

Indirect Taxes National Statistics Survey RESPONSE

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HM Revenue & Customs**

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Indirect Taxes: National Statistics Survey Response

Background

The Indirect Taxes team in the Knowledge, Analysis and Intelligence (KAI) division currently produce 13 National Statistics bulletins per month. These cover:

Aggregates Levy, Air Passenger Duty, Beer & Cider Duties, Betting, Gaming & Lottery Duties, Climate Change Levy, Hydrocarbon Oils Duties, Insurance Premium Tax, Landfill Tax, Made Wine Duties, Spirit Duties, Tobacco Duties, Value Added Tax and Wine of Fresh Grape Duties

HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) proposed some changes to these bulletins, and ran a user consultation on these between 4 January 2010 and 5 April 2010.

This document presents a response to the recommendations that were made based on analysis of the 96 responses.

Proposed Changes and Summary of Responses

1. Moving the bulletins from a monthly to a quarterly publication:

There was a strong opposition to this change.

Response: The bulletins will continue to be published on a monthly basis.

2. Removing the seasonally adjusted VAT data:

There was little opposition to this change.

Response: The seasonally adjusted VAT data will be removed from the VAT bulletin, from the May edition.

3. Combining the various alcohol bulletins into one:

There was virtually no opposition to combining the alcohol bulletins into one (keeping the data unchanged)

Response: The Beer & Cider, Spirits, Made Wine and Wine of Fresh Grape bulletins will be combined into one Alcohol Bulletin. This will contain the same data as previous bulletins, so that each alcohol type can still be identified separately. This will be implemented either for the April or May edition.

4. Additions to the bulletins: including interpretations of the data (in graph or text form); including a longer time series; including historical data:

All suggested additions to the bulletins were well received.

Response: Moving to a quarterly publication cycle would free up resources to allow additions to the bulletins to be made. In view of the strength of opinion regarding keeping to a monthly publication cycle, this does mean that there is little or no resource to

implement additions to the bulletins. If users feel that they would value additions to the bulletins more than receiving data on a monthly basis, users are invited to let us know at revenue-monitoring@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk, or by filling in the survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=qJ30wd0VE4BIKixPA4FoZadUk2um3KeVz07UypsV4cU%3d&>, where responses are still being monitored.

Users should note that by moving to a quarterly publication cycle, HMRC would still publish monthly breakdowns of all the data.

In view of the positive reaction to adding historical data back to when available we will, however, look to implement this as soon as resources allow.

5. Dropping the factsheets (except for VAT and Alcohol):

A number of respondents use the tobacco factsheet. Some respondents use the betting, gaming & lottery factsheet.

Response: In light of the frequency of use of the factsheets, we intend to keep the following factsheets: Alcohol Duties, Tobacco Duties, Value Added Tax, and Betting, Gaming and Lottery Duties. These will be updated as resources allow.

The remaining factsheets: Hydrocarbon Oils Duties, Environmental Taxes, Air Passenger duty and Insurance Premium Tax, will no longer be updated.