIMPLE GUIDE TO THE BUDGET 2018

This is a basic guide, prepared by ACCA's Technical Advisory team, for members and their colleagues or clients. It is an introduction only and should not be used as a definitive guide, since individual circumstances may vary. Specific advice should be obtained, where necessary.

The message from the Chancellor was that 'this is a budget that shows the British people that the hard work is paying off.'

You can read the individual measures and details of some of the numerous consultations below.

Rates and allowances

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Income tax rates - (non-dividend income)		
0% lower rate tax - savings rate only	Up to 5,000	Up to 5,000
20% basic rate tax	12,501 to 50,000	11,851 to 46,350
40% higher rate tax	50,001 to 150,000	46,351 to 150,000
45% additional rate tax	Above 150,000	Above 150,000
Scottish Income tax rates - (non-dividend income)		
19% starting rate tax	See below	11,850 to 13,850
20% basic rate tax		13,851 to 24,000
21% intermediate rate tax		24,001 to 43,430
41% higher rate tax		43,431 to 150,000
46% top rate		Above 150,000
Personal allowance		
Personal allowance	12,500	11,850

The Scottish government budget will take place on 12 December 2018.

The Welsh government final budget will be debated on 18 December 2018.

Dividend allowance

The tax-free dividend allowance is unchanged at £2,000.

Stamp Duty Land Tax: relief for first time buyers

The chancellor announced relief up to the value of £500,000 back-dating from 22 November 2017, so that those eligible who have not previously claimed first-time buyers' relief will be able to amend their return to claim a refund. This measure does not apply in Scotland or Wales

Corporation tax

The corporation tax rate will remain at 19%.

Annual investment allowance

Companies will be able to claim £1m as AIA for expenditure incurred from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2020.

Structure and Building allowance

A relief of 2% will be available for expenditure on non-residential buildings, for which construction contracts are entered into after 29 October 2018. Qualifying costs relate to construction, improvement, conversion, including demolition costs and land alterations costs.

CGT letting relief and final period exemption

From April 2020 the government will reform lettings relief so that it only applies in circumstances where the owner of the property is in shared occupancy with the tenant. The final period exemption will also be reduced from 18 months to 9 months.

Making tax digital

There were no announcements on MTD. HMRC is aiming to introduce MTD for VAT in April 2019.

VAT

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
VAT		
Standard rate	20%	20%
Registration threshold	85,000	85,000
Deregistration threshold	83,000	83,000

VAT thresholds as previously announced will remain unchanged.

Phoenix and insolvent companies

From 6 April 2020, the government will change the rules when a business enters insolvency HMRC will be a preferential creditor. It has also announced that directors and other persons involved in tax avoidance, evasion or phoenixism will be jointly and severally liable for company tax liabilities.

Business rates

The threshold for Small Business Rate Relief (SBRR) has been raised to include properties with a rateable value of up to £51,000. The Treasury has announced that the bills of those below this threshold will be reduced by a third, starting from April 2019 for a period of two years.

Apprenticeships

SMEs will now only pay 5% towards the cost of an apprentice's training costs, down from the previous 10% co-investment rate. This change is expected to come into effect from April 2019.

Taxation of trusts

The taxation of trusts will be subject to a consultation and review.

R&D

From 1 April 2020, the amount of payable R&D tax credit that a qualifying loss-making company can receive in any tax year will be restricted to three times the company's total PAYE and NICs liability for that year.

IHT

The Nil-rate band remains at £325,000. The residence nil-rate band for deaths in the following tax years will be:

- £100,000 in 2017 to 2018 £125,000 in 2018 to 2019
- £150,000 in 2019 to 2020 £175,000 in 2020 to 2021

Interest relief for landlords

Landlords will be able to obtain relief as follows:

	Finance cost allowed in full	Finance cost allowed at basic rate
Year to 5 April 2018	75%	25%
Year to 5 April 2019	50%	50%
Year to 5 April 2020	25%	75%
Year to 5 April 2021	0%	100%

IR35

The chancellor announced the extension of IR35 to the public sector. It has been recognised with issues with CEST and recent cases that changes require further thought with a resulting implementation date of April 2020. The reform will apply to large and medium sized businesses.

ATED

From 1 April 2018 the charges for the annual tax on enveloped dwellings (ATED) will be increased by 3%. Returns for 2018/19 are to be filed electronically.

	2019/20	2017/18
	£	£
Annual Tax on Enveloped Dwellings (ATED)		
More than £0.5m but not more than £1m	3,500	3,600
More than £1m but not more than £2m	7,050	7,250
More than £2m but not more than £5m	23,550	24,250
More than £5m but not more than £10m	54,950	56,550
More than £10m but not more than £20m	110,100	113,400
More than £20m	220,350	226,950

Employment allowance reform

From April 2020, this will be limited to employers with an employer NICs bill below £100,000 in the previous tax year.

Entrepreneurs' Relief

Legislation will be introduced in Finance Bill 2018-19 for disposal made on or after 6 April 2019, to increase this minimum period throughout which certain conditions must be met to be eligible for Entrepreneurs Relief from one year to two years.

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