Response Number 1066

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

It would be a disaster for both myself and my clients as they are all micro businesses that thrive on the personal touch as do I and trying to put everyone into the same mold in my opinion is not fair and will be cost intensive for many

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

Cost of software, cost of training to use software, lack of understanding of software, computer iliteracy, lack of personal touch that is extremely important to micro businesses.

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?

Just repeating what I have already said... all of my clients are unable to use computers, they rely on me to do their invoicing, they also come to me because I do NOT use software packages, they want the personal touch that I can offer in manual invoicing. I can offer them insights into their business with my own simple reports. They are not interested in reports generated by computers. They simply won't read them. I would delay any move to mandatory electronic reporting.

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?

Do NOT make electronic invoicing mandatory, it will cause many sole traders to bury their heads in the sand simply because they are afraid of the concept.

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?

Maybe you could just ask for the gross figure of all invoices sent in the month and the VAT and NET of same instead of insisting on electronic invoicing. Small businesses don't want this. many of my clients still use a duplicate invoice book and the idea of going electronic would scare them.