

1. Who are you:

Individual/Business

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

Specified Person (SP)

3. Please tick the sectors that apply to you:

Professional services

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

Very negative - I do not support the proposed direction

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

Any change would be good. Currently PSWT is deducted from us. We are waiting up to 3-4 years to get it back from Revenue even though all our tax affairs are in order.

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

Revenue PSWT case workers will still be in charge of who gets refunded and who doesn't. We have someone who doesn't seem to care about small company's cashflow. They may be replaced, but a new person may be the same.

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?

I think it's a terrible system overall - penalising companies who have all of their tax affairs up to date.

- 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 think if your tax affairs are up to date you should not be subject to RCT or PSWT. RCT seems to work this way but not PSWT.

- 9. Please indicate if you currently operate:**

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

- 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.**

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

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

- 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?**

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

- 16. What challenges do you think your business might face in adopting this embedded within natural systems approach?**
- 17. What is the estimated number of payments that you make to SPs each month?**
- 18. Do you currently use software for processing payments and or managing the finances of your business? If so, what packages do you use?**
- 19. Are you an employer for PAYE? If so, which software package do you use to report payroll taxes to Revenue?**

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

Professional Services Withholding Tax (PSWT)

Relevant Contracts Tax (RCT)

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

We are a small business. We have PSWT withheld from us for years. We have asked Revenue about 20 times about getting a refund, but we are being ignored. This has stunted our growth. We are not able to hire more people because Revenue is withholding PSWT for several years. We are afraid to complain in case we are held up for months with audits.

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

See above. It's very easy for Revenue to ignore the impact

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

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?

Absolutely not for PSWT. We have to pay the full VAT anyway and we do so in a timely manner.

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?

If it's run like the current system, then it's a bit of a disaster for our 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?

N/A

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?

N/A

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?

N/A

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

Very few. We are already being unfairly targetted.

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

None.

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

I don't see it changing a lot.

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

Very confident, but see above - Revenue are not being fair with the system.

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

Greater certainty in relation to your tax affairs

Better visibility and control of information held by Revenue

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

Helpdesk or dedicated Revenue contact

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?

Repay PSWT on time,

