

## WAGE SUBSIDY UPDATE

### Covid-19 Wage Resurgence Wage Subsidy

Finance Minister Grant Robertson released on 17 August details of a further wage subsidy to assist those businesses impacted by the resurgence of Covid-19 transmission in the community and the subsequent Level changes in Auckland and New Zealand. We have summarised the criteria of those businesses to whom will be eligible:

- Businesses who have had, or expect to have, a revenue drop of at least 40% for a 14 day period between 12 August 2020 to 10 September 2020 compared to a similar period last year
- Business must be in NZ
- Employees must be legally working in NZ
- You must mitigate the financial impact
- You must retain the employees you are applying for
- You can't apply for the Resurgence Wage Subsidy if you are currently getting other Covid-19 payments for employees at the same time (i.e if you have received the Wage Subsidy Extension and you are still within 8 weeks of your application)
- Subsidy will be for 2 weeks at:
  - \$585.50 per fulltime employee per week (20 hours or more)
  - \$350 per part-time employee per week (20 hours or less)
- The subsidy will be open to businesses to apply at 1pm 21 August 2020 to 3 September 2020 from the Work & Income website

### Covid-19 Leave Support Scheme

Minister Robertson also announced the removal of the revenue drop test for the Covid-19 Leave Support Scheme for applications after 21 August. This is available if you have employees that have either:

- Tested positive for Covid-19 and are required to remain off work until they have been cleared by a health professional to be released from self-isolation, or
- Have come into contact with someone who has Covid-19 and must self-isolate for 14 days

- Are at higher risk if they get Covid-19, and Ministry of Health guidelines recommend they stay at home while public health restrictions are in place
- Have household members who are at higher risk if they get Covid-19 and the Ministry of Health recommends the employee also remains at home to reduce the risk to them

### **Mortgage Deferral Scheme**

The mortgage deferral scheme is also being extended from its current end date of 27 September 2020, to 31 March 2021, with further details to be made available by the Reserve Bank and the retail banks.

### **Robertson Bixley services during Level 3**

A reminder of what our services look like during Level 3.

Our office will be open for phone calls only, from 12pm Wednesday - 5pm Friday. There are to be no clients on site nor will we be undertaking any face to face meetings.

All meetings are to be via teleconference or Zoom. We have attached a Zoom 'step by step guide' for your reference.

[https://mcusercontent.com/84a16f0488fdf2047d5612c06/files/bb7beaa0-93a2-4d08-8370-e3cd162318e6/ZOOM\\_Step\\_by\\_Step\\_Instructions.01.docx](https://mcusercontent.com/84a16f0488fdf2047d5612c06/files/bb7beaa0-93a2-4d08-8370-e3cd162318e6/ZOOM_Step_by_Step_Instructions.01.docx)

Our preferred option for document correspondence is via email. If this is not possible, items can be couriered to 33 Coles Crescent, Papakura 2110 or posted to PO Box 72016, Papakura 2244.

If you cannot courier information we will have a drop box outside the front door between 10am - 3pm which will be cleared daily.

Robertson Bixley will be reviewing their systems and Health and Safety Policies as the levels change. We will be certain to keep our clients up to date with anything that may affect you.

As always, we are here to support you and your businesses through this time.

Stay safe & best regards

**From the Robertson Bixley Team**