Response Number 624

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

Agree this needs to be looked at as the current process is outdated and leaves too much room for error. As a small business (consultant) I would be keen to know what the impact would be for me as I currently don't have an e-invoicing system set up, everything is manual. Though keen to process and bring my business into the digital work for invoices and contracts, I am not there yet.
I would be keen to see what the process would actually entail in comparison to now e.g. a work flow diagram of a small business current VAT filing, V's the new way.

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

How would small businesses be impacted cost wise in the initial set up, would support grants be available if we need to switch to e-invoicing systems etc? What training would be rolled out? Conscious that I am a team of 1 therefore if restrictions on time of filing etc. are put in place where I would be required to take action, that may not always be possible.

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?

Just the cost for me as a small business of 1 person to set this up. I do think it is necessary but have looked at it before and ruled out due to costs.

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?

Supports for small businesses/sole traders in terms of training and financial to assist with the set up. I don't incur any costs currently for invoicing as I do it all manually.

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?

As a small business, I find the current system confusing. There is certainly a level of nervousness that I might do something wrong when filing my return and I do rely a lot on my accountant . I would appreciate more information for small businesses as well as a useful excel sheet for tracking the purchases and sales.