

Today I decided it was time to release some GOOD NEWS. So i have created this JGA COVID-19 GOOD NEWSletter! I have tried to fill it with some fun, positive vibes along with usefultips and advice (taken from sources across the internet) that i hope may help. Apologies in advance for any typos - being dad, recruiter and part-time editor means i am prone to missing the odd spelling error! I highlight this because I realise this (and my newsletters) are going out to payroll professionals who all seem to have AMAZING levels of attention to detail!

This is supposed to be a short-week right? Feels like a month!

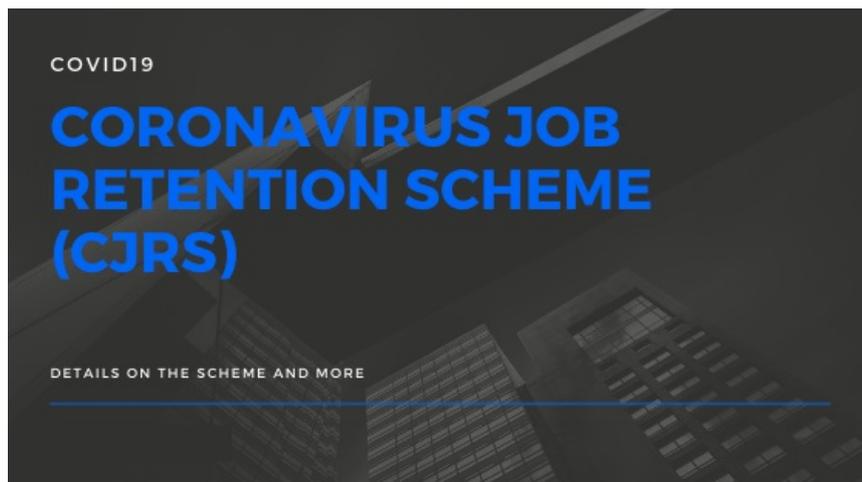


[Welcome to our JGA COVID-19 GOOD NEWSletter.](#)

We hope it helps perk you up a bit to know that despite the crisis, there is still a lot of good news happening out there. Plus, we include information about managing mental health, budgets, remote onboarding and more.

You can access it here: **[JGA-GOOD-NEWSletter-1.pdf](#)**

We hope you enjoy it. Please share it with your teams - it may help someone.





[CJRS Portal Update from Kate Upcraft](#)

HMRC made a policy announcement to the EPG last night, who are their main consultation group for payroll matters in case you weren't aware. I am told that this is not confidential as no mention has been made of that in their communication. The question it was addressing was those people who had a start date in February but were not reported until the March FPS, even though the CJRS guidance on both occasions simply said 'being on payroll on the 28th February'. Apparently HMRC's view of that means being reported in February. This is a major difference in understanding for businesses of all sizes who have made decisions on the basis of the inclusion of everybody who had a start date on, or before, the 28th February but who now appear to find that some of their February starters may not be included in the reclaim scheme. I know that the members of the EPG who are members of ICAEW and CIOT have expressed their concern about this policy change, we will have to see where this goes and we know no more at this time.



Some of you will also have seen the announcement that the reclaim portal has gone into test today and will be open on the 20th April. It will require a PAYE online account and can, we think, only be used by agents who have 64-8 authority to access a client's account if they have one. I have attached the email announcement which also indicates that we will need a national insurance number for every person on the claim which is also not with what was in the guidance as it talked about a bulk claim. Of course we expected to have detailed evidence to justify the claim but a) not everybody has a national insurance number perfectly validly as you don't need one to be on payroll and b) are we going to be able to upload CSV files or the like where you have got thousands and thousands of employees who are part of the claim?

Download the CJRS Update Report [Here](#)
Read More [Here](#)



[Payroll News and Useful Payroll Tools!](#)

- Rules on drivers' hours relaxed: [Read More](#)
- SPBP calculator: [Access Calculator Here](#)
- SSP linking tables: [Access Tables Here](#)



[HMRC confirms that the online service for reclaiming wages under the CJRS is due to be launched on 20 April](#)

HMRC has confirmed that an online service will be raised to allow businesses to make claims relating to the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS), and that it is due to be launched on **20 April 2020**.

The Chancellor, Rishi Sunak, called on HMRC to assist with delivering financial support to businesses and citizens during the outbreak of coronavirus, and one of the measures introduced to do so was the CJRS. HMRC has now confirmed the intended launch date and explained that claims will need to be made online, and not by phone.

HMRC has advised that it is working as quickly as possible to deliver the service that will allow businesses to make a claim for 80% of furloughed employees' pay, up to a maximum cap of £2,500 per eligible employee.

Any businesses and agents that are authorised to act on behalf of clients for PAYE matters will have the ability to claim. Conversely, file only agents and Payroll Bureaus will not be able to access the service for data protection reasons.

HMRC still requires the support of file only agents, even though they will not be able to access the service themselves. These agents are being asked to help their clients, as it is highly likely that they will have access to information that their clients will need in order to make their claims.

The resounding message is that HMRC is working relentlessly to help deliver financial support to those who need it during these unprecedented times. [To read more click here](#)



[NIC settlement return deadline extended](#)

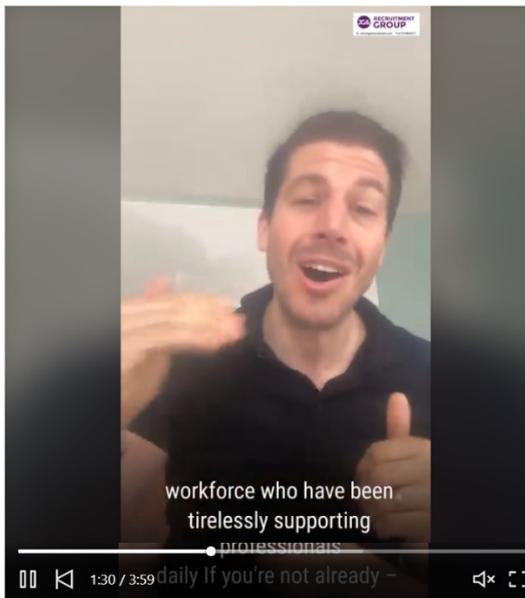
In response to the outbreak of coronavirus, the deadline for the [submission of the National Insurance contributions settlement return form](#) for tax year 2019-20 has been extended from 31 March 2020 to 31 May 2020.

HMRC confirmed the extension and requested that forms be sent as soon as possible so that returns can be processed quickly.

The settlement return form should be completed and submitted where an agreement has been made to operate Class 1 National Insurance contributions under [Employment Procedures appendix 6](#).

One application can be used for multiple employees.

The form should be sent to: Charities, Savings and International 3, HMRC, BX9 1AJ
If you require the form in Welsh, [you should email HMRC](#).



[Wednesday Payroll Update!](#)

Watch [this video](#) for this to make sense!

Today I posted this on LinkedIn. I hope it covers how I feel about the payroll industry and the payroll recruitment industry right now. It's tough to summarise in less than 4 minutes!

Let's keep the UK paid! Payroll has become a frontline, essential business function during this crisis and I couldn't be prouder to be part of it.

To see the post in full go [here](#):





If you are new to this mailing list...

If you are new to this mailing list, you may find that some of your questions have already been answered!

You can access all previous email updates (full of conversations, tips and advice) [here](#)

Free Furlough Calculations Spreadheets have been UPDATED - you can access these: [here](#)



Payroll Recruitment Continues

Believe it or not, many clients are still recruiting! Yesterday we placed a payroll manager vacancy in Cheshire and today we have placed an EMEA payroll specialist in Spain! We still have interviews taking place across Europe, all via video.

Last week, our placement of the Head of Payroll for Unilever started and she had to meet her whole team remotely! This was a new experience for her and certainly, all of us are experiencing and adapting to these new ways of working, but with video interviewing becoming a new "normal", and with no concrete end in sight to the current crisis, companies who need payroll talent have no choice but to recruit or they risk failing to pay their employees on time and accurately!

Finally, if you need staff but you have a recruitment freeze on currently, remember that a recruitment freeze doesn't mean you have to freeze recruitment! You can still recruit and locate top talent (before everyone starts recruiting once things start to recover), our recommendation is you just delay start dates or making offers until the freezes are lifted.

Let's keep the UK paid!

Of course if any of you need any payroll recruitment support, [email me!](#)

[Email](#)

[01727 800 377](tel:01727800377)

[Website](#)

