

7 August 2020

Ms Michelle Rak
Assistant Secretary
JobKeeper Division – Fiscal Group
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

Mr Jeremy Geale
COVID-19 Response Committee Chair
Australian Taxation Office
GPO Box 9990
SYDNEY NSW 2001

By email: michelle.rak@treasury.gov.au; jeremy.geale@ato.gov.au

CC: The Hon Josh Frydenberg MP, Treasurer: josh.frydenberg.mp@aph.gov.au
Ms Maryanne Mrakovic, Deputy Secretary, Revenue Group: maryanne.mrakovic@treasury.gov.au
Ms Louise Clarke, Deputy Commissioner – Policy, Analysis and Legislation: Louise.Clarke@ato.gov.au
Mr James O'Halloran, Deputy Commissioner – JobKeeper Payment Program:
James.O'Halloran@ato.gov.au

Dear Ms Rak and Mr Geale,

Extension of the JobKeeper Payment

Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, Corporate Tax Association, CPA Australia, Institute of Public Accountants, Law Council of Australia and The Tax Institute are the external members of the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) National Tax Liaison Group and together, the **Joint Bodies**. We write to you as the peak professional accounting and tax practitioner bodies in Australia representing the tax profession at this critical time.

The Joint Bodies welcome the further changes announced today to the extension to the JobKeeper Payment scheme from 28 September 2020 through to 28 March 2021. This is a necessary step for continuing to support employers and employees through COVID-19 pandemic, particularly in light of the Stage 4 Restrictions currently in place in Victoria.

As reflected in our [letter](#) on 18 June 2020, the Joint Bodies are committed to assisting the Treasury and the ATO with the announced changes as they are developed and implemented. In this regard, we provide our joint assistance to Treasury and the ATO to consult on a timely and confidential basis as the law and guidance is developed for the extension to the JobKeeper scheme. We believe that timely, confidential consultation worked effectively during the initial development of the JobKeeper scheme and we are most willing to replicate that experience with Treasury and the ATO as this second phase of JobKeeper is developed.

The Joint Bodies are available for timely and confidential consultation to assist Treasury and the ATO.

To arrange a time for consultation, please contact Tax Policy Adviser, Elinor Kasapidis, at CPA Australia on 03 9606 9666 in the first instance.

Yours faithfully,



Michael Croker
Tax Leader Australia
Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand

Dr Gary Pflugrath
Executive General Manager, Policy & Advocacy
CPA Australia



Michelle de Niese
Executive Director
Corporate Tax Association

Tony Greco
General Manager Technical Policy
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Greg Rodgers
Chair – Business Law Section
Law Council of Australia

Peter Godber
President
The Tax Institute