Key Outcomes – Practitioner lodgment service working group

Venue: Webex

Date: 8 November 2023

Start: 1.00pm AEDT Finish: 1:26pm AEDT

Chair and facilitator: Sonya Summers

Contact: Corina Noble
Contact details: 07 3213 8109

Attendees:

Sonya Summers, Sangitha Sivayogaraj, Anupama Duggirala, David Baker, Chanara Fraser

Guest Speakers:

Apologies:

ATO - Felicity-Ann Stokes

Agenda item 1 - Welcome

Sonya opened the meeting and welcomed the group.

The group was reminded to respond to the EOI ticket we issued to impacted DSPs last week if they are interested in being involved in the discussions around the **Changes to the International Dealings Schedule (IDS).** The meeting has been set for November 15 2023.

The <u>draft 2024 PLS Terms of Reference</u> has been published – please take time to review and provide feedback on the document, as we will be seeking DSP endorsement at the next PLS working group which is scheduled for Tuesday 21 November 2023.

DPO are looking at resetting the approach to the PLS working group meetings for 2024. Please give some thought to what you expect to get out of the sessions, what's valuable and what's missing. We will have a more in-depth group discussion on this at the next meeting.

The group advised they do see value in having this meeting fortnightly to have regular communication line with the DPO as well as the other DSPs.

Agenda item 2 - Action item updates

There are currently no open action items.

Agenda item 3 - Tax time related documentation

The <u>2024 Child Support and the Protected Earnings amount</u> has now been published (25/10/23) which was the day after the previous PLS but mentioned in the outcomes.

On 27 October the latest <u>DWIS Product and Program Delivery Roadmaps</u> was published. The roadmap includes updates to the delivery program. Full details are described in the document.

On 8 November, <u>Changes to International Dealings Schedule (IDS) focus group</u> page was created to capture all the meeting outcomes and other relevant information.

The *draft* BIG content update in relation to the NEW Trust Income Schedule (TIS) has been uploaded to the draft documentation and specifications for review page and linked from the Modernisation of Trust Administration Systems (MTAS) landing page in DSP Hub.

Agenda item 4 - Update on general matters and Tax time delivery

A reminder to the group to raise a ticket in Online Services for DSP if they want EVTE or PROD access to the On-demand Activity Statement lodgement report (ASLRPT) and Income Tax Client Report (ITCRPT) services.

Agenda item 5 - Delivery update

Reminder to the group we'll be conducting a full weekend integrated release on 10 November. Other upcoming <u>system releases</u> this year include a smaller standard release on 9 December. Please see the latest DWIS Product and Program Delivery Roadmap published on the DSP Hub.

The 10 November release is the first of the bigger releases that will include most of the rollover services to the latest versions. One of the key services is the MTAS service - Trust Income Schedule (DISTBENTRT) will be released into EVTE. The specifications had been published within the NITR 2024 package on sbr.gov.au on 19 October 2023. The MTAS project has progressed and will be discussed in detail at the next MTAS working group on **7 December 2023**.

Agenda item 6 – Platform update

No updates for SBR platforms. Leading into the full integrated release this coming weekend means we will be busy preparing and monitoring platforms.

Agenda item 7 - Agent online environment update

The final phase of the Client to Agent Linking will be pushed out during this weekend's release.

<u>Client-to-agent linking</u>: From 13 November, client-to-agent linking will apply to all types of entities with an ABN, excluding sole traders. The <u>CUREL Submit 2018</u> service allows registered agents and payroll service providers to add client agent relationship links at the client, account level and/or specific role levels. The interactive error code CMN.ATO.CUREL.EM41665 enables them to better identify if the client they're trying to link to has been included in the <u>agent nomination process</u> and has to complete a nomination before the linking can occur.

If the group has any questions in relation to the Client to Agent Linking, please reach out directly to David.Baker@ato.gov.au.

Agenda item 8 - DSP communications update

Today there was an OPTUS carrier outage resulting in a nationwide network fault, which is impacting its services. Full impacts are being assessed and messages have been placed on our social media networks and Online services for DSPs service Desk. The fault is currently impacting the ATO's telephone system - calls being received and made from office desk phones and mobile devices with an OPTUS SIM. Our online services aren't impacted by this issue and are still available. We apologise for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience. There is no current ETA on a resolution.

Prefill Individual Income Tax Return for Private Health Insurance Policy.

The scheduled deployment of pre-fill Private Health Insurance (PHI) policy start and end dates for Medicare Levy Surcharge exemption calculation has been delayed and will not be deployed into PROD on 10 November as previously advised. Unfortunately, a few bugs were identified, and this deployment will be postponed. The tech teams are working through this, and a new deployment date will be advised shortly.

The newsletter today - bumper of an edition with 7 key highlights!

It includes:

- Seeking <u>expressions of interest</u> to join DSP technical feasibility discussions on payday super an overview session is tentatively scheduled for 17 November. And we plan to hold a few sessions in November and December.
- The No cost and low cost STP product registered being removed
- <u>SWG Strategic working Group</u> expressions of interests for 2024 will open next week. You'll have 2 weeks to submit your interests. More information will be available in next weeks newsletter.
- Reminder about the full weekend Production integrated release on 10 November. There will also be a smaller standard release on 9 December. You can refer to the <u>API System maintenance page</u> on the SWD site for details of start and end times.

 Reminder: - We've updated the M2M/STS Provider EVTE Physical end point URL to the correct DNS standard.

You can now use the new URL and will need to make this update by 8 December to continue to use EVTE. Section 4 page 8 of the <u>ATO SBR Physical End Points</u> document has been updated to reflect the new URL.

Agenda item 9 - DSP feedback

The group enquired about any further updates regarding PSAR - no further details are available at this time.

Given the current on-going issues with the new activity statement service, the group is keen to understand whether the deprecation date is a hard date or whether it will be extended. At this stage there are no updates to provide on the above, but Chanara will endeavour to have an update ready for the next meeting.