

# IMPORTANT

## FURLOUGH SCHEME UPDATE

HMRC has just published the [fourth iteration](#) of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.

The qualifying date, when the employee has to have been on the employer's payroll, has changed from 28 February to 19 March 2020.

This brings into scope a large number of people who fell outside the scheme because they had recently changed jobs.

The 19 March date is just before the Chancellor announced details of the scheme, meaning it is still effective to prevent fraudulent claims (by businesses hiring ghost employees to claim furlough payments in respect of, as those ghost employees will not have been on PAYE on 19 March).

**If you would like any advice, please speak to a member of the FTA Law team on  
0330 088 2275.**