October 2018 Budget



Personal and Corporate Financial Planning



Retirement



Investments & Pensions



Personal & Business Protection



Mortgages



Equity Release

The Chancellor Philip Hammond announced his 2018 Budget on Monday 29th October.

This is our summary of some of the main points of the 2018 Budget:

Income tax allowances and reliefs	2018/19	2019/20
Personal (basic)	£11,850	£12,500
Personal reduced by £1 for every £2 net income over	£100,000	£100,000
Transferable tax allowance for married/civil partners	£1,150	£1,150
Rent a room tax free income	£7,500	£7,500
Pension allowances	2018/19	2019/20
Annual allowance	£40,000*	£40,000*
Lifetime allowance	£1,030,000	£1,055,000
Money purchase annual allowance	£10,000	£4,000

^{*50%} taper down to £10,000 if threshold income over £110,000 and adjusted income over £150,000

Tax rates	2018/19	2019/20
Starting rate at 0% for savings income up to*	£5,000	£5,000
Savings allowance at 0%		
 basic rate taxpayers 	£1,000	£1,000
 higher rate taxpayers 	£500	£500
 additional rate tax payers 	N/A	N/A
Basic rate of 20% on income up to	£46,350	£50,000
Higher rate of 40% on income from	£46,351	£50,001
Higher rate of 40% on income to	£150,000	£150,000
Additional rate of 45% on income over	£150,000	£150,000
Dividend allowance at 0% tax	£2,000	£2,000
Dividend tax rate		
 basic rate taxpayers 	7.5%	7.5%
 higher rate taxpayers 	32.5%	32.5%
 additional rate taxpayers 	38.1%	38.1%

^{*}Not available if taxable non-savings income exceeds the starting rate band

Tax free savings	2018/19	2019/20
ISA subscription limit	£20,000	£20,000
Junior ISA subscription limit	£4,128	£4,368

"Era of Austerity coming to an end"

Chancellor Phillip Hammond, October 2018

Growth Expectations

The 2018 growth forecast has been lowered to 1.3% rather than the previously expected 1.5% stated in March, due to the impact of the bad Spring weather.

The OBR then forecast growth for 2019 to be raised from 1.3% to 1.6% and then annual forecast the following:

- 1.4% in 2020
- 1.4% in 2021
- 1.5% in 2022
- 1.6% in 2023

Inflation

The Bank of England targets the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) at 2% and will continue to maintain inflation at this rate.

The OBR forecast inflation to fall from 3% to 2% later this year.

UK Debt

Debt as share of GDP peaked at 85.2% in 2016-17, falling to 83.7% this year and to 74.1% by 2023-24.

Public borrowing in 2018 to be £11.6 billion lower than predicted in March (1.2% of GDP) but set to rise to 1.4% next year.

Employment

3.3 million additional people employed since 2010.

800,000 more jobs forecast by 2022.

Brexit

Extra £500 million for preparations for leaving the EU.

Spring Statement next March could be upgraded to full Budget if needed.

Business

New 2% digital services tax on UK revenues of big technology companies, from April 2020. Profitable companies with global sales of more than £500 million will be liable.

Business rates bill for firms with a rateable value of £51,000 or less to be cut by a third over two years. Measure to benefit 90% of independent shops, pubs and restaurants; cutting bills by £8,000.

£900 million in business rates relief for small businesses and £650 million to rejuvenate high streets.

Housing

All first-time buyers purchasing shared equity homes of up to £500,000 to be exempt from stamp duty.

Lettings relief limited to properties where the owner is in shared occupancy with the tenant.

Guarantees of up to £1 billion for smaller house builders.

Tax and Wages

Personal Allowance raised from £11,850 to £12,500 in April 2019.

Higher Rate Tax raised from £46,350 to £50,000 in April 2019.

National Living Wage will rise 4.9% from £7.83 to £8.21 in April 2019

Environment and Energy

A new tax on plastic packaging which does not contain 30% recyclable material.

£10 million to deal with abandoned waste sites.

No tax on takeaway coffee cups but to be reconsidered if the industry doesn't make enough progress.

Wales

An additional £550 million for the Welsh Government in the period to 2020-21.

New City and Growth deals for North Wales.

Alcohol, Tobacco and Fuel

Beer, cider and spirits duties to be frozen.

Tobacco duty will continue to rise by inflation plus 2%.

A packet of 20 cigarettes will go up by 33p at 6pm on 29th October 2018.

Fuel duty to be frozen for ninth year in a row.

Defence and Security

An extra £160 million for counter-terrorism police.

An extra £1 billion for armed forces, for cyber-capabilities and the UK's new nuclear submarine programme.

£10 million for mental health care for veterans, to mark the centenary of the Armistice, which brought World War One to an end.

Education and health

Confirmation of an extra £20.5 billion for the NHS over the next five years.

A minimum extra £2 billion a year for mental health services.

New mental health crisis centres, providing support in every accident and emergency unit in the country.

More mental health ambulances and a 24-hour mental health crisis hotline.

An extra £700 million for councils; for care for the elderly and those with disabilities.

f10 million for air ambulances.