

The role of CCC in Brexit Preparation

Note for Discussion 19th June 2017

The Customs Consultative Committee is central to Revenue's consultation with business in preparation for Brexit. In the past year the CCC has met more frequently than at any previous time; the attendance of members has increased; and we have a number of new members and applicants for membership. This raises questions about the appropriate size and representation of the CCC, which in turn hinge on the role envisaged for the Committee.

It is in the interests of all that the best possible communication is achieved. On the face of it, this suggests allowing the CCC to expand to accommodate all who have a reasonable purpose in attendance. On the other hand, increasing size tends to reduce interaction and discussion, and the meetings become seminars. I would like to discuss the following approach:-

- Applicants for membership to be accepted provided they:
 - Are not already represented through an organisation which is already a member;
 - Have a representative role (i.e. represent a significant portion of a sector); and
 - The sector concerned has a direct interest in the consequences of Brexit.

- Revenue, of its own volition or on the initiative of a member, to convene bilateral or multilateral meetings of members of the CCC to address specific topics and sectors in more detail than is efficient for the CCC in full session.

These conditions are quite general and I hope we can refine them in discussion. The aim is to accept a larger CCC but to provide a mechanism whereby key players have a forum where detailed and explicit discussions can take place in relation to particular issues.

Tony Buckley

Chairman

15 June 2017