



WHERE IS MY MONEY GOING?

No doubt this is a question we all ask ourselves regularly. We certainly hear it frequently in the office. “So that was my income this year... now, apart from to the tax office where did it all go?”

Often we look at the Taxable Income declared on our returns, and just can't understand how it is that we haven't gotten further ahead in the year... We resolve to do better, only to find ourselves in the same position at the end of the next year again!

The real secret (which is not really a secret at all) is that we need to do some evaluating and planning. We need to live a life that is more than just working and paying bills – we need to find enjoyment in our daily life, as well as provide for our future. It's a Balance we need to find.

When we start out in the Work Force, perhaps in our late teens or early 20's, there is often not much left at the end of the week to pay much more than rent, bills, food, and electricity. We scrimp and save where we can, expecting that when we earn more, we will get ahead.

Unfortunately, the old adage “the more you earn the more you spend” is too often the case – as we get our promotions and pay rises, we loosen the belt and indulge in things that soon become considered necessities – the latest electronic devices, mobile phones, holidays, bigger and better cars & houses...not to mention the arrival of children, and all the extra expenses that come with that blessing, like school fees and sports activities...and bigger cars & houses again!!!

We buy into the Marketing message that “things” can make us happy. More is better. It's a lie.

It's time to par it all back. What do we really need? Consider what you really take pleasure from, what makes you content. You need a roof over your head, time with your family, a car to get where you need to...everything else is “extra”, and if you are not careful it will drag you into a cycle of the “working poor”.

If we take a more mindful approach to our spending, and focus on spending on necessities and things that really add to our quality of life, we should find that we have simplified our lives, enjoyed our income, and maybe...just maybe...ended up with some cash in our pocket (or savings account).

YOUR TEAM

Darren Bonker FIPA – Accountant & Tax Agent
Natasha Di Renzo – Practice Manager & Accountant
Claude Mirco FIPA – Accountant
William Amoraal – Accountant
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Sean Eikelboom – Accountant
Ashley Bonker – Assistant Accountant
Belinda Fowler, Charlotte Bruning & Kayley Heerema – Administration



HOW CAN WE PARTNER BETTER WITH YOU?

Here at Byford Accountants, we pride ourselves on how we work together with you – the better the fit, the more effective the process! What we occasionally find is that, as your situation changes and grows, sometimes you need to move on to another accountant – not necessarily another firm, just perhaps a fresh perspective or someone within our own team who is able to better assist you in getting the most from your current circumstances.

Please, if you feel that you would like to work with another team member, do not hesitate to let us know. We work in a very collaborative environment, we are not sensitive, and will not be offended – what is important to us is that we provide you with the best outcome.

SUPERSTREAM

SuperStream is mandatory from 1 July 2016! The ATO has changed the way employers make Superannuation contributions and now requires payments and employee information to be submitted electronically. If you're an employer, there are a number of different ways of implementing this. If electronic isn't your thing – don't stress, this WILL make things easier once you're over the initial hurdle. Please check out the ATO guidelines here <https://www.ato.gov.au/super/superstream/> or call our office to discuss with your accountant if you have any queries or hesitations.

BUDGET ROUNDUP

Small Business Concessions

It's been proposed that the Small Business Entity threshold should be increased from \$2 million to \$10 million p.a., although this increase will NOT APPLY to the small business Capital Gains Tax concessions, which will remain at \$2 million. If the proposal goes ahead, these changes will take effect from 1 July, 2016

The benefit of this will be that

- more businesses will be able to access the lowered corporate tax rate;
- more businesses will be eligible to apply the accelerated depreciation rules;
- simplified trading stock rules for more businesses;
- access to simplified rules for PAYG Instalments calculations and cash basis accounting;
- immediate deduction of business start-up costs.

Instant Asset Write-off

Small businesses are able to immediately deduct assets costing less than \$20,000 (excluding GST) if purchased between 12 May 2015 and 30 June 2017.

Company Tax Rate Changes

The Government has announced a Long-Term strategy to lower the Company Tax Rate to 25% by 2026/27, for Companies operating with a turnover under \$1 billion. This will be a gradual change, so there will be a LOT of small changes along the way.

For the 2015/16 Financial Year, which is just about to finish, the Company Tax Rate is 28.5% for Companies with a turnover under \$2 million.

The potential up-shot of this change may be an increase in the popularity of a Company structure for operating a small business. Beneficiary Companies will still retain the 30% tax rate.

Disclaimer: Please note that at the time of publishing, the Small Business Concessions and Company Tax Rate Changes have yet to be legislated.

OUR FEE STRUCTURE – 2016

Standard Tax Return	from \$195*
Standard Return with one Rental	from \$260*
Standard Return with Small Business	from \$295*
Business Activity Statements	from \$195*
Consultations	from \$165*

**Additional specific advice may incur further costs
Payment is due on completion of your return;
EFTPOS facilities available for your convenience*

RESIDENT TAX RATES

From 1st July 2016

Taxable Income (\$)	Rate (%)
0 – 18,200	0
18,201 – 37,000	19
37,001 – 87,000 *	32.5
87,001 – 180,000	37
180,000 +	45

(excluding 2% Medicare Levy, Medicare Surcharge if applicable and Debt Levy 2%)

**The \$7,000 increase in this bracket is yet to be legislated*

YOUR FLEXIBLE OPTIONS

- Appointments** From July to October appointments are available between **9:30am** and **4:30pm**, Monday to Friday.
Be sure to book early for first choice of appointment!
- Postal** As it is an increasingly popular way of meeting your taxation obligations, we have again included our postal information pack this year. For those of you with busy lives why not take advantage of this system? But remember that this process is best suited to small individual taxpayers.
- In person** Simply drop your taxation records into our office. Our office staff will be happy to take your records at the front desk. If you have a quick question one of our team may be able to help you, or call you when they are free.
- Email** You can also email your backup files and information to our office. Our main email address is **admin@byfordaccountants.com.au**.
- Online** You can also send one of our accountants an invitation to access your online or live accounts.
Please
- Accounts** **also send a separate email to give us the go ahead to start your job.**
- Client Portal** Please contact us if you'd like us to activate your secure client portal.
- Mailbox** As a last resort we have a small secure mailbox situated near the gate of our premises should you wish to drop your information to us after hours.

Thank You for your continued support this financial year, and we extend a warm welcome to the new clients who will be taking up our services for the first time.

Should you have any queries or encounter any hiccups along the way, please give us a call

Yours Faithfully, the Team at Byford Accountants

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