Response Number 620

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

As a sole trader, with a small number of transactions per year, the prospect of mandatory eInvoicing etc would be a huge burden on my business. A single spreedsheet is currently all I need to management my accounts. If I had to purchase and manage an accounting software package just to comply with eInvoicing requirements it would be the end of my business. While I appreciate the advantages for medium to large businesses, I hope an exception is made for sole traders like myself where turnover is low and the volume of transactions is also low.

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

An exception needs to be made for sole traders with low turnover and low volume of transactions.

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?

There is very little reference to the difficulties that this proposal will cause for small businesses and sole traders like myself. Indeed, it could have the effect of driving some businesses into the black economy. This will not do much for improving compliance rates.

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?

Set a turnover and/or transaction volume threshold below which particiaption in the eInvoicing scheme is optional.

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?

Glad to hear Revenue are cognisant that small businesses may have different perspectives. So true! The VAT3 form is fine as it is. No change required.