



National Tax & Accountants' Association Ltd.

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17 March 2020

Dear Ms Lendon,

**RE: Request for a three-month 'blanket' extension for tax agent lodged FBT and income tax returns and BASs**

The National Tax and Accountants' Association ('NTAA') is a member-based organisation which represents, and provides dedicated tax training to, over 10,000 tax practitioners.

In light of the recent strain the **current COVID-19 (Corona) crisis** is having on our tax and BAS agent member base who are supporting their clients through these difficult times, we are writing to urgently request that the ATO consider and provide more **broad ranging and automatic extensions** in relation to the upcoming business lodgment and payment dates in relation to:

- FBT returns;
- income tax returns;
- BASs; and
- PAYG instalments.

We are aware and appreciative that the ATO has been very pro-active in establishing a dedicated Emergency Support Hotline on 1800 806 218 (as outlined in your most current fact sheet QC 61775).

We are also aware that impacted businesses can work with the ATO (i.e., on a case by case basis) to defer some *payments* and vary instalments due such as for income tax, activity statements (including PAYG instalments), FBT and excise payments by up to four months.

In light of these unprecedented times, which are resulting in:

- staffing shortages and interruptions within our members' professional practices;
- the inappropriateness, and in some cases an inability to physically meet with, and verify the appropriate information and documentation with clients; coupled with
- the increased need to provide urgent professional support to the majority of clients who are currently experiencing extreme financial duress;

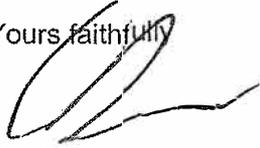
the NTAA requests that all tax agent assisted lodgments (and payments) are afforded an **automatic three-month lodgment and payment deferral**.

It is our belief that such 'blanket' extensions will assist our tax practitioner members to efficiently work with their clients in relation to the issues that are arising for them under the current environment in an efficient and pragmatic manner.



It will also assist our members to ensure clients are in a position to both collate and lodge correct FBT and income tax returns and BASs, while providing realistic financial relief to business clients.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoff Boxer', written over the text 'Yours faithfully'.

Geoff Boxer  
CEO of the National Tax and Accountants' Association