

Whatever it Takes

At the time of writing this article the entire World is wrestling with the Coronavirus epidemic. Literally everything has been impacted on by this including our work patterns, our shopping patterns, our social interaction and inevitably our finances.

In what is an incredibly fast paced sequence of events less than a week after the Budget, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak revealed a package of measures designed to help the UK economy withstand the financial impact of the coronavirus. Promising further support if necessary, he commented: "We have never, in peacetime, faced an economic fight like this one".

The Chancellor allocated £330 billion for companies who need access to cash equating to 15% of UK GDP. This will be delivered to larger companies via a new lending facility, and to medium-sized and smaller companies via an extension to the new Business Interruption Loan Scheme.

Having already suspended business rates for companies in the retail, leisure and hospitality sectors with a rateable value of less than £51,000, he extended this suspension to all businesses in these sectors, alongside cash grants of up to £25,000. The Chancellor extended the £3,000 cash grant for any business qualifying for small business rates relief to £10,000.

Mortgage lenders will offer borrowers a mortgage holiday of at least three months for those who fall into financial difficulty because of the coronavirus. He also promised help for airlines and airports.

The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) welcomed the Chancellor's announcement but urged the Government to ensure that cash reaches businesses quickly. Meanwhile, the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) called for "urgent decisions" on wages accompanied by "wider whole-economy" measures in areas such as VAT and National Insurance to support a broader range of companies.

This desire to combat the economic consequences is not restricted to the UK. US Federal Reserve (Fed) announced its second consecutive emergency rate cut as central banks around the world launched co-ordinated action to support the global economy. Fed Chair Jay Powell acknowledged the "profound effect" of the coronavirus on the global population and economy. The Fed cut its key federal funds rate by one percentage point, reducing it to a range of 0% to 0.25%.

The White House is also seeking congressional approval for measures with over \$1 trillion in spending including direct payments to individuals, small-business lending, payroll tax cuts, and credit facilities for larger businesses and commercial paper facilities.

All of this will provide a massive support to World economies and eventually support nations and feed through to Stock markets reminding us that investment is always a longer- term enterprise measured in years not months.

Top Tax Tips

Enterprise Investment Schemes – EIS are designed to help smaller higher risk trading companies to raise finance by offering a range of tax reliefs to investors who purchase new shares in those companies. If certain conditions are met individuals are able to obtain valuable income tax (30%) and capital gains tax reliefs on investments in such companies

Are your treasured possessions insured for their true value?



You may be surprised at the cost to replace your precious items such as jewellery, watches or collections. Many factors including the price of gold and precious metals can cause fluctuations in the cost of replacing your most treasured items and having them insured for an accurate value can provide you with reassurance that you will be able to replace them should the worse happen.

Most home insurance policies contain a single article limit both within the home and when personal possessions are taken away from the property. These policy limits are the maximum the Insurer will pay to replace an item in the event of a claim unless you have specified the item and its value on your home insurance policy.

We at Sabre, always recommend that you ask an expert such as a jeweller or specialist to provide a written valuation for these items as this gives you peace of mind and also provides your Insurer with evidence of value which will assist greatly in the event of a claim.

Arranging a home insurance policy which meets with your requirements and provides suitable levels of cover is also extremely important. This applies not only to your jewellery and precious items but also the structure of your home and all of the contents.

Telephone our offices to speak to us about your insurance needs.

Does your Home Insurance protect you when it matters?

Underestimating the value of your home contents is all too easy — research from leading UK Insurer Aviva, consistently shows that millions of homes in the UK are underinsured. We don't want yours to be one of them which is why we advise you to check your home insurance policy for the level of cover you have.

You should then consider doing an inventory of your belongings in order to work out an estimated cost of replacing them as new items. The easiest way to do this is room by room, making a note of the contents and the cost of replacing them. For example, in bedrooms it would include furniture, carpets, curtains and so on, and also clothes, which collectively could be the most valuable things you possess. It is a good idea to keep receipts for any valuable items you buy, for reference.

It is also vitally important to consider the up to date values of any precious items, jewellery and any collections that you may have and we recommend talking to specialist value's in order to ascertain an accurate replacement cost of such items.

If you do find that your contents come to more than you're covered for, talk to your insurance provider about increasing the contents cover limit on your home insurance policy. It may cost you slightly more in premium but ultimately it will make a huge difference in the event that you need to make a claim, especially in the worst-case scenario of a fire or flood.

Telephone our offices to speak to us about your insurance needs.

