

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?

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

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

The payment of tax on income in real time is a good idea.

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

It could impact my ability to contribute to a private pension in a lump sum if tax is already collected and I have to wait for a refund.

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?

It's a good idea in theory but then the accuracy of my tax payments is dependent on a third party which is concerning.

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, I like the idea of PSWT in theory.

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 doesn't have a significant impact.

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

As above.

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?

N/A

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?

It could be very beneficial in streamlining processes and admin.

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?

If PDR was much higher than PSWT it would have a significant impact on cashflow and would reduce flexibility.

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?

It could make end of year filing simpler but the back end processes would need to be very robust and efficient.

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?

If it created more admin it would be difficult to manage. Quarterly reporting would be more tenable.

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

Tighter administrative processes.

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

I don't see the benefit in these areas - it will be a much greater overhead to administer for a small business unless it is automated end to end.

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

12-18 months

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

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)

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)

Helpdesk or dedicated Revenue contact

Clear guidance for software providers and a testing environment

Automation - a an accounting portal where information could be easily shared in a scure way for verification.

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 needs to be simple, automated and small business friendly. Less jargon and more clarity. The current tax return forms on ROS are overly complex - this kind of proposed system would need to be as simple as booking a flight on line.

