

Office of Tax Simplification

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Room G41
1 Horse Guards Road
London SW1A 2HQ

9 February 2017

Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
1 Horse Guards Road
London SW1A 2HQ

Dear Chancellor,

Further to our letter to you of 20 December, we are writing to update you on a couple of matters.

Timing of OTS reviews

Our work on our VAT project is progressing well. As planned, we will be publishing an interim report and call for evidence on VAT prior to the Spring Budget, as we work towards delivering our final report in advance of the Autumn Budget.

On our project on 'paper' Stamp Duty, we will likewise be publishing a paper before the Spring Budget, though that will, as planned, be a shorter note setting out the potential way forward and calling for evidence. We are aiming for a final report in the summer.

In relation to the Corporation Tax computation review, the intention when this was launched in May 2016, was that we would deliver our final report before the Spring Budget. However, following discussions with HMRC and HMT, not least as regards the interactions with work on Making Tax Digital for companies, we are now targeting publication in the second half of March. We hope this change will also fit with the move to the Autumn Budget being the main fiscal event of the year.

Looking to the future

Paul Morton will be formally taking over from John Whiting from 1 March as Tax Director. To provide a smooth handover and to manage any possible perception of conflicts of interest, John will continue to oversee the work on CT until that review is published.

Angela and Paul very much look forward to seeing you in April.

Yours sincerely



Angela Knight
Chair



John Whiting
Tax Director