

## Small Business Tax Incentives Back on the Table

The Albanese Government has confirmed its commitment to implementing two tax incentives aimed at supporting small businesses to train and upskill employees, and improve their digital and tech capacity.

The Technology Investment Boost and the Skills and Training Boost were announced in the 29 March 2022 Federal Budget but remain unlegislated. Small businesses with an annual turnover of less than \$50 million will be able to claim a 'bonus' 20% deduction for eligible expenditure on:

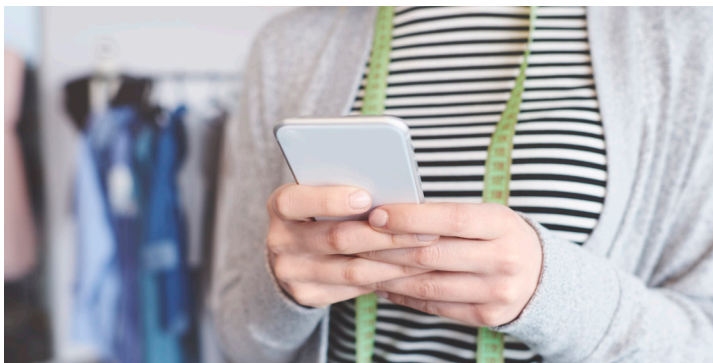
- external training of employees until 30 June 2024; and
- the uptake of digital technologies until 30 June 2023.

The incentives will be backdated to commence from 29 March 2022.

Please note that these incentives are not yet law.

## Director ID - Act Immediately

Are you a Company Director? Do you have a Director Identification Number? **The due date for existing directors to obtain their Director ID has now passed.** If you have not yet acquired a Director ID, you need to apply for one ASAP to reduce any late penalties. Please visit <https://www.abrs.gov.au/director-identification-number> or phone the office for more information.



## Please Remember



By necessity the contents of this newsletter are summary only. Clients should contact us on 6431 3933 to discuss matters prior to acting.



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## Christmas Holiday Period

**Burnie Office:** 3pm 23/12/2022 to 8:30am 9/1/2023

**Smithton Office:** 5pm 22/12/2021 to 8:30am 12/1/2023

The team at Elphinstone Stevens thank you for your continued support throughout 2022. We hope you and your families have a safe and happy Christmas & New Year and look forward to working with you in 2023.



## Super Comparison Tool Updated

With the multitude of superannuation funds out there the ATO has created the YourSuper comparison tool which helps individuals compare MySuper products and choose a super fund that meets their needs. It ranks the performance of these products by fees and net returns.

Each year, the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority ('APRA') assesses the performance of each MySuper product, and this information is displayed in the comparison tool. Updated information for the 2022/23 year is now available.

The comparison tool ranks each MySuper product using the following scale:

- Performing – the product has met or exceeded the performance test benchmark.
- Underperforming – the product has not met the performance test benchmark.
- Not assessed – the product had less than five years of performance history and has not been rated by APRA.

Individuals who are members of underperforming MySuper products will receive correspondence to notify them of the underperforming status.

Individuals can access a personalised version of the tool which allows them to view and compare their existing MySuper products by doing the following:

- Log in to ATO online services through myGov.
- Go to the 'Super' drop-down menu and select 'Information', then select 'YourSuper comparison'.

To access a non-personalised version of the tool (without logging into myGov), visit [ato.gov.au/yoursuper](https://ato.gov.au/yoursuper). For further personalised advice regarding superannuation contact a registered financial advisor.

## Small Businesses Urged to Register their Internet Domain Names

Australian small businesses can now register a domain name of .au, allowing the .com, .net or .org to be dropped from your internet address (For example; this means shoes.com.au can become shoes.au).

These shorter Australian domain names were reserved for businesses that already use the relevant com.au, net.au or org.au addresses until 20 September 2022. This change was announced by .au Domain Administration (auDA) which is the organisation responsible for internet domains in Australia.

If a business already had a domain name ending in .au, and registered it before 24 March 2022, the matching .au direct domain was placed on a six-month priority hold – meaning that they have the first choice to register it. Any domain names that were not registered by 20 September 2022 will be available for the general public.

These domain name changes could see businesses lose their customer base or be at the mercy of cyber criminals impersonating them if they did not proactively sign up to the new system.

For more information please visit <https://www.auda.org.au/au-domain-names/au-domain-names/au-direct>

## Refresh of Employer Superannuation Obligations

Coming into the end of the year, many businesses are on the hunt for casual employees to help with the silly season rush. Given the changes to superannuation law from 1 July 2022 we thought it would be a good time to refresh these changes.

From 1 July 2022, employers need to pay super for employees at a rate of 10.5%, regardless of how much they are paid, because the \$450-per-month threshold for super guarantee ('SG') eligibility has been removed.

This change doesn't affect other eligibility requirements for SG. In particular, workers who are under 18 still need to work more than 30 hours in a week to be eligible.

Common payroll software solutions have been updated to reflect these changes.

## Data Breaches

Given the recent high profile data breaches involving Optus and Medibank customers the ATO is aware some taxpayers may be concerned about their personal data being exposed.

The ATO would like to assure taxpayers that ATO systems have not been affected by these data breaches and remind taxpayers that they have several safeguards in place to protect data.

If you believe you have been affected by either incident you should contact;

- Optus on 13 39 37
- AHM on 13 42 46
- Medibank Private on 13 23 31

Information for those caught up in the data breach is available from the Australian Cyber and Security Centre at [cyber.gov.au](https://cyber.gov.au).

The ATO also reminds the community that it is important to always be vigilant for suspicious activity. The following tips can help protect accounts and keep personal information safe:

- Use multi-factor authentication for accounts where possible.
- Be careful when clicking on links and providing personal information.
- Make sure contact details are up to date when using online services.



## Bill on FBT exemption for electric vehicles passes House

With Australia notably behind on the adoption of electric vehicles and the Albanese Government's pledge of net zero emissions by 2050; a new bill has recently passed both houses of Parliament to apply a fringe benefits tax (FBT) exemption to electric vehicles. This bill seeks to make electric vehicles more attractive for consumers to buy and use, in turn contributing to Australia's emission reduction.

In relation to a car, fringe benefits tax generally applies when an employer provides a car to an employee and allows the vehicle to be used for private purposes. Generally a car is a vehicle designed to carry less than 1 tonne or fewer than 9 passengers. The employer is then liable for a separate tax, fringe benefit tax. There are also other implications to be considered from the employee's perspective.

The bill proposes to remove FBT on eligible electric cars from 1 July 2022. To qualify for the FBT exemption, the value of the car at first retail sale must be below the luxury car tax threshold for fuel efficient cars (\$84,916 for 2022-23). The exemption will only be available to cars (as defined for FBT purposes) that are:

- battery electric vehicles
- hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles, and
- plug-in hybrid electric vehicles.

If enacted, this will apply from the FBT year beginning 1 April 2022. The Government intends to formally review this exemption after 3 years to consider the take-up of electric vehicles.

## eInvoicing

eInvoicing (or electronic invoicing) is the new, standardised way to send and receive electronic invoices directly into your accounting software, via a secure network. eInvoicing offers a streamlined way of managing invoices. Once connected with eInvoicing, businesses can immediately transact with everyone on the same network, meaning you can be paid faster, and ultimately improve your cashflow.

With eInvoicing:

- suppliers don't need to print, post or email paper-based or PDF invoices
- buyers don't need to manually enter or scan invoices into their software
- businesses connect once and immediately transact with everyone on the same network, no matter what eInvoicing-enabled software they use.



eInvoicing also reduces the risk of fake or compromised invoices and email billing scams. With eInvoicing, the invoice is delivered directly into the customer's software via a secure network, so there's less risk of lost or fraudulent invoices being paid.

The ATO is expecting significant growth in the use of eInvoicing over the next 12 months, with more than 18,000 businesses already using eInvoicing to make their transactions faster, simpler and more secure.

Currently MYOB and Xero both support eInvoicing. Further details on registering your software can be found on the software's website and help pages. For a full list of software supporting eInvoicing and further information visit:

<https://softwaredevelopers.ato.gov.au/eInvoicing-Ready-product-register>



## Valuing Fund Assets for an SMSF's Annual Return

One of many responsibilities attached with being trustee of the SMSF is valuing the fund's assets at market value at the end of each financial year. The market value of an asset is the amount someone could be reasonably expected to pay if the asset was for sale.

Each year, the asset valuations will be reviewed by the fund's approved SMSF auditor as part of the annual audit prior to lodgement of the SMSF's annual return. The auditor will check that assets have been valued correctly, and assess and document whether the basis for the valuation is appropriate given the nature of the asset.

Trustees are reminded to get their valuations done before they provide information to the fund's accountant, as this will streamline the process and avoid delays. It is also the trustees' responsibility to provide objective and supportable evidence for the valuation of the fund's assets.

Failure to do so could result in a delay in auditing the fund and potential late lodgement of the fund's annual return (and could also result in a contravention if the auditor believes mistakes have been made).

The method of valuation of the asset will depend on the nature of each asset owned by the fund. Some assets have publicly available market value data (i.e. shares) whereas other assets require an independent valuation from a valuer or industry professional (i.e. property). If you are unsure of the market valuation requirements for the assets owned by your SMSF you should contact the Fund's accountant or auditor.

*The advice in this communication contains factual information and/or recommendations with regard to maintaining fund compliance. We are not licensed to provide financial product advice under the Corporations Act 2001.*

# CLIENT PROFILE

## ACTION AUTOGLASS

**Elphinstone Stevens congratulates Paul, Rose & their team on the move to their new premises.**

There have been some exciting changes for Action Auto Glass Burnie recently with a move into a brand-new premises.

AAG Burnie had been trading from the former Bourke Street site for 35 years and after outgrowing the premises the decision was made to build and move into a new modern facility located at 20-21 Main Road Wivenhoe. The building was designed specifically for the industry in a great location that faces the entering and departing traffic on the Bass Highway.

The new premises offers more working bays to help with the flow of work, a double tint bay, large storage area, and a dedicated area for our CNC Waterjet Cutting Machine and Flat Glass service. With the new technology and camera systems in all modern vehicles we have also added in an area to perform the camera re-calibrations on the cars after the windscreen has been replaced.

The reception and office space are modern, spacious and accommodating for our five-office staff along with a Directors Office and meeting office both overlooking the Bass Strait. Upstairs incorporates a large Board Room with amazing sea views and a large lunchroom for the 17 full time staff. With the hard work and dedication from our team and the ongoing support of our customers our vision has become a reality.

