Minutes of the QCA Tax Expert Group



held on Thursday 8 November 2012 at 9am at Grant Thornton, 30 Finsbury Square, London EC2P 2YU

| Present: | Neil Pamplin (Chair) | Grant Thornton UK LLP | (NP) |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------------------|------|
| | David Boyd | Mazars LLP | (DB) |
| | Samantha Dames | CMS Cameron McKenna LLP | (SD) |
| | Paul Fay | Crowe Clark Whitehill | (PF) |
| | Vijay Thakrar | Deloitte LLP (via telephone) | (VT) |
| | Kate Jalbert | Quoted Companies Alliance | (KJ) |
| | Tim Ward | Quoted Companies Alliance | (TW) |

ACTIONS

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Jason Collins, Tim Crosley Natasha Kaye, Lindsey Kutten, Amanda Solomon, Joseph Litten and Thomas Byng.

2. Minutes of last meeting (9 September 2012)

The minutes were approved.

3. Budget Representations 2012/13

NP noted to agree in form the Budget Representations. TW noted Executive summary written by VT has good headlines and groups the main points well.

NP noted prominence of shares into ISAs and also to concentrate on ER. TW noted QCA/BDO survey findings that AIM share's into ISAs would have the greatest positive impact on companies. It was agreed to keep the measure prominent.

KJ noted highlighted sections require more detail. KJ noted that she will add data on the amount paid out in dividends by small and mid-size quoted companies to the section on the dividend tax credit. There was some discussion on the size test suggested in the proposal to reinstate the dividend tax credit for small and mid-size quoted companies. The group agreed to amend the submission so that it makes reference to either a market cap test of a 2 out of 3 test based on one in existing tax legislation.

TW would like to acknowledge in the representations that the London Stock Exchange supports our campaign to change Entrepreneurs' Relief.

NP noted that in the section discussing the introduction of ER we suggest a 2-3 month window to accelerate change. NP would like to amend this to three to four months.

DB has sent a paragraph on PAYE to KJ. KJ will include it in the final draft of the representations.

NP would like to move the section on tax relief for the costs of raising equity to be after section A.

PF queried whether KJ was able to determine how much this proposal would cost the Exchequer. KJ noted that she spoke to the Stock Exchange who have commissioned an accountancy firm to look at it. KJ will ask Stock Exchange if we can use the data in our representations.

NP noted that he will draft a paragraph on the issue of the 12 month holding period for EMI shares that qualify for Entrepreneurs' Relief. SD noted that she has a client that this struggling with this at the moment. KJ noted HMRC said they know they've missed a trick and are currently reviewing EMI options. KJ noted she attended a roundtable with HMRC and they acknowledged there are problems around how this is set out. It was agreed that this should definitely be raised again in the Budget Representations. KJ will also set up with meeting with John McLaughlin who deals with EMI options to discuss it.

NP and KJ will collaborate and re-circulate final draft for submission.

KJ and NP

PF noted we should consider submitting the Budget Representations a month ahead of the Autumn Statement. KJ agreed and the Group will work towards this timetable in 2013.

4. Consultation Papers

HMRC Consultation – A General Anti-Abuse Rule (RD: 14 September 2012):

It was agreed that no response was needed.

• HMRC Consultation document on securing compliance with Real Time Information including proposals for late filing and late payment penalty models (RD: 6 September 2012):

It was agreed that no response was needed.

5. Communications and Future Meetings

Guests for future meetings

It was agreed to get John McLaughlin from HMRC to discuss the changes to EMI. Also, the group would like to meet with Nigel Mills MP.

KJ/Chris Stapeley

6. Any other business

• BIS Consultation on Employee Owner Status (RD: 8 November 2012):

KJ asked the group for viewpoints on this proposal. The group noted that they could not really understand who it would benefit the most and that none had clients that were asking about. NP noted that he would share Grant Thornton's response.

NP

David Gauke MP Discussion Lunch – 21 January 2012

KJ noted that this event has been set up now. Expert group members are able to attend as long as they bring a client. All QCA corporate members will be invited too. KJ noted the invitation will be sent out shortly and she will circulate it to the group too.

• Terms of Reference

NP noted that the terms of reference need to be updated and that the group will focus on this at the January meeting. It was also agreed to circulate an update on the work of the other expert groups with the papers for each meeting.

7. Next meeting

9.00am Thursday 10 January 2013 (Grant Thornton, 30 Finsbury Square, London EC2P 2YU)

8. Action Points

| Action | Person | Timetable |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Amend budget representations and circulate a final draft | NP and KJ | ASAP |

| Invite John McLaughlin to attend a | KJ/Chris Stapeley | ASAP |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|------|
| future meeting. Invite Nigel Mills | | |
| MP to attend a future meeting. | | |
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| Share GT's response on Employee | NP | ASAP |
| Owner Status | | |
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