

TALC Sub-committee on Simplification and Modernisation of Business Supports for SMEs

Meeting Date: 11 January 2024
Location: Main Conference Room, Bishop's Square
Time: 10.00

▪ Introductions

The chairperson welcomed attendees and gave a background to the committee.

A tour de table was conducted for members to introduce themselves.

Item 1: Terms of Reference Recap

The group reviewed the ToR

Item 2: Approach to Business

Governance structure – It was noted that the group is a subcommittee of Main TALC. As such its remit is limited to matters of tax administration rather than policy.

The group will report to main TALC with recommendation which, if endorsed, will be submitted to Revenue. The goal is to submit a formal report to main TALC by end June 2024. The chair will update Main TALC on progress at any meetings in the interim.

Meetings to be held every three to four weeks with sharing of documents between meetings.

Each TALC member body will have a representative on the Committee. Representatives will invite relevant colleagues with specific expertise/knowledge to join meetings as appropriate.

The Group will also invite representatives of other relevant bodies to make submissions and/or to attend meetings to enable the group to gain a fuller understanding of the issues. Initially views will be sought from the SFA, ISME and Scale Ireland.

Other relevant experts may be invited to the group, for example it may be useful to have a good understanding of the impact of relevant EU legislation (eg the General Block Exemption Regulation) on the administrative rules governing tax based support schemes.

It was agreed that while members will keep their respective bodies updated on progress, matters of ongoing discussion/debate will not be put into the public domain until concluded.

Item 3: Awareness & Communications

It was noted that the remit of the group will also include the issue of business awareness of the range of tax-based supports available to them.

The important role of professional advisors was noted, especially in relation to event specific supports such those related to succession.

The group will seek the views of industry representative bodies on their members' awareness of tax-based supports and any improvements that may be needed to how these are communicated.

Item 4: Initial Prioritisation of Business Supports

The group agreed to structure their review of supports for business by reference to the phases in a business life cycle i.e start-up, group and expansion and possible divestiture or succession. While it was noted that some of the supports will impact at multiple stages in the life cycle, this approach will provide a framework for analysing supports in context, having regard to other interactions that may be taking place with the public sector while supports are being accessed.

It was noted that this approach will enable the most appropriate representatives to be invited to specific meetings.

Action Points:

- Revenue to circulate, for information a list of industry bodies contacted in relation to the recent TBESS scheme.
- Group secretary to write to initial industry bodies to invite submissions and attendance.
- Professional Bodies to provide details of reliefs/schemes they consider most relevant to each of the identified life-cycle stages.
- Next meeting scheduled for Feb 1st at 10am in Bishops Square.

Attendees of meeting of 11th January:

Revenue: Brian Boyle (Chair), Emma Brennan (Secretary), Davena Lyons, Martina Mulligan, Sarah Collins.

CCAB – I: Grainne McDermott, Gearoid O'Sullivan, Crona Clohisey

Law Society: Caolan Doyle

ITI: Anne Gunnell