

27 July 2026

James Murray MP
Financial Secretary to the Treasury and Paymaster General
HM Treasury
By email: Action.FST@HMTreasury.gov.uk

30 Monck Street
London
SW1P 2A

T : 020 7340 0551
E : info@att.org.uk
W : www.att.org.uk

Dear Minister,

Congratulations on your appointment as Financial Secretary, we look forward to working with you in your new role and continuing the strong relationship we enjoyed during your previous stint as Exchequer Secretary.

As you know, the Association of Taxation Technicians (ATT) is a charity and the leading professional body for those providing UK tax compliance services. Drawing on our over 10,000 members' practical experience and knowledge, we contribute to consultations on the development of the UK tax system and seek to ensure that, for the general public, it is workable and as fair as possible. We are politically neutral in our work, with our engagement on tax issues driven solely by the public interest.

We are also committed to promoting tax literacy, and increasing tax education in schools. We hold school visits, careers fairs and educational events, where we help dispel common misconceptions and highlight the wide range of roles available in the profession. We believe improving tax education is essential to ensure that young people understand the important role tax plays in society, and enter the world of work with the required understanding and skills to stay on top of their tax affairs. We would be happy to meet with you, or colleagues in Department for Education to discuss this further.

Earlier this year, the Association published its "top 10" asks for the tax system in 2026,¹ calling on HMRC and the government to implement practical reforms to improve compliance, reduce error and ease pressure on both taxpayers and professionals.

These were not new taxes or reliefs, but rather practical calls to fix processes that are no longer working as intended, and increasingly creating confusion, delay and unnecessary contact with HMRC.

Among the key recommendations were:

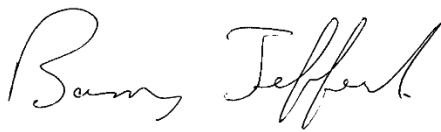
- Allow taxpayers to remain in Self-Assessment by choice, even where they no longer meet formal filing thresholds.
- Simplify the taxation of the state pension, including providing pensioners with a clear year-end summary of their taxable pension, to reduce confusion and errors.
- Improve the agent experience, including giving agents access to the same information and online services as their clients and allowing multiple agents to be authorised for VAT, PAYE and corporation tax where appropriate.

¹ <https://www.att.org.uk/top-ten-asks>

The Association is also calling for a review of outdated allowances eroded by inflation, and has recently released a report² on the allowances we feel are most in need of updating. Some of these have not been changed in decades, and no longer represent the benefit to taxpayers they did when they were introduced.

We would be happy to meet with you to discuss these and other issues.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Barry Jefferd". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Barry" and the surname "Jefferd" clearly distinguishable.

Barry Jefferd

President

Association of Taxation Technicians

² <https://www.att.org.uk/technical/news/outdated-tax-reliefs-and-allowances-atts-worst-offenders>