

## Investec Wealth & Investment – Coronavirus update



**| 24 March 2020 |**

Following the Prime Minister's announcement yesterday evening the UK is now in lockdown. I am writing to update you on the steps that we have in place to ensure we are able to continue operating effectively in these restricted circumstances. As the coronavirus crisis evolves, Investec continues to coordinate internationally to protect our staff, and serve our clients.

In line with the Government's guidance, the majority of our employees are working from home and have been doing so, successfully, since last week. We are pleased with the steps that we have taken in a short time to mobilise our business to operate remotely.

To help us during this time please do not send any cheques in the post. We would ask that all completed agreements, forms and payment instructions are emailed to your Investment Manager or Business Development Director where they will be able to take the appropriate action.

### **Phishing scams**

It has come to our attention that criminals are using the current situation to exploit working practices. As a company we're seeing an increase in phishing scams that try and encourage people to "login" to remote services via email. This has been most notable through Microsoft Office and DocuSign.

We are also aware of scams that relate to HMRC tax rebates, these are being sent out via text message.

These scams are all opportunistic, by clicking these links you run the risk of leaking your username and password or having malicious software installed on your personal devices. Think before you click and we encourage you to talk to your clients, friends, relatives and vulnerable members of your own community who may fall victim to these criminals.

An article for clients entitled 'How to protect yourself from coronavirus scams' is available on our [website](#).

Despite the uncertainty, please be assured that we are available to help you and your clients, do feel free to speak to us if you have any concerns.