

Changes to the frequency of oil and gas official statistics: summary of consultation responses

HM Revenue and Customs ran a public consultation between 29 June and 31 August 2018 seeking feedback on the proposal to change the frequency of publication of official statistics on government revenues from oil and gas production. HMRC received one response from the sector's representative body.

Summary of responses

Frequency

The respondent highlighted the importance of the published statistics and supported the move to an annual publication of all tables.

Timing

The respondent suggested that HMRC's publication of official statistics on government revenues from oil and gas production could be aligned with another HMRC publication on tax receipts and National Insurance contributions, which is published a week earlier. This results in a period where there are two publications with different figures for revenues from oil and gas production. The respondent highlighted that this risks confusion for the public and the media.

Content

In the longer term, the respondent suggested that the scope of the publication could be widened to include figures on receipts from non-production/non-ring fence revenues, to support HM Treasury's *Driving Investment* strategy.

Outcome

HM Revenue and Customs will move ahead with plans to publish all tables in the publication annually. Following recommendations from the respondent, HMRC will also align this publication with that on tax receipts and National Insurance contributions, which is currently published a week earlier. HMRC will also explore the feasibility of including further information that will demonstrate the wider economic impact of the sector.