



Workplace Pensions

(Auto Enrolment)

Workplace Pension rules mean that ALL employers have workplace pension duties which include a Declaration of Compliance to the pension regulator.

Auto-enrolment duties come into effect from your Staging Date. This means that employees must be assessed to see if they are eligible for auto-enrolment. Any employee between the age of 22

and state pension age, who earns more than £192 per week (£10,000 per annum), must be automatically enrolled into a workplace pension scheme. Any other employee can ask to join the scheme.

Employees ages 16-74 and earning less than £113 per week (£490 per month) can join the workplace pension scheme, but you won't have to pay into it. Employer contributions must be made for all

other employees who are making contributions.

Employer contributions are currently 1% of gross earnings above £113 per week. From 6th April 2018 this rises to 2%, increasing to 3% by 6th April 2019.

We will help you with a proven low-cost solution to cover all your legal obligations.



The Alcohol Wholesaler Registration Scheme (AWRS)

From 1st April 2017, if you buy alcohol from a UK wholesaler, you will need to check that they have registered with HMRC and have an AWRS unique reference number (URN).

If you buy alcohol from a non registered wholesaler, you may be liable to a criminal or civil penalty and your alcohol may be seized. You will be able to use an online look-up service of approved wholesalers which will be available from April 2017.



Time to Pump it Up!

You should have put up your beer prices because of the budget increase. If you haven't, it will cost you hundreds of pounds a month.

The customers that underpin your success will be prepared to pay the increase which should be 10p to cover the VAT and your normal margin.



Alcohol is good for you!

According to a recent study, moderate consumption improves people's personal and mental well-being.

People who visit their pub frequently tend to be more socially engaged and contented with their trusted local community. Oxford University say our social networks provide us with the single most important buffer against mental and physical illness. While pubs traditionally have a

role as a place for community socialising, alcohol's role appears to be in triggering the endorphin system which promotes social bonding.

Personal well-being and happiness have a massive impact not only on individual lives, but on communities as a whole. Pubs play a unique role in offering a social environment to enjoy a drink with friends in a responsible, supervised community setting.



FREE Legal Helpline

Included as part of our tax investigation insurance is a completely FREE, business legal helpline.

The helpline covers employment law, commercial matters, health and safety and is available 365 days a year.

For further information, please contact Rachel.



Business Rates Support

If you have lost Small Business Rate Relief, your rates bill this year will not increase by more than £600.

If your rateable value is less than £100,000, you can claim £1,000 discount for this year only.

£300 million of discretionary relief has been made available to councils to provide help to businesses most affected.

If you want specialist advice about your rates, please contact Rachel.

Introducing the New £1 Coin

The new £1 coin went into circulation on 28th March, and our existing £1 coins will be phased out after a six-month transition period.

The new coin is 12-sided with grooves on alternate sides and is made of two different metals. It has an image like a hologram that changes from a '£' symbol to the number '1' when the coin is seen from different angles. It also has very small lettering on the lower inside rim on both sides of the coin, as well as



hidden, built-in high-security features to protect it from future counterfeiting.

You'll find further information provided by The Royal Mint at www.thenewpoundcoin.com