



COMPANIES HOUSE | PRESS RELEASE

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COVID-19 – 90-day extension without penalty

Companies House Gibraltar (CHG) has been in close consultation with representatives of the Association of Trust and Company Managers (ATCOM), the Covid Emergency Liaison and Advisory Committee (CELAC) and Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar (HMGoG), to help companies avoid incurring late filing penalties as a result of difficulties they may experience due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It has been agreed with HMGoG that a 90-day extension will be granted for returns and documents due to be filed in the next quarter – 1st April to 30th June 2020. This extension will not apply to any return or document that is out of date prior to the end of March 2020.

This proposal has been well received, with all parties involved showing their appreciation and commenting that CHG's response to this situation has been very reasonable, demonstrating flexibility and willingness to assist the business community through these challenging times. Together with other measures already implemented by CHG, this will help Gibraltar deal with the impact of COVID-19, making it easier for businesses to continue functioning during the current health crisis.

Our team is under increased pressure to make changes that are necessary to adapt our systems to help us all cope with the changing environment. Documents filed via our e-filing platform are charged automatically on the basis of algorithms which are pre-programmed into our system. It would not be practicable for us to change these to allow for what is only to be a temporary measure. Nonetheless, to ensure that all our clients are able to benefit equally, any filings made via the e-filing service that qualify for the 90-day extension will be charged in the normal way, with any late filing penalties being reimbursed within 30 days from the date of the payment.

This policy will be subject to review as may be necessary, depending on how the situation evolves.