

INCOME TAX – Schedule 55 Finance Act 2009 - fixed and daily penalties for failure to file a self-assessment return on time – penalties 'on hold' during the course of a 'voluntary arrangement' - whether taxpayer had a reasonable excuse for his default - Permission to appeal out of time refused – appeal dismissed.

FIRST-TIER TRIBUNAL TAX CHAMBER

TC07209

Appeal number: TC/2019/00608

BETWEEN

GREGORY COLVILLE

Appellant

-and-

THE COMMISSIONERS FOR HER MAJESTY'S REVENUE AND CUSTOMS

Respondents

TRIBUNAL: JUDGE ABIGAIL HUDSON

The Tribunal determined the appeal on 4 June 2019 without a hearing under the provisions of Rule 26 of the Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal) (Tax Chamber) Rules 2009 (default paper cases) having first read the Notice of Appeal dated 30 January 2019 (with enclosures) and HMRC's Statement of Case (with enclosures) acknowledged by the Tribunal on 22 March 2019.

DECISION

INTRODUCTION

1. This is an appeal by Mr Gregory Colville ('the Appellant') against fixed and daily penalties totalling £1,600 imposed by the Respondents ('HMRC') under Paragraph 3, 4, 5 and 6 of Schedule 55 Finance Act 2009, for his failure to file a self-assessment ('SA') tax return on time for the tax year ending 5 April 2013.

BACKGROUND

- 2. The Appellant's returns for 2012-13, was due if filed electronically no later than 31 January 2014.
- 3. The penalties for late filing of a return can be summarised as follows:
 - (i) A penalty of £100 is imposed under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 55 Finance Act ('FA') 2009 for the late filing of the Individual Tax Return.
 - (ii) If after a period of 3 months beginning with the penalty date the return remains outstanding, daily penalties of £10 per day up to a total of £900 are imposed under Paragraph 4 of Schedule 55 FA 2009.
 - (iii) If after a period of 6 months beginning with the penalty date the return remains outstanding, a penalty of £300 is imposed under Paragraph 5 of Schedule 55 FA 2009.
 - (iv) If after a period of 12 months beginning with the penalty date the return remains outstanding, a penalty of £300 is imposed under Paragraph 6 of Schedule 55 FA 2009.
- 4. The Appellant's electronic return for 2012-13 was filed on 31 January 2016. It was therefore not filed on time and penalties of £100, £900, £300 and £300 were imposed, under (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) above. HMRC do not contend that there was any deliberate withholding of information.
 - Filing date and Penalty date
- 5. Under s 8(1D) TMA 1970 a non-electronic return must normally be filed by 31 October in the relevant financial year or an electronic return by 31 January in the year following. The 'penalty date' is defined at Paragraph 1(4) Schedule 55 FA 2009 and is the date after the filing date.
 - Reasonable excuse
- 6. Paragraph 23 of Schedule 55 FA 2009, provides that a penalty does not arise in relation to a failure to make a return if the person satisfies HMRC (or on appeal, a Tribunal) that they had a reasonable excuse for the failure and they put right the failure without unreasonable delay after the excuse ceased.
- 7. The law specifies two situations that are not reasonable excuse:
 - (a) An insufficiency of funds, unless attributable to events outside the Appellant's control, and
 - (b) Reliance on another person to do anything, unless the person took reasonable care to avoid the failure.
- 8. There is no statutory definition of "reasonable excuse". Whether or not a person had a reasonable excuse is an objective test and "is a matter to be considered in the light of all the circumstances of the particular case" (*Rowland V HMRC* (2006) STC (SCD) 536 at paragraph 18).

9. The actions of the taxpayer should be considered from the perspective of a prudent person, exercising reasonable foresight and due diligence, having proper regard for their responsibilities under the Tax Acts. The decision depends upon the particular circumstances in which the failure occurred and the particular circumstances and abilities of the person who failed to file their return on time. The test is to determine what a reasonable taxpayer, in the position of the taxpayer, would have done in those circumstances and by reference to that test to determine whether the conduct of the taxpayer can be regarded as conforming to that standard.

The background facts

- 10. The Appellant's 2012-13 return was issued to him on 6 April 2013 and was due to be returned by 31 January 2014 if returned electronically. The Notice to file a return was issued to the correspondence address provided by the Appellant.
- 11. The Appellant states that he did not realise that he had accrued penalties until 'recently'. He offers no explanation for the initial failure to file the return.
- 12. The SA return was received electronically by HMRC on 31 January 2016. It was therefore two years late.
- 13. HMRC originally imposed a fixed penalty of £100 together with daily penalties [at £10 for each day, totalling £900]. The return still having not been received six months after the filing date HMRC imposed a fixed penalty of £300, followed by a fixed penalty of a further £300 because the return had not been received 12 months after the filing date.
- 14. The Appellant appealed to the Tribunal on 30 January 2019.

PERMISSION TO APPEAL OUT OF TIME

- 15. The appellant's appeal was notified to the Tribunal late. For the following reasons, I have decided not to give permission for the appeal to be notified late:
- 16. The relevant penalty notices were dated 31 March 2015. Therefore the time limit for appealing expired on 30 April 2015. No appeal was received until 16 November 2018, and so the Appellant was over three and a half years late in appealing.
- 17. Mr Colville has stated that he did not become aware that he had incurred these penalties until 'recently'. It is not clear to me what he means by that or when he became aware of the penalties. Penalty notices were issued to him on 31 March 2015 at his home address. He was then sent SA statements on 22 April 2015 and 23 June 2015 which showed these penalties, again to his home address. HMRC have provided a record of a telephone call dated 27 August 2015 in which Mr Colville acknowledged that he was then aware of the failure to file and the penalties accrued. Despite that, it then took a further five months to file the SA assessment, and a further three and a half years to appeal the penalties. Mr. Colville was aware of the penalties and the need to appeal by August 2015 at the latest and has not provided any explanation for why he did not appeal earlier.
- 18. The consequences to either party of an extension of time limits must be considered in light of my assessments of the merits of the substantive appeal. The Respondent is entitled to some finality in properly administering the SA tax regime and the time limits have been imposed by statute to provide that finality. The Appellant would be prejudiced by a refusal to extend the time limits, however, he provides no explanation for his delay in appealing and no explanation as to why that prejudice should be mitigated.
- 19. In considering the application for permission to appeal out of time, pursuant to *Data Select Ltd v HMRC* [2012] UKUT 187 (TCC) I have considered:
 - a) The purpose of the time limit;

- b) The length of the delay;
- c) Whether there is a good explanation for that delay;
- d) The consequences of permission to appeal;
- e) The consequences of refusal of permission.
- 20. In the circumstance I do not consider that Mr Colville has a good explanation for his delay which is of some significant length. In balancing the prejudice caused to both parties, I conclude that it would be inappropriate to extend the time limit for appeal, and the application for permission to appeal out of time is refused.

The Appellant's case

21. The Appellant's grounds of appeal are that he only became aware of the penalties some considerable time after their imposition.

HMRC's Case

- 22. A late filing penalty is raised solely because a SA tax return is filed late in accordance with Schedule 55 FA 2009, even if a customer has no tax to pay, has already paid all the tax due or is due a refund.
- 23. Where a return is filed after the relevant deadline a penalty is charged. The later a return is received, the more penalties are charged.
- 24. The onus lies with HMRC to show that the penalties were issued correctly and within legislation. If the Tribunal find that HMRC have issued the penalties correctly the onus then reverts to the Appellant to show that he has a reasonable excuse for the late filing of his SA tax return.

Reasonable Excuse

- 25. Under Paragraph 23 (1) Schedule 55 FA 2009 liability to a penalty does not arise in relation to failure to make a return if the taxpayer has a reasonable excuse for failure.
- 26. 'Reasonable excuse' was considered in the case of *The Clean Car Company Ltd v The Commissioners of Customs & Excise* by Judge Medd who said:
 - "It has been said before in cases arising from default surcharges that the test of whether or not there is a reasonable excuse is an objective one. In my judgment it is an objective test in this sense. One must ask oneself: was what the taxpayer did a reasonable thing for a responsible trader conscious of and intending to comply with his obligations regarding tax, but having the experience and other relevant attributes of the taxpayer and placed in the situation that the taxpayer found himself at the relevant time, a reasonable thing to do?" [Page 142 3rd line et seq.].
- 27. HMRC considers a reasonable excuse to be something that stops a person from meeting a tax obligation on time despite them having taken reasonable care to meet that obligation. HMRC's view is that the test is to consider what a reasonable person, who wanted to comply with their tax obligations, would have done in the same circumstances and decide if the actions of that person met that standard.
- 28. If there is a reasonable excuse it must exist throughout the failure period.
- 29. The Appellant has not provided a reasonable excuse for his failure to file his tax return for the year 2012-13 on time and accordingly the penalties have been correctly charged in accordance with the legislation.
- 30. The amount of the penalties charged is set within the legislation. HMRC has no discretion over the amount charged and must act in accordance with the legislation. By not applying

legislation and as such not to have imposed the penalty would mean that HMRC was not adhering to its own legal obligations.

Special Reduction

- 31. Paragraph 16(1) of Schedule 55 allows HMRC to reduce a penalty if they think it is right because of special circumstances. "Special circumstances" is undefined save that, under paragraph 16(2), it does not include ability to pay, or the fact that a potential loss of revenue from one taxpayer is balanced by a potential overpayment by another.
- 32. In other contexts "special" has been held to mean 'exceptional, abnormal or unusual' (*Crabtree v Hinchcliffe* [1971] 3 All ER 967), or 'something out of the ordinary run of events' (*Clarks of Hove Ltd v Bakers' Union* [1979] 1 All ER 152). The special circumstances must also apply to the particular individual and not be general circumstances that apply to many taxpayers by virtue of the penalty legislation (*David Collis* [2011] UKFTT 588 (TC), paragraph 40).
- 33. Where a person appeals against the amount of a penalty, paragraph 22(2) and (3) of Schedule 55, FA 2009 provide the Tribunal with the power to substitute HMRC's decision with another decision that HMRC had the power to make. The Tribunal may rely on paragraph 16 (Special Reduction) but only if they think HMRC's decision was 'flawed when considered in the light of the principles applicable in proceedings for judicial review'.
- 34. HMRC have considered the Appellant's grounds of appeal but assert that his circumstances do not amount to special circumstances which would merit a reduction of the penalties.
- 35. Accordingly, HMRC's decision not to reduce the penalties under paragraph 16 was not flawed. There are no special circumstances which would require the Tribunal to reduce the penalties.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 36. The notice to file was sent to Mr. Colville's registered address on 6 April 2013. He does not suggest that he did not receive that notice. I have not been told of any postal difficulties at around the relevant times and therefore I am satisfied that the notices were received by Mr Colville. He states in his appeal to HMRC that he had no idea the return was outstanding. He does not suggest that he was unaware that he was registered for self-assessment and he therefore must have been aware that he should have filed a return for the 2012-13 year and that he had not done so. No explanation has been offered for the initial failure to file the return, although I note that he entered into a voluntary arrangement with the Respondent on the day prior to the filing date. Mr. Colville's explanations all relate to late notification of the penalties rather than late filing of the return. In those circumstances I am satisfied that Mr. Colville was aware of his responsibilities, and failed to file the return by the return date.
- 37. It is agreed that the return was in fact submitted electronically on 31 January 2016. The HMRC computer system does not allow a customer to submit a tax return for the same tax year twice. Therefore, the return having been submitted on 31 January 2016 effectively, it must not have been submitted effectively prior to that. I accept that the return was not properly submitted on or around 31 January 2014, or prior to 31 January 2016.
- 38. A voluntary arrangement having been entered into on 30 January 2014 any accruing penalties were put on hold pending the Appellant's debts being paid off through the arrangement. Unfortunately the arrangement was terminated, effective on 20 March 2015, and penalty notices followed.

- 39. A person is liable to a penalty if (and only if) HMRC give notice to the person specifying the date from which the penalty is payable. I am satisfied that the penalty notices dated on or around 31 March 2015 gave proper notice (*Donaldson v The Commissioners for HM Revenue & Customs* [2016] EWCA Civ 761) and were sent to the postal address linked to the Appellant's SA account.
- 40. Mr Colville implies that he did not receive those penalty notices. The notices were not returned undelivered and there is no suggestion of any other postal difficulties at around the relevant times. Mr. Colville also called the Respondent on 27 August 2015 specifically in relation to this missing return and accrued penalties. He must therefore have been aware of it by that date. I am therefore satisfied that the notices were received by Mr Colville.
- 41. It is however right that HMRC deferred the imposition of any penalties due to the voluntary arrangement entered into by Mr. Colville on 30 January 2014, and therefore by the time the penalties were notified to him they had all been accrued.
- 42. Notwithstanding the receipt of the penalty notices in March 2015, and further SA statements in April and June of that year, followed by a telephone call from Mr. Colville in August, he did not file his return until January 2016.

DISCUSSION

- 43. Relevant statutory provisions are included as an Appendix to this decision.
- 44. I have concluded that the tax return for the 2012-13 tax year was not submitted on time. It should have been submitted by 31 January 2014. Subject to considerations of "reasonable excuse" and "special circumstances" set out below, the penalties imposed are due and have been calculated correctly.
- 45. When a person appeals against a penalty they are required to have a reasonable excuse which existed for the whole period of the default. There is no definition in law of reasonable excuse, which is a matter to be considered in the light of all the circumstances of the particular case. A reasonable excuse is normally an unexpected or unusual event, which prevents him or her from complying with an obligation which otherwise they would have complied with.
- 46. Mr Colville must have been aware that he was obliged to file a return for the 2012-13 tax year by 31 January 2014. He must have known that he did not do so, having never suggested that he did. It is possible that he was confused by the fact that he entered a voluntary arrangement on 30 January 2014 and possibly assumed that the return was no longer required, although that is not suggested by him. If that were the case, then I would have expected him to make reference to that and assert that he had been misled in some way. He does not do so, and I conclude that he accepts the requirement was never waived and nor did he believe it to be so waived.
- 47. He was aware that the return was hugely overdue by 31 March 2015, but despite reminders and a conversation with HMRC through the following months, he made no attempt to submit the return until ten months later. In *Perrin v HMRC* [2018] UKUT 156, the Upper Tribunal explained that the experience and knowledge of the particular taxpayer should be taken into account. The Upper Tribunal concluded that for an honestly held belief to constitute a reasonable excuse it must also be objectively reasonable for that belief to be held. Had Mr Colville had an honest belief that his return was not required, that belief ought to have been displaced by the March, April, June and August 2015 correspondences. I am satisfied that Mr Colville took no action following

- the receipt of that information until the end of January 2016, suggesting that he was not paying due attention to his tax obligations.
- 48. I have also borne in mind the recent comments of the Tribunal in *Hesketh v HMRC* [2017] UKFTT 871 about whether ignorance of an obligation to file could excuse late filing. Judge Mosedale held that Parliament intended all of its laws to be complied with, and that ignorance of the law was not an excuse. I agree with those conclusions and consider that if ignorance of the obligation cannot be a reasonable excuse, then awareness of the obligation but ignorance of the consequences also cannot be a reasonable excuse.
- 49. I conclude that Mr Colville does not have a reasonable excuse for the late filing of his return for 2012-13.
- 50. Even when a taxpayer is unable to establish that he has a reasonable excuse and he remains liable for one or more penalties, HMRC have the discretion to reduce those penalties if they consider that the circumstances are such that reduction would be appropriate. In this case HMRC have declined to exercise that discretion.
- 51. Paragraph 22 of Schedule 55 provides that I am only able to interfere with HMRC's decision on special reduction if I consider that their decision was flawed (in the sense understood in a claim for judicial review). That is a high test and I do not consider that HMRC's decision in this case (set out in their Statement of Case) is flawed. Therefore, I have no power to interfere with HMRC's decision not to reduce the penalties imposed upon Mr Colville.
- 52. I should add, that even if I did have the power to make my own decision in respect of special reduction, the only special circumstance which Mr Colville relied upon was the late imposition of the penalties. I have explained above why I do not consider that issue can provide Mr Colville with a reasonable excuse for his initial late filing. Similarly, I conclude that ignorance of the severity of the Schedule 55 penalty regime does not constitute a special circumstance which would make it right for me to reduce the penalty which has been imposed.

CONCLUSION

53. I therefore confirm the fixed penalties of £100, £900, £300 and £300.

RIGHT TO APPLY FOR PERMISSION TO APPEAL

54. This document contains full findings of fact and reasons for the decision. Any party dissatisfied with this decision has a right to apply for permission to appeal against it pursuant to Rule 39 of the Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal) (Tax Chamber) Rules 2009. The application must be received by this Tribunal not later than 56 days after this decision is sent to that party. The parties are referred to "Guidance to accompany a Decision from the First-tier Tribunal (Tax Chamber)" which accompanies and forms part of this decision notice.

ABIGAIL HUDSON TRIBUNAL JUDGE

RELEASE DATE: 18 JUNE 2019

APPENDIX RELEVANT STATUTORY PROVISIONS

Finance Act 2009

- 55. The penalties at issue in this appeal are imposed by Schedule 55. The starting point is paragraph 3 of Schedule 55 which imposes a fixed £100 penalty if a self-assessment return is submitted late.
- 56. Paragraph 4 of Schedule 55 provides for daily penalties to accrue where a return is more than three months late as follows:

4—

- (1) P is liable to a penalty under this paragraph if (and only if)
 - (a) P's failure continues after the end of the period of 3 months beginning with the penalty date,
 - (b) HMRC decide that such a penalty should be payable, and
 - (c) HMRC give notice to P specifying the date from which the penalty is payable.
- (2) The penalty under this paragraph is £10 for each day that the failure continues during the period of 90 days beginning with the date specified in the notice given under sub-paragraph (1)(c).
- (3) The date specified in the notice under sub-paragraph (1)(c)—
 - (a) may be earlier than the date on which the notice is given, but
 - (b) may not be earlier than the end of the period mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(a).
- 57. Paragraph 5 of Schedule 55 provides for further penalties to accrue when a return is more than 6 months late as follows:

5—

- (1) P is liable to a penalty under this paragraph if (and only if) P's failure continues after the end of the period of 6 months beginning with the penalty date.
- (2) The penalty under this paragraph is the greater of
 - (a) 5% of any liability to tax which would have been shown in the return in question, and
 - (b) £300.
- 58. Paragraph 6 of Schedule 55 provides for further penalties to accrue when a return is more than 12 months late as follows:

6—

- (1) P is liable to a penalty under this paragraph if (and only if) P's failure continues after the end of the period of 12 months beginning with the penalty date.
- (2) Where, by failing to make the return, P deliberately withholds information which would enable or assist HMRC to assess P's liability to tax, the penalty under this paragraph is determined in accordance with sub-paragraphs (3) and (4).
- (3) If the withholding of the information is deliberate and concealed, the penalty is the greater of
 - (a) the relevant percentage of any liability to tax which would have been shown in the return in question, and
 - (b) £300.
- (3A) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (3)(a), the relevant percentage is—
 - (a) for the withholding of category 1 information, 100%,
 - (b) for the withholding of category 2 information, 150%, and
 - (c) for the withholding of category 3 information, 200%.
- (4) If the withholding of the information is deliberate but not concealed, the penalty is the greater of
 - (a) the relevant percentage of any liability to tax which would have been shown in the return in question, and
 - (b) £300.
- (4A) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (4)(a), the relevant percentage is—
 - (a) for the withholding of category 1 information, 70%,
 - (b) for the withholding of category 2 information, 105%, and
 - (c) for the withholding of category 3 information, 140%.
- (5) In any case not falling within sub-paragraph (2), the penalty under this paragraph is the greater of
 - (a) 5% of any liability to tax which would have been shown in the return in question, and
 - (b) £300.
- (6) Paragraph 6A explains the 3 categories of information.
- 59. Paragraph 23 of Schedule 55 contains a defence of "reasonable excuse" as follows:

23—

- (1) Liability to a penalty under any paragraph of this Schedule does not arise in relation to a failure to make a return if P satisfies HMRC or (on appeal) the First-tier Tribunal or Upper Tribunal that there is a reasonable excuse for the failure.
- (2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)—
 - (a) an insufficiency of funds is not a reasonable excuse, unless attributable to events outside P's control,
 - (b) where P relies on any other person to do anything, that is not a reasonable excuse unless P took reasonable care to avoid the failure, and

- (c) where P had a reasonable excuse for the failure but the excuse has ceased, P is to be treated as having continued to have the excuse if the failure is remedied without unreasonable delay after the excuse ceased.
- 60. Paragraph 16 of Schedule 55 gives HMRC power to reduce penalties owing to the presence of "special circumstances" as follows:

16—

- (1) If HMRC think it right because of special circumstances, they may reduce a penalty under any paragraph of this Schedule.
- (2) In sub-paragraph (1) "special circumstances" does not include—
 - (a) ability to pay, or
 - (b) the fact that a potential loss of revenue from one taxpayer is balanced by a potential over-payment by another.
- (3) In sub-paragraph (1) the reference to reducing a penalty includes a reference to—
 - (a) staying a penalty, and
 - (b) agreeing a compromise in relation to proceedings for a penalty.
- 61. Paragraph 20 of Schedule 55 gives a taxpayer a right of appeal to the Tribunal and paragraph 22 of Schedule 55 sets out the scope of the Tribunal's jurisdiction on such an appeal. In particular, the Tribunal has only a limited jurisdiction on the question of "special circumstances" as set out below:

22-

- (1) On an appeal under paragraph 20(1) that is notified to the tribunal, the tribunal may affirm or cancel HMRC's decision.
- (2) On an appeal under paragraph 20(2) that is notified to the tribunal, the tribunal may
 - (a) affirm HMRC's decision, or
 - (b) substitute for HMRC's decision another decision that HMRC had power to make.
- (3) If the tribunal substitutes its decision for HMRC's, the tribunal may rely on paragraph 16—
 - (a) to the same extent as HMRC (which may mean applying the same percentage reduction as HMRC to a different starting point), or
 - (b) to a different extent, but only if the tribunal thinks that HMRC's decision in respect of the application of paragraph 16 was flawed.
- (4) In sub-paragraph (3)(b) "flawed" means flawed when considered in the light of the principles applicable in proceedings for judicial review.

Taxes Management Act 1970

- 62. Section 8 Personal return- provides as follows:
 - (1) For the purpose of establishing the amounts in which a person is chargeable to income tax and capital gains tax for a year of assessment, [and the amount payable by him by way of income tax for that year,] he may be required by a notice given to him by an officer of the Board-

- a) to make and deliver to the officer, on or before the day mentioned in subsection (1A) below, a return containing such information as may, reasonably be required in pursuance of the notice, and
- b) to deliver with the return such accounts, statements and documents, relating to information contained in the return, as may reasonably be so required.
- (1A) The day referred to in subsection (1) above is-
 - (a) the 31st January next following the year of assessment, or
 - (b) where the notice under the section is given after the 31st October next following the year, the last [day of the period of three months beginning with the day on which the notice is given]
- (1AA) For the purposes of subsection (1) above-
 - (a) the amounts in which a person is chargeable to income tax and capital gains tax are net amounts, that is to say, amounts which take into account any relief or allowance a claim for which is included in the return; and
 - (b) the amount payable by a person by way of income tax is the difference between the amount in which he is chargeable to income tax and the aggregate amount of any income tax deducted at source and any tax credits to which [section 397(1) [or [397A(1)] of ITTOIA 2005] applies.]
- (1B) In the case of a person who carries on a trade, profession, or business in partnership with one or more other persons, a return under the section shall include each amount which, in any relevant statement, is stated to be equal to his share of any income, [loss, tax, credit] or charge for the period in respect of which the statement is made.
- (1C) In subsection (1B) above "relevant statement" means a statement which, as respects the partnership, falls to be made under section 12AB of the Act for a period which includes, or includes any part of, the year of assessment or its basis period.]
- (1D) A return under the section for a year of assessment (Year 1) must be delivered-
 - (a) in the case of a non-electronic return, on or before 31st October in Year 2, and
 - (b) in the case of an electronic return, on or before 31st January in Year 2.
- (1E) But subsection (1D) is subject to the following two exceptions.
- (1F) Exception 1 is that if a notice in respect of Year 1 is given after 31st July in Year 2 (but on or before 31st October), a return must be delivered-
 - (a) during the period of 3 months beginning with the date of the notice (for a non-electronic return), or
 - (b) on or before 31st January (for an electronic return).
- (1G) Exception 2 is that if a notice in respect of Year 1 is given after 31st October in Year 2, a return (whether electronic or not) must be delivered during the period of 3 months beginning with the date of the notice.
- (1H) The Commissioners-
 - (a) shall prescribe what constitutes an electronic return, and

- (b) may make different provision for different cases or circumstances.
- (2) Every return under the section shall include a declaration by the person making the return to the effect that the return is to the best of his knowledge correct and complete.
- (3) A notice under the section may require different information, accounts and statements for different periods or in relation to different descriptions of source of income.
- (4) Notices under the section may require different information, accounts and statements in relation to different descriptions of person.
- (4A)Subsection (4B) applies if a notice under the section is given to a person within section 8ZA of the Act (certain persons employed etc. by person not resident in United Kingdom who perform their duties for UK clients).
- (4B)The notice may require a return of the person's income to include particulars of any general earnings (see section 7(3) of ITEPA 2003) paid to the person.
- (5) In the section and sections 8A, 9 and 12AA of the Act, any reference to income tax deducted at source is a reference to income tax deducted or treated as deducted from any income or treated as paid on any income.