

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:

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?

That Tax withheld can be used as payment on account for Preliminary Tax. Currently the situation is very unsatisfactory. Having to wait for refunds until the Returns for year are filed puts huge pressure on cashflow.

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

That the new flat rate will be too high.

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?

If there are too many organizations withholding Tax it could put additional pressures around cash flow.

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?

No particular comment on this.

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)

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

The long wait for refunds and the need to contact the Revenue via MyEnquiries and phone calls to request the refunds is very unsatisfactory. Also that the amount withheld cannot be off set against preliminary Tax is a drain on cash flow.

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

The need for withholding tax is understandable to ensure the businesses comply with tax regulation and make timely payments. However if a company is seen to be tax compliant for a long period of time I think there should be no need to withhold tax as the business has shown itself compliant. If this should change then tax could be withheld again.

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?

No

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 reduces admin and reflects taxes owed correctly than this would be beneficial.

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?

Yes

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?

Likely

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

Accounting Software changes would be needed.

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

Less administration and better cashflow. The cost reduction would be negligible.
The delivery of our services would be unaffected.

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

3 months.

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

Very

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

Better visibility and control of information held by Revenue

Improved Cashflow

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

Clear guidance for software providers and a testing environment

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

