

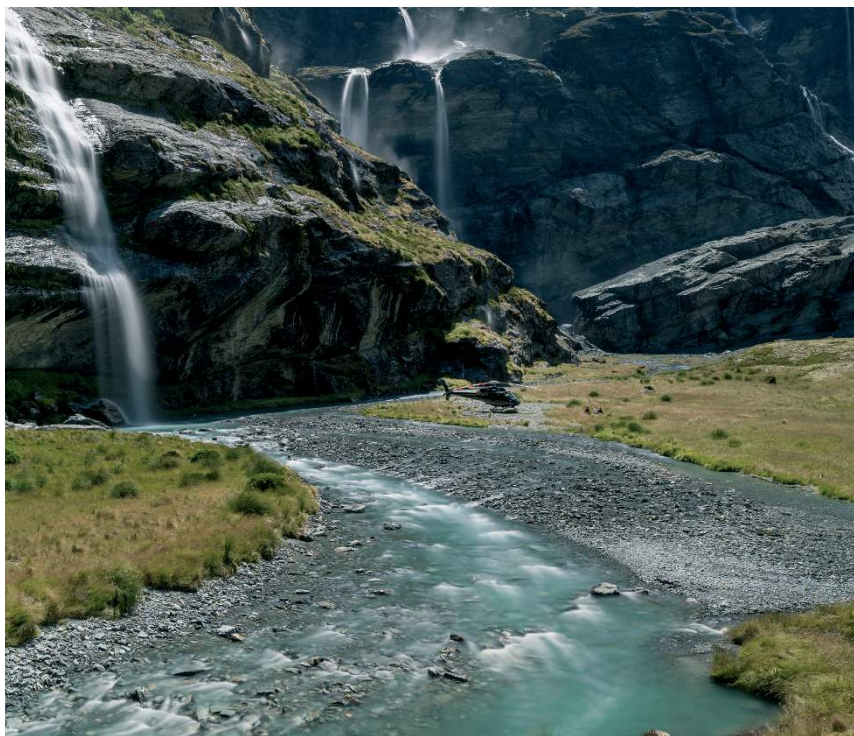
Client Shout Out

Heliworks Queenstown - soaring to success.

Love experiences and one-of-a-kind views? Locally owned by Action Helicopters Limited, Heliworks Queenstown is known for delivering world-class aviation experiences across New Zealand’s most breathtaking landscapes. With a modern fleet and expert pilots boasting both international and domestic experience, Heliworks Queenstown handles everything from search and rescue missions to filming, tourism, and commercial operations. Their pilots skilfully navigate the stunning yet challenging terrains of Fiordland, Mt Aspiring, Aoraki/Mt Cook, and Queenstown, making sure every journey is as safe as it is unforgettable.

But it’s not just about the flights – it’s about crafting experiences. Heliworks Queenstown has exclusive access to some of the most pristine and remote locations in the region, delivering adventures that go far beyond a standard scenic flight. Whether you’re exploring the cascading waterfalls and ancient glaciers of Earnslaw Burn, soaking in panoramic views from Mount Alfred, or enjoying heli-skiing and luxury picnics in the mountains, they know how to make each journey truly unique.

Running such an exceptional operation takes more than just expert piloting – it requires strategic financial insight and careful planning. That’s where McCulloch & Partners come in.



In this edition



Client Shout Out	Pg 1
Agri Update	Pg 2
Small Business Cashflow Loan	Pg 3
Tax Brackets 2025/26	Pg 3
Important Tax Changes	Pg 4
Minimum Wage Increase	Pg 4
Free Xero Workshops	Pg 5
Business Advisory Services	Pg 5
Staff Celebrations	Pg 6
Surf to City	Pg 6
Wanaka A&P Show	Pg 6
EOFY Info	Pg 7
Key Dates	Pg 7

We’re incredibly proud to support Heliworks Queenstown, providing the financial expertise they need to navigate the complexities of their industry. Our team has been by their side with reporting, forecasting, budgeting, and financial planning, empowering them to make informed decisions that support sustainable growth. With our guidance, they can confidently manage cash flow, optimise resources, and strategically plan for future opportunities, ensuring they continue to deliver exceptional experiences while maintaining a strong financial foundation. At McCulloch & Partners, we’re proud to play a part in their success story, supporting them every step of the way.

Whether you’re seeking thrills, spectacular views, or tailored experiences, with Heliworks Queenstown, the adventure of a lifetime is just a helicopter ride away.

Planning for Growth and Sustainability

With high milk prices come opportunities, and challenges - strategic planning is key to navigating this thriving market.

The dairy sector in New Zealand is currently thriving. With the farmgate milk price at a midpoint of \$10 per KgMS we are experiencing an increase in activity, with many farmers looking at growth opportunities, development projects are underway and reduction of term debt which provides opportunities in the future.

High milk prices do present some challenges and careful planning is required for dairy farming businesses. Increased profits and fluctuating income require careful cashflow management and tax planning, while also being mindful of the long-term sustainability of such high prices.

To address these challenges, business owners can implement effective risk management strategies which provide some certainty on income levels by using milk future options and milk price protection premiums.

These are financial tools designed to hedge against price fluctuations and ensure stability. With a predictable income stream, you can make informed decisions regarding profit margins. This is particularly useful if you have fixed expense contracts, such as feed and interest rates, allowing you to accurately forecast tax payments and plan for future capital expenditure or investment.

Figured – Milk Price Protection

Figured have recently partnered with StoneX and released the Milk Price Protection product. Milk Price Protection secures a minimum price for your milk solids by paying a one-off premium. If prices drop, you are protected and paid the difference, but if prices rise, you still benefit from the higher payout.

Start by using the calculator to explore your options. Enter the amount of milk solids you want to protect, choose your minimum price, and review the premium cost.

Figured's platform integrates this protection seamlessly, allowing accountants and farmers to work together to model the impact of price changes on their financial plans.



Milk Companies - Milk Future Options

These are agreements to buy or sell a specific quantity of milk at a predetermined price on a future date. They are standardised and traded on the NZX Dairy Derivatives Market.

Milk companies provide advanced payments throughout the season. These payments are adjusted based on the fixed price you have secured. At the end of the season, you receive a final payment that accounts for any differences between the advance payments and the total amount based on the fixed price.

Sheep & Beef

A rise in commodity prices and lowering of interest rates has had a positive trend on Sheep and Beef farmers cashflows in comparison to 2024. We encourage farmers to revise their monthly cashflow forecast to see where the season will close out and make informed decisions with cost expenditure, tax payments and future capital investments. With the unpredictability of global markets, having a solid cash flow plan is crucial for sustainability and long-term success in the sheep and beef industry.

[Get in touch with us to explore the different risk management strategies available to your business to see if you qualify and what the potential benefits and costs would be.](#)

Small Business Cashflow (SBC) Loan Repayments

Reminder: As the final repayment date for the Small Business Cashflow (SBC) loans approaches, we want to remind all clients who took out a loan to review their repayment status.

The SBC loan scheme, introduced in May 2020 to support businesses affected by COVID-19, has a five-year repayment term, with many businesses reaching their repayment deadline starting in June 2025.

After this, Inland Revenue will begin defaulting loans that remain unpaid, applying default interest (10.88% plus 3%).

If you have not yet repaid your loan, it is important to review your current loan balance and repayment plan in your myIR account. Inland Revenue will notify clients with overdue payments and inform them of the consequences of not repaying, including additional default interest.

If you have any concerns or need assistance navigating the repayment process, please contact your advisor. We're here to ensure you stay on top of your obligations and avoid unnecessary penalties.



Tax Rates for 2025/26

There will be no changes to the personal income tax rates or the income thresholds on 1 April 2025.

Although the income tax rates and thresholds for the 2026 income year remain unchanged, the thresholds were changed back on 31 July 2024.

Due to the change midway through the tax year the annual assessments for the 2025 income year will apply annual tax rates. Annual tax rates are an average of both the new and old rates, applied across the entire year.

As a result, some customers may receive an unexpected bill or a refund.

For more information contact your usual MCP advisor.

Personal Income Tax Rates - 1 April 2025

For each Dollar of Income	Tax Rate
0 - \$15,600	10.5%
\$15,601 - \$53,500	17.5%
\$53,501 - \$78,100	30%
\$78,101 - \$180,000	33%
\$180,001 and over	39%

Important Tax Changes

A couple of reminders for Trusts and Commercial Depreciation.

Trust Tax Rate

Subject to a few exceptions, a trust must pay tax on trustee income at 39% from the 2024-25 income year.

One exemption is if the trust qualifies as a “de-minimus Trust” which is subject to tax at 33%. A trust is a “de-minimus Trust” if the net income of the trust is \$10,000 or less.

For the purposes of the \$10,000 threshold, trustee income also excludes beneficiary income – i.e. income that has been allocated to beneficiaries which will be included in their income tax returns.

For adults - there is the ability to allocate income, who begin to pay tax at 39% on income over \$180,000.

For minors - income can be allocated up to \$1,000 and taxed at the beneficiary’s marginal rate otherwise any excess is taxed at the Trustee rate (39%)

Beneficiary income derived by a minor is generally taxed as trustee income at the trustee rate, irrespective of the beneficiary’s marginal rate. The minor beneficiary rule applies to minor beneficiaries of trusts settled by a person who is a relative, guardian, or a person associated with such a person, of the minor beneficiary.



A minor is a natural person who is a New Zealand resident and who is under 16 years of age, on the trust’s balance date for the income year. If a minor derives beneficiary income of \$1,000 or less in an income year, the minor beneficiary rule does not apply.

Commercial Depreciation

From 1 April 2024 (for standard balance date taxpayers), commercial building depreciation deductions can no longer be claimed. Technically buildings will still be considered “depreciable property”, but the annual depreciation rate will be set at 0% so no deduction will be available.

The change affects all commercial buildings with an estimated useful life of 50 years or more.

As always, there is lots of additional detail related to this – so please reach out to your usual MCP advisor if you have any questions.

Minimum Wage Increase

Make sure your payroll systems are up to date and your business is prepared.

As a business owner or manager, you need to be ready for the increase in minimum wage rates from the 1st of April 2025.

If you have not yet talked to your advisor, payroll provider or your finance/HR teams, now is the time. It's also an opportunity to check your employment records, update your business budget, and your processes and systems.

The details of the changes are:

- + The Adult Minimum Wage is increasing to \$23.50 per hour (an increase of 35 cents per hour).
- + The Starting-Out and Training Minimum Wage will also rise to \$18.80 per hour (80% of the adult rate).

See more at: www.employment.govt.nz

Streamline your finances, prepare for EOFY and make the most of Xero's features

FREE workshops in Invercargill and Queenstown!

Get ahead of the game with our free beginners workshops. Register your interest for any of the workshops listed below and start your journey toward mastering Xero!

Spaces are limited, so secure yours by contacting your usual MCP advisor or emailing mcp@mcp.co.nz.



<h2>Streamline your Invoicing</h2> <p>Master Xero invoicing to simplify billing, manage payments, and customise invoices.</p>	Invercargill Workshop	Queenstown Workshop
	<p>Wednesday 9th April</p> <p>11.00am - 12.00pm & 5.30pm - 6.30pm</p>	<p>Thursday 10th April 5.30pm - 6.30pm</p> <p>& Friday 11th April 10.00am - 11.00am</p>
	<p>Level 1, 20 Don Street</p>	<p>Level 2, 11-17 Church Street</p>
<h2>Automate and Manage Creditors with Hubdoc</h2> <p>Discover how to use Hubdoc to automate data entry, reconcile transactions, and create batch payments.</p>	Invercargill Workshop	Queenstown Workshop
	<p>Tuesday 13th May</p> <p>10.00am - 11.00am & 5.30pm - 6.30pm</p>	<p>Wednesday 14th May 5.30pm - 6.30pm</p> <p>& Thursday 15th April 10.00am - 11.00am</p>
	<p>Level 1, 20 Don Street</p>	<p>Level 2, 11-17 Church Street</p>

Why Choose a Business Advisory Service?

Strategic support beyond the numbers...

Running a business isn't just about keeping the numbers in check, it's about making smart, strategic decisions that drive growth and sustainability. That's where a business advisory service makes all the difference.

Beyond balancing the books, we help business owners with cash flow forecasting, tax planning, business process improvements, and growth strategies. Instead of simply recording transactions, we provide tailored insights to help you navigate challenges, seize opportunities, and plan for the future with confidence.

If you're looking for more than just number-crunching and want real, strategic support for your business - let's chat!

Staff Celebration

We would like to congratulate and acknowledge Julie McRae on 25 years of service at MCP. Thanks for your contribution to the firm, it is much appreciated by the partners, staff and clients.



Surf to City Success

The McCulloch & Partners team has been out and about embracing community spirit and having some fun along the way.

In early March, our Invercargill team laced up their running shoes, hopped on their bikes, and took on the Surf to City challenge!

Whether walking, biking, or running 6km or 12km from Otatara to Queens Park, we had an incredible time getting active and enjoying the fantastic atmosphere. It was great to see so many locals out and about, making the most of the event. A huge shoutout to everyone who participated, what an effort!



Wanaka A&P Show Highlights

A sweet reception for McCulloch & Partners at the Wanaka A&P Show.

We were thrilled to be part of the Wanaka A&P Show on the 7th and 8th of March. It was fantastic to connect with so many locals and visitors, chatting about business, finance, and all things Central Otago.

One of the highlights was our jellybean guessing competition, where a big congratulations goes out to Jean Sullivan who had the closest guess at 556 jelly beans (with the actual total being 555!). Jean has won a \$200 voucher for Highlands Motorsport Park in Cromwell, we hope you enjoy the adrenaline rush!

A huge thank you to everyone who stopped by to say hello and took part in the fun. We love being involved in events like these and supporting our incredible local communities.



EOFY Info

For clients with a 31 March balance date, it's time to get your information together.

You will have received a list of what we might require, please sign and return your client authorisation letter. If you have any questions, just let us know.

Find us on Facebook

Our Facebook page is where we share staff and client achievements, industry news, tips and reminders, upcoming events or important changes that may affect you and/or your business.

Drop by and give our page a like so we can make sure you are kept in the loop between newsletter editions or meetings with your advisors.

Find us here: www.facebook.com/McCullochPartners



Key Dates April – June 2025

April

7 Apr **PAYE:** (Large Employers) for the period 16 March to 31 March.
End of Year Income Tax & Working for Families Bills Due.

22 Apr **Southland Anniversary Day** (Public Holiday)

22 Apr **PAYE:** (Small Employers) for the period 1 March to 31 March.
PAYE: (Large Employers) for the period 1 April to 15 April.

May

5 May **PAYE:** (Large Employers) for the period 16 April to 30 April.

7 May **GST:** Return and payment due for the period ended 31 March.
Provisional Payment (Income Tax)

- 1st Instalment (November balance date)
- 2nd Instalment (July balance date)
- 3rd Instalment (March balance date)

20 May **PAYE:** (Small Employers) for the period 1 April to 30 April.
PAYE: (Large Employers) for the period 1 May to 15 May.

28 May **GST:** Return and payment due for the period ended 30 April.
Provisional Payment (Income Tax)

- 1st Instalment (December balance date)
- 2nd Instalment (August balance date)
- 3rd Instalment (April balance date)

June

5 June **PAYE:** (Large Employers) for the period 16 May to 31 May.

20 June **Matariki** (Public Holiday)

23 June **PAYE:** (Small Employers)
PAYE: (Large Employers) for the period 1 June to 15 June.

30 June **GST:** Return and payment due for the period ended 31 May.
Provisional Payment (Income Tax)

- 1st Instalment (January balance date)
- 2nd Instalment (September balance date)
- 3rd Instalment (May balance date)