Response Number 501

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

I pay VAT on the basis of payments received rather than invoices sent basis. This is because, in my job (legal profession), I will rarely be paid the full amount and on time, but instead my invoices are often subject to taxation. I would be concerned that if the new system comes in it will force everyone to an invoices sent basis, which would mean that I might pay VAT now on fees that I might not get for several years or might never get, and this would be disastrous for smaller self employed businesses.
I also receive a significant amount of my income from the State e.g. Legal Aid. Maybe a system where the VAT could be paid directly from Government suppliers to Revenue might work?

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

Making sure that it makes things easier to file returns while not resulting in an unfairness for people who pay VAT on a payments received basis.

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?

No

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?

N/A

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?

I think it is great the way it is. It is straightforward and easy to use, unlike the Income Tax part which is far more complex.