## **BULLETIN All Members**



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The Victorian Government has today announced additional payroll tax relief to support businesses during the

COVID-19 pandemic.

Today's official announcement advises that businesses participating in the JobKeeper scheme in Victoria will be exempt from payroll tax and the WorkCover premium on payments to their employees if their staff are currently stood down. You can read more about the announcement by referring to the Victorian State Revenue Office new update below.

The announcement means the \$1,500 fortnightly payment paid to staff who are currently stood down will be free from all state government taxes and charges.

Payments above a part-time employee's usual salary, due to JobKeeper being a minimum \$1500 fortnightly payment, will also be exempt from payroll tax and the WorkCover premium.

Thank you to those members who contributed to the VACC submissions on this issue to the Victorian Government. We are still working away on threshold exemptions for Land Tax and Commercial tenancy issues.

VACC also acknowledges the willingness to consult and the communication from the Victorian Treasurer's Office.

## SRO news and updates



## More payroll tax relief for businesses

The Victorian Government has announced additional payroll tax relief to support businesses and jobs as we face coronavirus (COVID-19).

To qualify for the <u>Commonwealth Government's JobKeeper payments</u>, employers must pay a minimum of \$1500 a fortnight to eligible employees.

Any additional payments that an employer makes to bridge the gap between their employee's normal wage and the \$1500 a fortnight required to qualify for Jobkeeper payments are now exempt from payroll tax. For employees who have been stood down, the full \$1500 payment is exempt.

More information about this emergency tax relief measure is available at sro.vic.gov.au/coronavirus.

The additional payments are not included in rateable remuneration for the purposes of calculating WorkCover Premiums. For more information, visit worksafe.vic.gov.au.

Eligibility requirements for JobKeeper payments are available on the <u>Australian Taxation Office</u> website.

## Other support available to businesses

The Victorian Government has a range of other tax relief measures as part of its Economic Survival Package in response to coronavirus. <u>Information about all Victorian Government tax relief</u> measures is available on our website.

Businesses across the state can access information on dealing with the impact of coronavirus by calling the Business Victoria hotline on 13 22 15.

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