Response Number 174

Q.1 What are your views on the proposal to introduce real-time reporting for B2B and B2G transactions?

I think it's broadly a good idea and obviously a direction things will have to head in. As a small business some leeway in the speed of reporting would be appreciated as otherwise it can become disruptive. It is easier to handle several admin items in a bundle rather than have to on an individual basis.

Q.2 What matters should be considered in planning for a transition to a new VAT Reporting system?

Leading from 1. it should be have as little friction as possible. Smaller businesses do not need more form work than there is already.

Q.3 If your business is currently subject to a VAT reporting programme in another EU or non-EU country, can you please share best practice, recommendations or lessons learnt?

N/A

Q.4 Have you any observations, concerns or recommendations on a move to mandatory electronic invoicing for B2B & B2G domestic VAT transactions?

Again, making it as smooth as possible. Ideally a password-less login would be ideal. That is something like a two factor authentication where only one click on the phone is required or the entry of one code (not passwords, logins and MFA). This would make it easier to quickly add records as they arise.

Q.5 Revenue is particularly interested in hearing views from businesses that are already engaged in eInvoicing Public Bodies within Ireland or engaged in B2B eInvoicing throughout Europe and beyond. How did you prepare and what challenges prevailed in your preparations for eInvoicing?

N/A

Q.6 What suggestions would you offer in Ireland’s arrangements for a mandatory B2B and B2G eInvoicing programme?

Keep consulting with small businesses and how they would manage any new requirements. Considering many small businesses have limited admin functionalities and often their accountancy expertise is outsourced and paid for by effort.

Q.7 Revenue are cognisant that small businesses may have different perspectives and requirements to large businesses, so what information prompts would you find useful for businesses in completing the VAT return?

Reduce the number of fields being requested. For instance, if under certain limits are intra EU numbers really required in VAT returns? For my business these are typically small enough purchases of specialist equipment.
I would be okay to enter line by line VAT sales and purchases if the entry was dead simple.
So in short, keep it as simple as possible. Is a RTD really required off smaller businesses? Ideally, we'd end up in a place where an individual company could enter their VAT without any accounting expertise.