

Minutes of the Tax Professionals' Forum meeting, 5 June 2018

The Financial Secretary to the Treasury (FST), Mel Stride MP, chaired a meeting of the Tax Professionals' Forum on Tuesday 5 June. Jane McCormick and Jonathan Riley sent their apologies. All other members were in attendance.

The FST welcomed and thanked members for their work for the Forum and the value they add to the tax policy making process. Forum members expressed their agreement, and the level of collaboration on the December 2017 document 'The new Budget timetable and tax policy making process' was given as an example of the value of the Forum's engagement with the Treasury.

Forum members outlined how they felt the new Single Fiscal Event cycle was progressing, and noted the success of the Spring Statement as a consultative event. They also commended the quality of some of the consultations published at Spring Statement, for example that on tax relief for self-funded training. In addition, Forum members remarked how useful tax professionals found the consultation tracker that was re-launched at the Spring Statement.

The FST noted how helpful the group is in its current form, though suggested that there might be a way to expand the issues discussed between the Forum and the government to get the most value out of members' knowledge and experience, including earlier on in the process. He suggested how they might provide the government with perspectives from the tax profession on key strategic issues in taxation – some 'horizon-scanning'. The Forum agreed to reflect on this.

Finally, the Forum noted their upcoming report, to be published at the end of July. Officials agreed to discuss how the government could best respond to the report.