

1. State the name of the organisation you represent (if applicable).

Teagasc

2. Who are you:

Government department/agency

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

Designated Withholder (DW)

4. Please tick the sectors that apply to you:

Construction

Forestry

Forestry

Forestry

5. 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

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

Reduced administrative burden

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

No mention with regards to how to operate repayments/cancellations. How will this work?

- 8. 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?**

Will decide when it become operational

- 9. 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?**

System needs to differentiate suppliers that are sometimes subject to PSWT and other times are not subject to PSWT

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

Professional Services Withholding Tax (PSWT)

Relevant Contracts Tax (RCT)

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

Time consuming, lots of checks, reconciliation, returns and queries in relation to subject to/not subject to. Need clearer guidance from Revenue. Can be conflicting answers to queries.

- 12. 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.**

Foreign suppliers - very time consuming, tax clearance certs can take up to 6 weeks. Refunds can take as much time, very difficult if supplier has tax flow issues. Advice needs to be provided in plain english to assist foreign suppliers, who's first langu

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

Getting backlash from suppliers who have additional deductions made, very time consuming having to answer. Revenue enquiries can take a long time to be answered when suppliers/organisation are looking for clarity.

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

RCT is applied for construction, forestry, meat processing so that as a Government body we are only engaging with suppliers who are tax compliant. The same applies for PSWT.

15. 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?

I think this will be very beneficial if it works correctly as it will minimise administrative time spent on these type of suppliers.

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

It should ensure that we are fully compliant in line with Revenue guidelines on WHT and as it is a real-time process, it will be more streamlined for business continuity.

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

There may be systems teething problems.

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

Varies on monthly basis - this month we had 88 PSWT

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

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

Yes, CORE

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

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

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

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

RCT is applied for construction, forestry, meat processing so that as a Government body we are only engaging with suppliers who are tax compliant. The same applies for PSWT.

25. 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?

26. 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?

27. 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?

28. 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?

29. 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?

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

System changes

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

Reduction in administrative costs and better efficiencies

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

3-6 months

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

We are enthusiastic but time will tell on how the system adapts

34. 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

Helpdesk or dedicated Revenue contact

Clear guidance for software providers and a testing environment

35. 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

Clear guidance for software providers and a testing environment

36. 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?

We would like to have a FAQ guide for our organisation so that we can share in advance of the new set up for suppliers/staff