

TaxTeamTalk



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Our firm

TaxTeam is New Zealand's leading tax advisor to public-sector organisations in New Zealand. We are based in Wellington, but our clients are located throughout New Zealand.

Our firm is renowned for providing technically-correct yet practical tax advice that is truly independent.

Unlike most accounting firms, our sole focus is on tax. By engaging our firm, you can be assured that our advice will not expose you to any conflicts of interest.

Our brand

Our name 'TaxTeam' reflects our core business, how we work with our clients, and the way that we approach business internally.

The shadow imagery that we use in our branding reflect how closely we work with our clients, being 'by your side' as inseparable business companions. Our focus on personal interaction and commitment to helping our clients achieve their goals is what differentiates us. TaxTeam's tagline emphasises this point—"We're right there with you".

Our colour palette strongly features green, reflecting the New Zealand environment and our natural, down-to-earth corporate personality.



Our work

We offer a full range of taxation services that are designed to provide comfort that your organisation is tax-compliant, and your tax risks are being minimised.

Our work for and on behalf of clients includes:

- Lobbying Ministers and working with IRD policy officials to obtain changes to tax legislation;
- Assisting public-sector organisations to restructure their activities for optimal efficiency;
- Assisting public-sector organisations to maximise their eligibility for new tax concessions;
- Training clients throughout the country on the basics of tax and new tax developments; and
- Advising on almost anything to do with tax.

Our clients

We provide tax advice to some of the most high-profile organisations across the public sector.

Our key client-base comprises:

- Local authorities;
- Central Government organisations and Crown entities;
- Tertiary institutions;
- District health boards; and
- State-owned enterprises.

As part of our recent rebranding, we engaged Cato Partners to survey clients about our firm. Here's what some of our clients had to say about us:

- *"Leaders in the field of Local Government, Central Government, and Government agencies".*
- *"Professional, good service, up to speed with the tax world."*
- *"Not your typical tax people".*
- *"Personable and friendly advice".*
- *"Proactive".*

Our staff

We currently have 19 staff working from our Wellington-based office, including four directors, four tax managers, and tax consultants with both accountancy and law backgrounds.

Our staff have experience in both domestic and international taxation, including in the commercial arena; however, all have chosen to specialise in the varied and challenging area of public sector taxation.

Directors

Jeff Eaton

Jeff has over 35 years' of experience as a chartered accountant, 27 of which have been spent as tax advisor to both the public and private sector. He specialises in providing independent commercial advice to public-sector organisations and their commercial business offshoots, and has overall responsibility for the management of our firm.

Jeff is a member of the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Institute of Directors, and the International Fiscal Association.



Richard Toovey

Richard has over 25 years' experience as a chartered accountant, and has extensive experience in providing taxation advice to some of New Zealand's largest corporations. His goal is to make a difference to local communities, which he fulfils by specialising in advising the local authority sector on tax risk management processes and tax-efficient group restructuring. Richard also has overall responsibility for our firms systems and marketing strategy.

Richard is a member of the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Institute of Directors, the International Fiscal Association, and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.



Michelle Macdonald

Michelle has over 20 years' experience as a chartered accountant, and has extensive experience in providing taxation advice to some of New Zealand's largest organisations. She is passionate about making a difference to organisations that are involved in New Zealand's future, and as a result, specialises in advising the tertiary and health sectors on tax risk management processes. She also has overall responsibility for our firm's human resources management.

Michelle is a member of the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants and the International Fiscal Association.



Phil Fisher

Phil started as a manager with TaxTeam when he moved to New Zealand in early 2006, and was promoted to Director in 2011. Having a private sector focus in the UK, since joining our firm, he has gained broad experience in the public sector, advising on compliance, policy, and transactional matters.

Phil's particular areas of expertise include tax structuring for better community outcomes, tax-efficient remuneration packages, and the tax treatment of allowances, payments and benefits.



Managers



Tony Fuller Senior Tax Manager

Tony has recently joined us from PwC Auckland, where he held the role of Tax Director. Although an Eastern Bay of Plenty boy at heart, he has called Sydney and Auckland his home for the majority of the last 25 years. He has been a tax professional for 17 years, including a 15-month stint in Melbourne in 1999/2000 to coincide with Australia's introduction of GST.

Tony's specialist industries include forestry, construction and technology.



Rochelle Roddick Tax Manager

Rochelle is a member of the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants and has been a Tax Manager at TaxTeam since 2007.

Having had a wide range of experience advising a variety of New Zealand-based organisations (both public and private sector), Rochelle also spent seven years living in Amsterdam working for a large US multinational as European Tax Manager.

Rochelle enjoys aiding clients to understand the tax issues relevant to their organisation and to meet their tax obligations.



Stuart Clouden Tax Manager

Originally from the United Kingdom, Stuart has provided employment tax solutions on a global basis for over 15 years. In 2004, he moved to New Zealand, and subsequently focused on providing New Zealand employment tax solutions alongside expatriate tax compliance.

Stuart joined TaxTeam in 2010, and has been actively involved in providing training for a number of clients around FBT, PAYE and withholding tax issues, as well as taking responsibility for delivery of our online tax policies.



Vivienne Denby Assistant Tax Manager

Vivienne joined TaxTeam Ltd in 2007 and has more than four years of experience in tax advisory. She was admitted by the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants as a chartered accountant in 2010. Since joining the company as a tax consultant, she has gained comprehensive tax advisory experience and developed her strengths in dealing with core indirect tax matters.

Vivienne has been actively involved in providing tax advice to, and undertaking tax compliance reviews for, numerous Central and Local Government clients.

Our recent assignments

Work undertaken recently includes the following:

Advisory assignments

- Assessing the income tax-efficiency of holding company/group structures;
- Considering the GST treatment of forgiveness of suspensory loans;
- Obtaining significant multi-year GST refunds on underclaimed GST input tax and overpaid GST output tax;
- Determining retrospective charitable status for commercially-focused community groups and statutory bodies;
- Assessing the tax consequences of offshore acquisition/financing of major transport solutions; and
- Using a limited partnership for an initiative between public-sector organisations and a non-resident taxpayer.

Submissions

Submissions to the IRD or Select Committee on the new GST third-party rules, the new GST apportionment rules, the tax residence of offshore secondees, and proposed changes to the accommodation benefit rules.

Binding rulings

Rulings on interest-deductibility on a loan obtained by a local authority, and GST on ticketing products for regional transport.

Training

Targeted tax training for around 40 local authorities and 25 Central Government organisations/Crown entities.

IRD investigations

Managing IRD investigations for several organisations, involving:

- Liaising with IRD investigators on-site;
- Negotiating with investigators; and
- Mitigating penalties when non-compliance and shortfalls have been identified.

Tax health checks

Working on various "WOFs" (tax compliance reviews)—a highly-effective tax risk management service, we often have several of these underway at any point in time.

Tax policies

Providing online taxation policies for around 90 clients across the public sector—another ongoing service-line that we maintain in real time as changes to tax legislation, case law and practice arise.



TaxTeam
We're right there with you

Need to know the
lie of the land?
For one-on-one
support and advice,
**we're right
there with you.**

T 04 494 2390

www.taxteam.co.nz