

Other Services - Independent Business Review

Overview

By virtue of many years' experience in our industry sector, you can be satisfied that Harrisons has the necessary skills to undertake comprehensive business reviews on behalf of all stakeholders be they internal or external stakeholders such as directors, shareholders or financial institutions. Where appropriate, working closely with the management, although the review will encompass the criteria of the free business review, it will place an emphasis on those areas pertinent to the client's requirements and circumstances and not result in wasted time and charges in considering areas that are not essential to the decision making process.

Please contact your closest Harrisons Director for further information, but by way of example please see below the areas generally covered within the review process.

- Introduction and Summary
- Background
- Management and Staff
- Trading
 - Financials and Forecasts
- The Business
 - Premises
 - Products
 - Customers
 - Supplies

- Trading
 - Financials and Forecasts
- Assets & Liabilities
 - Fixed Assets
 - Freehold/Leasehold Premises
 - Intellectual Property & other Intangibles
 - Plant and Machinery
 - o Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment
 - Debtors
 - Stocks
 - Creditors to include contingent liabilities
 - Share Capital & Reserves
- General
 - Accounting Policies and Systems
 - Reporting Lines and Systems
 - Insurances
- Future Prospects
 - Liquidity
- Security
- Recommendations and Conclusions
- Strategy, Implementation and Cost



Other Services – Monitoring Solutions

Overview

Following completion of our independent business review, recommendations may include the continued monitoring of the business on behalf of the client for a designated period of time. It is likely that this recommendation will be made where additional funding or continued support from existing lenders or other stakeholders is required.

In these circumstances an agreed schedule of formal site visits and reporting structure can be put in place to monitor the on-going performance of the business.

Formal terms of engagement for undertaking this role are agreed between the relevant parties prior to implementation and would be based on a monthly fixed fee or time cost basis.

Other Services – Pre Lending Review

Overview

Unlike the independent business review, which is undertaken in respect of existing clients, there are often circumstances where lending decisions to prospective clients are not as clear cut as one would hope. In these situations a formal detailed lending review can operate as a vital component in the lender reaching its decision.

Harrisons has significant experience in conducting reviews via its Banking and Asset Based Lending, ('ABL') Team, which is conducted along the lines of the free business review, which will offer a detailed assessment of the lending proposal encompassing in particular, the lender's criteria including assessment of the management, review of its current financial position, analysis of projected future performance, existing and future funding requirements and the availability of security. Please contact your closest Harrisons Director for further details of the review process.

Inevitably each case will be different and as a consequence the review is completely flexible and can be tailored to meet the requirements of each individual lender. In particular, from a number of years working closely with the ABL community, Harrisons understands implicitly the areas of concern and the pitfalls in relation to the security of the debt and will be able to provide the lender with a complete unbiased assessment to assist in the decision making process.

As each review may vary subject to the requirements of the lender a fee structure is agreed with you prior to commencement of the review, giving peace of mind not only to you but also to the client.



Other Services – Time to Pay Agreements ("TTP")

Overview	TTP's are informal payment plans agreed with the business support service of HM Revenue and Customs, ('HMRC') and are with a view to settling liabilities in respect of VAT, PAYE, NIC and such other tax liabilities that may have arisen or are shortly to arise.	If you have already received a demand or a letter warning of legal action you must immediately contact the HMRC office that issued it. You'll find the contact details on the correspondence or demand.
	They are designed to meet the needs of all businesses and individuals who are experiencing difficulties in paying the tax due in full and on time.	
When to contact the support service	If you have payments due now or in the near future, the sooner you get in touch, the sooner HMRC can begin working with you to find a solution. They may, in some circumstances, allow you additional time to pay.	But remember that you need to get in touch with HMRC in advance of the payment deadline date. Don't wait until the payment is overdue.
	If your payment isn't due yet, you can call the support service nearer the time once you are clear about whether you will be able to pay or not.	Even when you can't pay in full you must send any returns in on time. If you don't you may have to pay penalties.
Who to contact	HMRC's Payment Support Service on Tel 0300 200 3835 – this service is available for individuals and businesses who have not yet received a payment demand. Opening hours are Monday to Friday 8.00am to 8.00pm and Saturday 8.00am to 4.00pm.	Information that you will need to provide, to HMRC: • your tax reference number • your name and/or the name of your business • your/the business address including the postcode • a contact telephone number • details of the tax that you believe you will have difficulty paying • details of any repayments you are currently receiving and/or may receive from HMRC in the future



Continued	Note that you can still ask HMRC to consider a payment arrangement even if they contact you first. You will need to explain why: you are unable to pay in full and on time	You must tell the payment support service if you are receiving any repayments from HMRC. HMRC will ask questions about your income and expenditure, your assets and the changes you are making so that you can return to making payments on time.
	 what you have done to try and raise the money to pay your debt how much you can pay immediately how long you think you will need to pay the rest 	If you have been given time to pay before you will be asked more in-depth questions. In more complex cases HMRC may ask for documentary evidence
	Depending on why you can't pay, how long you need to pay the rest and your payment history - HMRC will ask you a number of	to consider the request for time to pay. If you are having difficulty paying your VAT and you pay by the
	questions so that they can judge your ability to pay this debt and make future payments.	online VAT Direct Debit service, you will need to contact your bank to ask them to stop your next payment.
If HMRC gives you extra time to pay.	HMRC can only agree time to pay where it believes that you are genuinely unable to pay in full and on time. Also that by allowing you extra time it will mean that you can pay what is due and you can return to making future payments in full and on time. If HMRC agree time to pay they will encourage you to set up a Direct Debit payment plan over the phone to make sure that you don't miss any payments.	If you fail to make the agreed payments or don't keep your tax affairs up to date HMRC will cancel the arrangement and take legal action to recover the outstanding amount. HMRC can legally set-off any repayment due to you during this time to pay arrangement against the HMRC debt that forms part of the agreement.



Interest on agreed late payments.	It's important to understand that even when HMRC allow you time to pay you will still be charged interest on any tax where interest is charged for late payments. If you are waiting for a repayment from HMRC that's causing you cashflow problems, you should contact the office who advised you that a repayment was due.	You will find the telephone number on the correspondence sent to you. HMRC can legally set-off any repayment due against money owed regardless of whether or not you have asked for this.
What to do if your circumstances change	If your circumstances change and you become unable to make the payment covered by the agreement, as well as keeping up to date with any future payments you will need to contact HMRC before you miss any payment. HMRC will review your time to pay arrangement and may consider amending and extending the agreement. However in such circumstances they will need to ask more detailed questions	about your income and outgoings so that they can be as sure as possible that you will be able to meet any new arrangement. This may mean that such discussions take a little longer than in the initial approach to the service and you may need to be transferred to another office to progress this. HMRC will do its best to help you. Sometimes they may not be able to help in the way that you want and they may need to consider alternative ways of collecting the tax due.
Repeat Arrangements	If you already have a payment arrangement with the Business Payment Support Service which has been cleared in full you can still contact them if you are again having difficulties making subsequent payments. If you have previously been helped by the service, HMRC will ask more in-depth questions to ensure that you can meet any new payment agreement and future payments.	The Business Payment Support Service was set up to help businesses by providing them with a short term 'breathing space' to allow them time to reorganise and restructure and get themselves in a position where they can return to making tax payments in full and on time.
Late payment penalties/surcharges and time to pay agreements	VAT default surcharges will not be charged if you contact HMRC before the payment is due and HMRC agree a time to pay arrangement which you adhere to.	Entering into the time to pay agreement will not be treated as a default so it will not extend the 12-month rolling period nor will the default percentage increase because of the time to pay agreement. This is provided that the terms of the agreement are adhered to.

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Continued	VAT returns must be submitted on time or this will be treated as a default and the 12-month rolling period will be extended.	Similarly, a surcharge/penalty can be avoided on a late payment of Income Tax where a time to pay agreement is entered into before the relevant surcharge/penalty date and the terms of the agreement are adhered to.
CIS subcontractors gross payment status and time to pay agreements	If you have contacted HMRC and agreed a time to pay arrangement before the payment is due, then this will not affect your gross payment status.	You will need to explain that you have a time to pay agreement with HMRC that you entered into before the due dates of the relevant payments.
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	If you receive a letter advising you that HMRC has cancelled your gross payment status, as a result of their automated tests, please contact them immediately. Information on what to do and who to contact will be provided in the letter.	In most cases your gross payment status will be restored, unless there were other failure reasons unrelated to the payment in the time to pay agreement.
Advice for Tax Agents and Advisors	If you have authority to act on your client's behalf, HMRC can discuss your client's tax affairs with you.	If a demand has already been issued you should contact the telephone number on the demand notice.
	HMRC can also agree a payment arrangement with you - but may need to speak to your client to set up the payment through Direct Debit. If you wish to discuss a client's business payment position before a demand has been issued and you hold an authorisation to act on their behalf, you should contact the Business Payment Support Service.	For all others issues you should continue to use the regular contact numbers.



Partnerships and Time to Pay Agreements

General

Where multiple partners are unable to pay their individual liabilities on time HMRC can discuss a time to pay arrangement for any partnership liabilities and the individual partners' liabilities with an authorised representative or the partnership providing the following conditions are met:

- all partners must be individuals
- all partners must have a Self Assessment record, and have filed the relevant Self Assessment return
- no partner should be subject to enforcement action to recover the debt
- name and reference(s) of the partnership
- name and reference numbers for each individual partners
- details of all amounts owed by both the partnership and the individual partners

The letter must also confirm that all of the partners are giving their authority for the representative to act on the partners' behalf in respect of their Self Assessment liability and the partnership's other HMRC liabilities (if applicable). The letter must be signed by each individual partner.

When you contact the Business Payment Support Service it will ask for the details of the outstanding liabilities and the details of the individual partners who are unable to pay. The information will be passed to another office who will contact you back within four working days to discuss the situation with you.

Where the representative doesn't hold the relevant authorisation from the partnership and the individual partners then they will need to submit a letter detailing:

- representative's name and company name (if appropriate)
- representative's full postal address
- representative's telephone number

HMRC will discuss the situation with the representative and where the partnership and the partners are viable will look to enter into an appropriate agreement to allow the debt to be cleared and future liabilities to be paid on time. In larger debt cases HMRC may require additional evidence to assess viability.

Where a payment arrangement is agreed the preferred method of payment is by Direct Debit from the partnership bank account. By completing a single Direct Debit mandate HMRC can arrange payment to be made by up to 99 reference numbers.

Otherwise representatives must make sure that payments for each individual partner and partnership liability are made separately.