

THE PAID HOUR · PREMIUM COURSE

Sole Trader to Ltd Company Transition

The exact profit level where a limited company starts paying you more — recalculated for the April 2026 dividend rise. Spoiler: the answer has changed, and most articles online haven't noticed.

EDITION 2026/27 · FREE UPDATE AT EVERY BUDGET

FREE SAMPLE · MODULE 1 OF 8

The opening module of the full course — complete and unedited.

The full edition (8 modules, 10 working files) is at thepaidhour.com.

The Paid Hour

thepaidhour.com · by Syed Esrak Ahmmed · 8 modules · 10 working templates

What's inside

A defensible yes/no on incorporating — with the 2026/27 maths actually done, not copied from a 2024 article — and if yes, a 14-step execution plan including the new identity-verification law.

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HOW TO READ THIS

M1 and M2 first — together they answer the only question most readers have. If the answer is "stay sole trader", you just saved £1,000+ a year and can stop reading. If it's "incorporate", M4–M7 are your execution plan. Every figure is for **2026/27**, sourced, updated free at each Budget.

General information for the 2026/27 UK tax year, correct at date of publication (August 2026). Not tax advice. Incorporation has legal and tax consequences that depend on your assets and contracts — take advice before transferring goodwill or a VAT registration.

01 The honest test

OUTCOME — a score, not a feeling. Your mate at the pub says "go limited, it's a no-brainer." This module is the brainer.

SHOULD YOU INCORPORATE? Score yourself:

- +2 Profit consistently above £50,000
- +2 You can LEAVE money in the business (don't need it all personally)
- +2 Clients (finance, public sector, enterprise) require a company
- +1 Real liability exposure in your work
- +1 You plan to bring in a partner, investors, or sell one day
- 2 Profit under £35,000
- 2 You need every penny of profit personally, every month
- 2 You hate admin and won't pay someone to do it
- 1 Most of your work is inside IR35

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>= +4 incorporate – go to M4
0..3 borderline – revisit in 12 months, diarise it
< 0 stay a sole trader – and stop feeling behind
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Say it plainly: for most freelancers under £50k who spend what they earn, incorporating now **costs more than it saves** — in tax as well as in fees and time (M2 has the proof). The company structure earns its keep in three situations: you retain profit, clients demand it, or liability genuinely worries you. The scorecard (template 1) is this test as a worksheet — fill it, date it, revisit annually.

END OF FREE SAMPLE

That was Module 1.

7 more modules come with the full course.

You've just read "The honest test" in full — nothing cut, nothing teased. Here is what the paid edition adds.

The remaining modules

M2 The maths at 2026/27 rates — where the advantage really went

M3 What the maths doesn't show

M4 Incorporation, step by step

M5 Identity verification (ECCTA) — the new legal duty

M6 Moving the business across

M7 Running the company — money out, deadlines, records

M8 Reversing out

Plus the template pack: 10 working files — spreadsheets and documents you fill in, not examples you retype. Edition 2026/27, with a free updated edition at every Budget.

Get the full course

thepaidhour.com/product/course-sole-trader-to-ltd/

Instant download · one-off payment, no subscription · current price and any live offer shown on the page

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