

Limited Companies Filing the Final Accounts

When a company ceases to trade a final set of accounts are prepared.

These need to be filed with Companies House and the Inland Revenue.

Each government agency requires a slightly different set of accounts and different timings on when they are due.

Companies House

The accounts must still be made up to the year end.

The accounts cannot be filed until after the year end is due, and early filing will result in the accounts being returned. The accounts must be filed within the statutory limits.

Inland Revenue

The accounts must be made up to the last full day of trading.

The accounts must be filed within 9 months of the date at which the company ceased trading.

This difference in dates and filing requirements means that, in practice, two sets of accounts with different dates must be prepared and sent. In addition the Companies House accounts must be stored carefully and provisions put in place to make sure they are filed at the correct time.