**Programme for reducing published Official Statistics content**

***Response to the consultation by the Charity Tax Group***

**19 November 2020**

1. The Charity Tax Group (CTG) has over 900 members of all sizes representing all types of charitable activity. The organisation was set up in 1982 to make representations to Government on charity taxation and it has since become the leading voice for the sector on this issue. We welcome the opportunity to respond to the consultation.
2. We note that the consultation states that there will be further developments with regards to the programme for reducing published Official Statistics content in the new year. We would therefore confirm our interest in the charity tax statistics, any VAT statistics, and business rates statistics, although we understand that data relating to England is published by MHCLG. We are generally interested in any taxes paid by charities (including the Apprenticeship Levy) and any tax reliefs they can claim, including Creative Industries Tax Reliefs for Corporation Tax.
3. The charity tax statistics are of primary interest to us, but unfortunately 2019-20 statistics have been delayed by 9 months to February 2021. In the past data was published twice a year. While we understand why there was a decision taken to publish the statistics annually only, we would caution against any further reduction in the regularity of reporting.
4. In our view, one deficiency in HMRC statistics is that the charity sector is never itemised as a separate industry sector, making it harder to identify the impact of taxation on our sector.
5. As previously discussed with officials in the KAI team, the Charity Tax Group will shortly be publishing new data on the cost of irrecoverable VAT for charities and the value of VAT reliefs. As HMRC discontinued the reporting of the latter in 2016-17, we would be happy to discuss ways this data could be used by HMRC, if appropriate.
6. We confirm that we have no specific comments to make on the decision to cancel the publication of the disaggregated receipts publication.

**Charity Tax Group**

**19 November 2020**

***To discuss any of these responses in further detail please contact 02072221265 or*** ***info@charitytaxgroup.org.uk***