

Ashton Wheelans Limited

Accountant

Position Description / Responsibilities

General Description:

To manage and develop a portfolio of clients, providing high-quality accounting, taxation, and business advisory services. This role works closely with Partners and the wider support team to deliver efficient, practical, and commercially focused outcomes for clients.

A significant portion of the client base (typically more than 50%) is in the agricultural sector, requiring an understanding of farming operations, seasonal cashflows, and industry-specific issues.

Agri Sector Knowledge & Experience:

A working knowledge of the agricultural sector is required, including:

- Dairy industry structures and the various operating models within the sector
- Fonterra payout structures, operating models, and related investment requirements
- Industry-specific software such as Figured (essential) and Farm Focus (desirable)

Specific Duties:

- To manage and care for a portfolio of clients across a broad range of accounting, taxation, and business matters.
- To prepare financial statements, tax returns, GST returns, and other compliance work accurately and efficiently.
- Working alongside clients to prepare cashflow forecasts to meet banking and industry requirements.
- To forecast and liaise with clients on their taxation liabilities before they fall due.
- To provide practical business advice and support to clients, including cashflow management and general performance insights.
- To work with a predominantly agricultural client base, including an understanding of farming operations, seasonal cashflows, and sector-specific considerations.
- To remain up to date with relevant legislation, accounting standards, and tax developments.
- To meet with clients before and after completion of work, where required.
- To prepare draft fees for work undertaken, with an awareness of recoverability.
- To complete work within agreed timeframes and budgets.
- To handle client queries and communications in a timely and professional manner, escalating to Partners where appropriate.
- To represent and promote the Firm.
- To support team members and contribute to a positive team environment.
- To take ownership of your role and maintain a proactive approach to your work.

Results required:

- Client needs are met in a professional, timely, and efficient manner.
- Work is completed accurately, meets compliance requirements, and is delivered to a high standard.
- Strong client relationships are maintained and enhanced over time.
- Work is completed within budget, with appropriate consideration of recoverability and value.
- Positive contribution to team culture and overall firm performance.

Other:

- With changes in Legislation, practice technology and client requirements, a flexible role and approach is required.
- A willingness to continue to develop knowledge of the agricultural sector is essential, given its significance within the firm's client base.
- Willingness to participate and contribute to the regional Agri sector and attend associated events.
- Participate in sharing knowledge within the Agri team across offices.