Response Number 180

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

Fearful Due to additional software service costs for no value add. My experience with RT PAYE is that it costs me money in fees to accountants that were not needed before. Having said that all progress towards automation is welcome.

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

Connect the RT VAT to PSWT? As it is I am expected to pay the VAT on roughly 20% of my sales on time but I haven't received the cash from the customer (its not just me, my last Revenue Inspector felt the same - "where's the cash?"). Bear in mind I clear my CT every Jan and PAYE on a monthly basis. So PSWT is a cashflow issue when it comes to VAT payments.

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?

No.

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

Such moves are welcome, but will I have to buy new additional software over and above my existing billing systems? Experience to date is its just a licence to accountants for billing extra hours.

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?

No word on this from UK, EU or other countries' govts yet. No harm in Ireland leading though.

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

Make it easy to generate single B2G invoices with an online form on Gov.ie, so occasional users are not penalised with ongoing software charges for a small part of their business.

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?

Ability to enter PSWT at same time as VAT3, even if managed separately within Revenue (CT vs VAT) it would give all parties visibility on cashflow. the VAT warehousing was a disaster in my view, so lets not return to a need to 'help' SMEs, get ahead of it and allow Revenue's (excellent) staff to see full picture and manage it. You can come up with the IT integrations in the background over time.