

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 positive - I strongly support the proposed direction

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

The adjustment of the 20% PSWT rate to something that reflects my actual tax liability. The ability to have my income and expenses reflected in real time so that I have more certainty on where my finances stand.

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

Need more details, none at the moment

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 that's a reasonable idea. It facilitates easier tax management.

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 strong feelings, but perhaps should be expanded to more payments made by state bodies as we should ensure tax is collected on monies paid by the state.

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?

It's just something you plan for. I know that a payment or contract will have 20% off it, but in my view this is no different than paying tax on a salary income.

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

It's good to have some tax paid on record come the end of the year. I don't apply for interim refunds as my tax rate is higher than 20% and I also believe it's an arduous process to claim them. However despite having some tax paid on record, it still doesn't reflect my year end liability.

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?

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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?

Again it will facilitate the management of tax as payments happen. I think this is a positive as I won't need to worry or think about additional ways of accounting for tax payments. It'll give me more certainty.

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?

I would hope the impacts would only be positive. I already have 20% deducted on payments, and while I would expect this to rise I believe it would be to the betterment of my 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?

Definitely. It would appear like that entire process will be simplified.

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?

Provided the ways and means of doing so are easy, I don't see why not. I already manage my accounts digitally so it would make sense to loop these in with Revenue.

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

Perhaps review software offerings of my financial management tools, but not much else.

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

Simplification, easier admin management, and more certainty.

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

However long it takes my software to update.

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

Very confident.

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

Seamless integration of taxation with your business systems

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

Mailshots and guidance on the Revenue website

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?

It's good to see public services trying to improve their services and not being afraid of change and new technology. Being self-employed has many more challenges than being an employee and we should be supported and thought of. It's nice to see us being prioritised for once and this proposal does just that.

