

5 Ways You Could Be Saving Tax

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A lot of our clients are interested in legally reducing their Corporation Tax and income tax bills. This guide is a summary of the type of advice we give them.

#### **Make Employer Pension Contributions to Directors**

Directors can take advantage of the annual pension allowance (£40K plus previous 3 years unused allowance) by making a company pension contribution to their pension funds. The pension contribution is tax deductible. Growth within the pension is free from income and capital gains tax and 25% of the pension fund can be drawn down tax free post age 55.

## Pay Minimal Salary and Maximum Dividends

Pay a salary below the secondary NI threshold (currently £9,100). In some circumstances you can pay a salary below the primary threshold (£12,570) where you can benefit from the employer's NI allowance).

Take the remainder of your drawings as dividends.

# Take Advantage of the Capital Allowance Super Deduction

From 1 April 2021 until 31 March 2023, companies investing in qualifying new plant and machinery assets will be able to claim a 130% super-deduction capital allowance on qualifying plant and machinery investments.

## **Buy a Zero Emission (Electric) Company Car**

You will get a 100% first year capital allowance on the purchase price of the electric car you buy. So if you buy a car for £50K either outright or via HP you can reduce your taxable company profits by £50K. The other massive advantage is that the income tax benefit in kind for electric cars is only 2%. This means that the pay equivalent of the £50K car is only £1,000. For a 40% tax-payer this amounts to a cost of only £400 p.a.

#### **Claim R&D Tax Relief**

You may be surprised to discover that some of your company costs could qualify for R&D tax relief. You don't have to operate in the field of science and technology. Fundamentally, to get R&D relief you need to explain how a project:

- looked for an advance in science and technology
- had to overcome uncertainty
- tried to overcome this uncertainty
- could not be easily worked out by a professional in the field

#### Claim R&D Tax Relief (continued)

Your project may research or develop a new process, product or service or improve on an existing one. If you a small or medium sized company relief allows companies to :-

- deduct an extra 130% of their qualifying costs from their yearly profit, as well as the normal 100% deduction, to make a total 230% deduction
- claim a tax credit (receive actual cash back) if the company is loss making, worth up to 14.5% of the surrenderable loss.

## Thank you for reading...

See how we can help you get the most from your business finances.

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