

J03

Diploma in Financial Planning

Unit J03 – The tax and legal aspects of business

October 2016 examination

SPECIAL NOTICES

All questions in this paper are based on English law and practice applicable in the tax year 2016/2017, unless stated otherwise in the question, and should be answered accordingly.

It should be assumed that all individuals are domiciled and resident in the UK unless otherwise stated.

Instructions

- Two hours are allowed for this paper.
- **Do not begin writing until the invigilator instructs you to.**
- **Read the instructions on page 3 carefully before answering any questions.**
- Provide the information requested on the answer book and form B.
- You are allowed to write on the inside pages of this question paper, but you must **NOT** write your name, candidate number, PIN or any other identification anywhere on this question paper.
- The answer book and this question paper must **both be handed in personally by you** to the invigilator before you leave the examination room. **Failure to comply with this regulation will result in your paper not being marked and you may be prevented from entering this examination in the future.**

Unit J03 – The tax and legal aspects of business

Instructions to candidates

Read the instructions below before answering any questions

- **Two hours** are allowed for this paper which consists of 15 short answer questions and carries a total of 130 marks.
- You are strongly advised to attempt **all** questions to gain maximum possible marks. The number of marks allocated to each question part is given next to the question and you should spend your time in accordance with that allocation.
- Read carefully all questions and information provided before starting to answer. Your answer will be marked strictly in accordance with the question set.
- You may find it helpful in some places to make rough notes in the answer booklet. If you do this, you should cross through these notes before you hand in the booklet.
- It is important to show all steps in a calculation, even if you have used a calculator.
- If you bring a calculator into the examination room, it must be a silent, battery or solar-powered, non-programmable calculator. The use of electronic equipment capable of being programmed to hold alphabetic or numerical data and/or formulae is prohibited. You may use a financial or scientific calculator, provided it meets these requirements.
- Tax tables are provided at the back of this question paper.
- Answer each question on a new page and leave six lines blank after each question part.

Subject to providing sufficient detail you are advised to be as brief and concise as possible, using note format and short sentences on separate lines wherever possible.

Attempt ALL questions**Time: 2 hours**

To gain maximum marks for calculations you **must** show **all** your workings and express your answers to **two** decimal places.

1. Patrick is a sole trader who is in financial difficulties. His business creditors are threatening to take legal action to recoup monies owed to them.
 - (a) List the steps that a creditor will need to take in order to obtain a bankruptcy order against Patrick. (6)
 - (b) Explain to Patrick the potential consequences for him if a bankruptcy order is granted against him. (8)

2. Gregg, Susan and David are partners in an IT data business. Gregg is retiring and will leave the partnership in one month.
 - (a) List the steps the partners should take in order to inform third parties of Gregg's retirement. (3)
 - (b) Describe briefly the potential problems for the remaining partners if the steps identified in part (a) above are not completed. (3)
 - (c) Explain briefly to Gregg how he can limit his liability to partnership debts once he has retired. (4)

3. List the key features of a limited liability partnership that distinguishes it from an ordinary partnership. (6)

4. Harry is employed as a sales manager. His salary for the tax year 2016/2017 is £42,000. He has a petrol company car with CO₂ emissions of 136g/km. The list price of the car was £32,000, and there were no capital contributions from Harry or additional accessories purchased. His employer pays for all his fuel, including private mileage. Harry pays pension contributions of £4,800 net per annum to a personal pension which commenced on 8 April 2016.
 - (a) Calculate, **showing all your workings**, Harry's net income for the tax year 2016/2017. (10)
 - (b) Calculate, **showing all your workings**, the total employer National Insurance contributions liability on Harry's remuneration package. (4)

5. The model articles of association deal with a limited company's internal operations.
State the main areas that this document covers. (5)
6. (a) Explain briefly the accruals basis for drawing up accounts. (4)
(b) Explain briefly the term 'going concern' in relation to a company's accounts. (2)
7. (a) Outline the key elements of a fixed charge in relation to corporate financing. (3)
(b) List **three advantages** to a lender of a fixed charge compared to a floating charge. (3)
8. Julie is going into partnership with Peter and James. She owns warehouses and office units on which she has a small mortgage. The properties would be suitable for the partnership to trade from.
State **four** advantages to Julie of:
(a) renting her properties to the partnership; (4)
(b) introducing her properties as her contribution to partnership capital. (4)
9. State **six** types of flexible working options that are available for employees. (6)
10. (a) State the **two** main methods commonly used for calculating the level of cover for key person protection. (2)
(b) List **one** benefit and **one** drawback of using each of the methods identified in part (a) above. (4)

QUESTIONS CONTINUE OVER THE PAGE

- 11.** The directors of LLGC Ltd have set up a small self-administered pension scheme (SSAS).
- (a) List **four** ways in which a SSAS can help to finance a small limited company. (4)
- (b) Outline the requirements for a SSAS loan to be treated by HM Revenue & Customs as an authorised employer loan. (6)
- 12.** The accounts for Overtop Ltd for the year ending 30 September 2016, show a gross profit of £222,000. In calculating the profit, the following were taken into account:
- The profit is after deduction of £6,000 entertainment costs and £14,000 depreciation.
 - The depreciation is in respect of plant in the general pool with a written down value of £45,000.
 - The investment income included rental income of £15,000 and £750 from deposit accounts.
- Calculate, **showing all your workings**, for the accounting period the:
- (a) trading profit; (5)
- (b) total taxable profit. (5)
- 13.** Tobias, Nasema and Dave are shareholders in Avon-Dale Ltd. They are considering shareholder protection and have asked you about the structure in which to hold any life insurance policies.
- (a) Describe the key provisions that should be covered by an appropriate business trust. (5)
- (b) Explain the tax implications of using the business trust. (5)

- 14.** Mandy is the majority shareholder and Managing Director of Global Odes Ltd. She has paid personal pension contributions of £40,000 for the tax year 2016/2017.

Explain the tax treatment, excluding National Insurance contributions, for both the company and Mandy, if she withdraws profits from the company by:

- (a) paying herself a dividend; (6)
- (b) Global Odes Ltd making contributions to a registered pension scheme on her behalf. (4)

- 15.** Teo is an electrical engineer and has just set up his own business as a sole trader. He expects to make a turnover in the first 12 months of over £100,000.

- (a) Outline to Teo the rules in relation to VAT registration. (3)
- (b) Describe briefly to Teo **three advantages** and **three disadvantages** of using a flat rate scheme. (6)

The tax tables can be found on pages 9 – 15

INCOME TAX

RATES OF TAX	2015/2016	2016/2017
Starting rate for savings*	0%	0%
Basic rate	20%	20%
Higher rate	40%	40%
Additional rate	45%	45%
Starting-rate limit	£5,000*	£5,000*
Threshold of taxable income above which higher rate applies	£31,785	£32,000
Threshold of taxable income above which additional rate applies	£150,000	£150,000

Child benefit charge from 7 January 2013: 1% of benefit for every £100 of income over	£50,000	£50,000
--	---------	---------

**Restricted to savings income only and not available if taxable non-savings income exceeds starting rate band.*

MAIN PERSONAL ALLOWANCES AND RELIEFS

Income limit for Personal Allowance §	£100,000	£100,000
Personal Allowance (basic if born after 5 April 1948) §	£10,600	£11,000
Personal Allowance (if born between 6 April 1938 and 5 April 1948) §	£10,600	£11,000
Personal Allowance (if born before 6 April 1938) §	£10,660	£11,000
Married/civil partners (minimum) at 10% †	£3,220	£3,220
Married/civil partners at 10% †	£8,355	£8,355
Transferable tax allowance for married couples/civil partners	£1,060	£1,100
Income limit for age-related allowances §	£27,700	£27,700
Blind Person's Allowance	£2,290	£2,290
Enterprise Investment Scheme relief limit on £1,000,000 max	30%	30%
Seed Enterprise Investment relief limit on £100,000 max	50%	50%
Venture Capital Trust relief limit on £200,000 max	30%	30%

§ the Personal Allowance reduces by £1 for every £2 of income above the income limit irrespective of age (under the income threshold).

† where at least one spouse/civil partner was born before 6 April 1935.

Child Tax Credit (CTC)		
- Child element per child (maximum)	£2,780	£2,780
- family element	£545	£545
Threshold for tapered withdrawal of CTC	£16,105	£16,105

NATIONAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS

Class 1 Employee	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
Lower Earnings Limit (LEL)	£112	£486	£5,824
Primary threshold	£155	£672	£8,060
Upper Earnings Limit (UEL)	£827	£3,583	£43,000

Total earnings £ per week CLASS 1 EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS

Up to 155.00*	Nil
155.01 – 827.00	12%
Above 827.00	2%

**This is the primary threshold below which no NI contributions are payable. However, the lower earnings limit is £112 per week. This £112 to £155 band is a zero rate band introduced in order to protect lower earners' rights to contributory State benefits e.g. Basic State Pension.*

Total earnings £ per week CLASS 1 EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

Below 156.00**	Nil
156.01 – 827.00	13.8%
Excess over 827.00	13.8%

*** Secondary earnings threshold.*

Class 2 (self-employed)	Flat rate per week £2.80 where profits exceed £5,965 per annum.
Class 3 (voluntary)	Flat rate per week £14.10.
Class 4 (self-employed)	9% on profits between £8,060 - £43,000. 2% on profits above £43,000.

PENSIONS

TAX YEAR	LIFETIME ALLOWANCE	ANNUAL ALLOWANCE
2006/2007	£1,500,000	£215,000
2007/2008	£1,600,000	£225,000
2008/2009	£1,650,000	£235,000
2009/2010	£1,750,000	£245,000
2010/2011	£1,800,000	£255,000
2011/2012	£1,800,000	£50,000
2012/2013	£1,500,000	£50,000
2013/2014	£1,500,000	£50,000
2014/2015	£1,250,000	£40,000
2015/2016	£1,250,000	£40,000 §
2016/2017	£1,000,000	£40,000

ANNUAL ALLOWANCE CHARGE

20% - 45% member's tax charge on the amount of total pension input in excess of the annual allowance.

MONEY PURCHASE ANNUAL ALLOWANCE

2015/2016	2016/2017
£10,000*	£10,000*

LIFETIME ALLOWANCE CHARGE

55% of excess over lifetime allowance if taken as a lump sum.

25% of excess over lifetime allowance if taken in the form of income, which is subsequently taxed under PAYE.

§ increased to £80,000 from 6 April - 8 July 2015. If not used, can be carried forward to 9 July 2015 - 5 April 2016, subject to a maximum of £40,000.

* transitional rules apply to the calculation for pre/post 8 July 2015 position.

CAPITAL GAINS TAX

EXEMPTIONS	2015/2016	2016/2017
Individuals, estates etc	£11,100	£11,100
Trusts generally	£5,550	£5,550
Chattels proceeds (restricted to five thirds of proceeds exceeding limit)	£6,000	£6,000

TAX RATES

Individuals:

Up to basic rate limit	18%	10%
Above basic rate limit	28%	20%
Surcharge for residential property and carried interest	0%	8%

Trustees and Personal Representatives	28%	20%
---------------------------------------	-----	-----

Entrepreneurs' Relief* – Gains taxed at:	10%	10%
Lifetime limit	£10,000,000	£10,000,000

*For trading businesses and companies (minimum 5% employee or director shareholding) held for at least one year.

INHERITANCE TAX

RATES OF TAX ON TRANSFERS	2015/2016	2016/2017
Transfers made on death after 5 April 2015		
- Up to £325,000	Nil	Nil
- Excess over £325,000	40%	40%
Transfers made after 5 April 2015		
- Lifetime transfers to and from certain trusts	20%	20%

A lower rate of 36% applies where at least 10% of deceased's net estate is left to a registered charity.

MAIN EXEMPTIONS

Transfers to				
- UK-domiciled spouse/civil partner		No limit		No limit
- non-UK-domiciled spouse/civil partner (from UK-domiciled spouse)		£325,000		£325,000
- UK-registered charities		No limit		No limit
Lifetime transfers				
- Annual exemption per donor		£3,000		£3,000
- Small gifts exemption		£250		£250
Wedding/civil partnership gifts by				
- parent		£5,000		£5,000
- grandparent		£2,500		£2,500
- other person		£1,000		£1,000

100% relief: businesses, unlisted/AIM companies, certain farmland/building

50% relief: certain other business assets

Reduced tax charge on gifts within 7 years of death:

	0-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7
- Inheritance Tax payable	100%	80%	60%	40%	20%

CAR BENEFIT FOR EMPLOYEES

The charge for company car benefits is based on the carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions. There is no reduction for high business mileage users.

For 2016/2017:

- The percentage charge is 7% of the car's list price for CO₂ emissions of 50g/km or less.
- For cars with CO₂ emissions of 51g/km to 75g/km the percentage is 11%.
- For cars with CO₂ emissions of 76g/km to 94g/km the percentage is 15%.
- Cars with CO₂ emissions of 95g/km have a percentage charge of 16% and thereafter the charge increases by 1% for every complete 5g/km to a maximum of 37% (emissions of 200g/km and above).

There is an additional 3% supplement for diesel cars not meeting Euro IV emission standards. However, the maximum charge remains 37% of the car's list price.

Car fuel The benefit is calculated as the CO₂ emissions % relevant to the car and that % applied to a set figure (£22,200 for 2016/2017) e.g. car emission 100g/km = 17% on car benefit scale. 17% of £22,200 = £3,774.

1. **Accessories** are, in most cases, included in the list price on which the benefit is calculated.
2. **List price** is reduced for capital contributions made by the employee up to £5,000.
3. **Car benefit** is reduced by the amount of employee's contributions towards running costs.
4. **Fuel scale** is reduced only if the employee makes good **all** the fuel used for private journeys.
5. **All car and fuel benefits** are subject to employers National Insurance contribution's (Class 1A) of 13.8%.

PRIVATE VEHICLES USED FOR WORK

	2015/2016 Rates	2016/2017 Rates
Cars		
On the first 10,000 business miles in tax year	45p per mile	45p per mile
Each business mile above 10,000 business miles	25p per mile	25p per mile
Motor Cycles	24p per mile	24p per mile
Bicycles	20p per mile	20p per mile

MAIN CAPITAL AND OTHER ALLOWANCES

	2015/2016	2016/2017	
Plant & machinery (excluding cars) 100% annual investment allowance (first year)	£500,000	£200,000	
Plant & machinery (reducing balance) per annum	18%	18%	
Patent rights & know-how (reducing balance) per annum	25%	25%	
Certain long-life assets, integral features of buildings (reducing balance) per annum	8%	8%	
Energy & water-efficient equipment	100%	100%	
Zero emission goods vehicles (new)	100%	100%	
Qualifying flat conversions, business premises & renovations	100%	100%	
Motor cars: Expenditure on or after 01 April 2016 (Corporation Tax) or 06 April 2016 (Income Tax)			
CO ₂ emissions of g/km:	75 or less*	76-130	131 or more
Capital allowance:	100%	18%	8%
	first year	reducing balance	reducing balance

*If new

CORPORATION TAX

	2015/2016	2016/2017
Standard rate	20%	20%
Small companies rate	20%	N/A
Small companies limit	£300,000	N/A
Effective marginal rate	20%	N/A
Upper marginal limit	£1,500,000	N/A

VALUE ADDED TAX

	2015/2016	2016/2017
Standard rate	20%	20%
Annual registration threshold	£82,000	£83,000
Deregistration threshold	£80,000	£81,000

MAIN SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

		2015/2016	2016/2017
		£	£
Child Benefit	First child	20.70	20.70
	Subsequent children	13.70	13.70
	Guardian's allowance	16.55	16.55
Employment and Support Allowance	Assessment Phase		
	Age 16 – 24	Up to 57.90	Up to 57.90
	Aged 25 or over	Up to 73.10	Up to 73.10
	Main Phase		
	Work Related Activity Group	Up to 102.15	Up to 102.15
	Support Group	Up to 109.30	Up to 109.30
Attendance Allowance	Lower rate	55.10	55.10
	Higher rate	82.30	82.30
Retirement Pension	Single	115.95	119.30
	Married	185.45	190.80
Single Tier State Pension	Single	N/A	£155.65
Pension Credit	Single person standard minimum guarantee	151.20	155.60
	Married couple standard minimum guarantee	230.85	237.55
	Maximum savings ignored in calculating income	10,000.00	10,000.00
Bereavement Payment (lump sum)		2,000.00	2,000.00
Widowed Parent's Allowance		112.55	112.55
Jobseekers Allowance	Age 18 - 24	57.90	57.90
	Age 25 or over	73.10	73.10
Statutory Maternity, Paternity and Adoption Pay		139.58	139.58

BLANK PAGE

BLANK PAGE

BLANK PAGE

