



Newsletter, October 2023

Practice Update

An opportunity came up so our office has recently made the long move across to the other side of City Cross. We're now located at Level 3, 55 Gawler Place. Our office is directly opposite the elevators and we're sandwiched between chiropractors and physiotherapists.

We had been in the old executor trustee building since May 2010, more than thirteen years ago when I started the business. We've seen a few of our neighbours in the offices surrounding us change during that period. Hopefully the time doesn't pass too quickly before we hit another thirteen years.

State payroll tax harmonisation & contractor doctors

SA, QLD, NSW & VIC recently aligned their payroll tax legislation (while WA elected not to make any changes to their existing legislation).

Payroll tax is an additional payment required by each state government when a business employs over certain wage thresholds:

	Threshold	Rate
ACT	\$2,000,000	6.85%
SA	\$1,500,000	variable to 4.95% at \$1,700,000
NT	\$1,500,000	5.50%
QLD	\$1,300,000	4.75%
TAS	\$1,250,000	4.00% (6.10% over \$2,000,000)
NSW	\$1,200,000	5.45%
WA	\$1,000,000	5.50%
VIC	\$700,000	4.85%

As a part of the harmonisation (and recent court cases), doctors who operate as independent contractors are now counted as employees for payroll tax purposes and the practices are liable to pay payroll tax on their payments.

Queensland and SA initially offered temporary amnesties with Queensland now issuing a ruling to exempt General Practitioners from payroll tax (where doctors receive patient fees directly then pay a service fee to the practice). The exemption does not yet extend to other medical specialists and allied health professionals. Hopefully there are more changes to come (the abolishment of payroll taxes completely would be welcomed by many!).

Lodgement Dates

The September quarter has now ended so you should be aware of the following dates:

- 28 October 2023 September quarter superannuation payment due
- 30 October 2023 September quarter BAS due

Did you know that if your Tax Agent lodges your quarterly BAS electronically, you get a four week electronic lodgement and payment concession? This means that the September quarter BAS is due for lodgement and payment by 27 November 2023. Please contact me if I can be of assistance.

Kind regards, Nick