

1. Who are you:

Government department/agency

2. Are you making a submission in relation to the proposals for a:

Designated Withholder (DW)

3. Please tick the sectors that apply to you:

Construction

4. After reading about the proposed new eWHT system, how would you describe your overall reaction?

Somewhat positive - I think it's a good idea overall

5. What aspects of the proposed model appeal most to you, and why?

Anything to reduce the workload. I work in a Secondary School as their accounts secretary. I do not have any formal Accounting Training and neither do the Senior Leadership Team here. The responsibility of RCT can be stressful on top of everything else you are expected to do in a School Accounts office.

6. What concerns or reservations do you have about the proposed approach?

None, I think its long over due

7. The proposed eWHT model seeks to expand withholding tax to payments to service providers where a suitable withholder exists. How do you feel generally about this type of expansion?

Not sure about that

8. In relation to PSWT specifically, this currently applies to payments made by state and semi-state bodies for certain services. Do you have a view on

how it is targeted and if the types of payments it applies to should be reviewed?

I am not familiar enough to comment

9. Please indicate if you currently operate:

Relevant Contracts Tax (RCT)

10. From the perspective of a DW, how does the current application of PSWT and/or RCT impact on your business operations?

Hugely, I work in a school and do not get a minute to think with interruptions etc, its easy to miss RCT if you are in the middle of working an invoice and get interrupted and next thing you realise you either forgot to raise the Contract or you pay and you have not raised payment notification. And especially as you are not responsible for someone elses tax returns

11. If you are a Platform Operator, does your organisation have any experience of applying taxes to transactions, for services operating on your platform, in other jurisdictions? If yes, please provide information of the jurisdiction and details of the tax.

n/a

12. From the perspective of a DW, what are your views on the application of RCT and/or PSWT, as the case may be?

I don't understand the question

13. What is your understanding of the withholding tax model of tax collection of RCT and PSWT and why it is applied to payments?

As I understand it, the service supplier, Plumber for example is not up to date with their Tax returns to revenue, so me (the school) has to hold back funds to pay Revenue on their behalf. Basically doing their tax returns for them, the issue comes when they do not understand that a school is a principal contractor and has to hold

the funds. And I don't understand it either as we are doing Revenues work and the Plumbers work for them and get into trouble and fined if we make a mistake.

- 14. The proposal aims to embed eWHT processes directly into accounting, payroll, or other business management systems. How beneficial do you think this would be for your business?**

Makes it easier for me to not rely on my memory.

- 15. In your view, what opportunities could embedding eWHT within natural business systems create for your business or the wider industry?**

it will give me back time to work on other projects in the school

- 16. What challenges do you think your business might face in adopting this embedded within natural systems approach?**

System IT, schools don't have an IT dept in the same way Public Service or Financial Services or Corporates, they just have teachers

- 17. What is the estimated number of payments that you make to SPs each month?**

Depends, it could be 3 - 4 construction or repairs a month so 30 - 40 a year

- 18. Do you currently use software for processing payments and or managing the finances of your business? If so, what packages do you use?**

Yes, Sage & EPP

- 19. Are you an employer for PAYE? If so, which software package do you use to report payroll taxes to Revenue?**

Yes, we use Sage Payroll

20. Please indicate if you currently receive payments which are subject to deduction of:

21. Where you are currently subject to PSWT and/or RCT, how does the current application of withholding taxes impact on your business operations?

22. From the perspective of a SP, what are your views on the application of RCT and/or PSWT, as the case may be?

23. What is your understanding of the withholding tax model of tax collection of RCT and PSWT and why it is applied to payments?

As I understand it, the service supplier, Plumber for example is not up to date with their Tax returns to revenue, so me (the school) has to hold back funds to pay Revenue on their behalf. Basically doing their tax returns for them, the issue comes when they do not understand that a school is a principal contractor and has to hold the funds. And I don't understand it either as we are doing Revenues work and the Plumbers work for them and get into trouble and fined if we make a mistake.

24. Where you are an SP operating as a corporate/partnership or other entity, do the current rates that apply to PSWT and RCT reflect your actual liability on the income received?

25. The proposal aims to embed taxation directly into how you get paid by the DW. How beneficial do you think this would be for your business?

26. Where you are an SP operating as an individual worker, the proposal aims to implement personalised deduction rates (PDR), which means you will pay tax on your income as you go, similar to how employees are taxed under PAYE. What impact do you think PDR will have on your cashflow and financial management?

27. Do you think this new regime, including the PDR will have a positive effect on your end of year Income Tax return filing and preliminary tax payment obligations?

28. The accuracy of PDR is improved by the regular reporting by you to Revenue of your income and business expenses. How likely are you to report your income and expenses to improve the accuracy of your PDR?

29. What changes do you expect to have to implement in your business in order to be ready for the proposed eWHT regime?

IT changes to accounting systems

30. What benefits do you expect the new regime to have on your business processes, costs and delivery of your business services?

already answered, time saving for other projects and more reliable returns to revenue

31. What would you consider a reasonable timeframe for your business to adapt to the proposed new system?

3 - 6 months

32. How confident are you that your business could adapt to the new system within a reasonable timeframe?

very confident once the IT infrastructure and proper training is provided.

33. In terms of the management of your business, which outcomes from this new regime are the most important for you? (Select a maximum of 3)

Reduced administrative workload

Increased accuracy of information submitted to Revenue

Greater certainty in relation to your tax affairs

34. What supports from Revenue would be of most benefit to you in transitioning to the new regime? (Select a maximum of 3)

Training or awareness sessions

Helpdesk or dedicated Revenue contact

Industry/professional body support

35. Is there anything else you'd like to share about how the proposed eWHT system could best meet the needs of your business or sector?

No thanks, I think its a great idea and well done

