Response Number 581

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

In principle, real-time reporting is more efficient generally and it is working well for payroll.But with a range of purchase invoices from various companies in different formats, it is hard to see how it would work in practice. Sales invoices are under our control so should be easier to manage.

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

Companies deal with different creditors, some with highly mechanised invoice systems, others with manual systems, particularly small traders, electricians, painters etc. It will need a good education process to get everyone in line.

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?

Not applicable

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

Will it involve expensive new software and staff training?

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?

Not applicable.

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

Good accounts software will be needed to identify vital points - company heading and address, invoice number, date, company/person being invoiced with their address and Vat number, clear wording of goods or service being provided, nett amount, Vat amount, total and sender's Vat details.

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?

Vat 3 is fairly easy to complete as it stands but a short explanation of each paragraph would be useful, not just clicking on the little button, especially for the deferred payment item - that is a tad confusing.