

LIEU VO – TAX ADVISORY

Spring 2026
Quarterly Client
Newsletter



Lieu Vo – Tax Adviser

Tax Year End: Act Before 5 April 2026

The 2025/26 tax year closes on **5 April 2026**. There are still a few weeks to make use of allowances that cannot be carried forward. Once the year ends, they are gone.

Use your ISA allowance. You can save up to £20,000 in a tax-free ISA each year. Unused allowance cannot be rolled over into 2026/27.

Use your Capital Gains Tax (CGT) annual exempt amount. For 2025/26 this is £3,000. If you have assets sitting on a gain, a disposal before 5 April locks in this year's exemption.

IR35: Are Your Contracts Reviewed?

Each new contract – with a new client or a renewal – should be reviewed for IR35 status. A contract that was outside IR35 last year is not automatically outside this year.

Top up your pension. Contributions made before year end reduce your taxable income for 2025/26. Higher and additional rate taxpayers can claim 40% or 45% relief – but only on contributions made this tax year.

Review your dividend position. The dividend allowance is £500 for 2025/26. If you run a limited company, check whether you have taken the full allowance before the year resets.

Check your personal allowance. If your income is over £100,000, your personal allowance tapers by £1 for every £2 above that figure. A pension contribution before 5 April can bring income below the threshold and restore the full allowance.

National Insurance: One Year On

April 2025 brought a significant rise in Employer National Insurance – from 13.8% to **15%** – alongside a reduction in the secondary threshold from £9,100 to £5,000 per year. For businesses with staff, this has meaningfully increased employment costs.

If you have not already reviewed your payroll structure in light of these changes, now is a good time. Options worth considering include salary sacrifice arrangements, employment allowance eligibility (up to £10,500 for qualifying employers), and the timing of bonuses or director remuneration.

Self-Assessment: 2024/25 Returns

The deadline for filing your 2024/25 Self-Assessment return online and paying any tax owed was **31 January 2026**. If you missed this date, penalties will have started to accrue:

- **Day 1 late:** £100 fixed penalty
- **3 months late:** £10 per day (up to £900)
- **6 months late:** An additional £300 or 5% of tax due

Key questions to ask before signing:

- Does the contract include a genuine substitution clause?
- Who controls how and when the work is done?
- Are you using your own equipment?
- Do you work for other clients?

If you work for a medium or large client, you should have received a Status Determination Statement (SDS). You have the right to challenge it if you believe it is wrong.

Contact Lieu Vo for a contract review before you sign.

Upcoming Deadlines

5 April 2026

End of 2025/26 tax year

6 April 2026

Start of 2026/27 tax year

31 July 2026

Second payment on account for 2025/26

5 October 2026

Deadline to register for Self-Assessment if new to it

31 January 2027

2025/26 online return + tax payment deadline

Get in Touch

To discuss any of the topics in this newsletter or to get

If you have not yet filed, contact us as soon as possible. In some cases it is possible to appeal penalties where there is a reasonable excuse.

What's Coming in 2026/27

The new tax year begins on **6 April 2026**. Key figures to note:

- Personal allowance: £12,570 (unchanged)
- Basic rate band: 20% up to £50,270
- Higher rate: 40% on income between £50,271 and £125,140
- Corporation Tax: 19% (profits up to £50,000) / 25% (above £250,000)
- Dividend allowance: £500
- CGT annual exempt amount: £3,000

Payments on account for 2025/26 are due **31 January 2026** (first) and **31 July 2026** (second). If your 2025/26 income has been significantly lower than the prior year, it may be worth applying to reduce payments on account.

advice on your own situation, contact Lieu Vo directly.

Email: your@email.com

Phone: [+44 XXXX XXXXXX]

Existing clients can also book a session through the usual channels.