



Single Touch Payroll Readiness Working Group

Wednesday 14 February 2018

The Single Touch Payroll Readiness Working Group met on Wednesday 14 February via the ATO WebEx facilities. The attendees, topics and outcomes of the meeting are below.

Attendees:

- Maree Ascher, Internal Business Readiness, Single Touch Payroll – ATO
- Lainie Alexander, Engagement and External Readiness, Single Touch Payroll – ATO
- John Shepherd, Assistant Commissioner, Single Touch Payroll Program Lead – ATO
- Samantha Moorhead, ADP Payroll Solutions
- Jason Low, The Association for Payroll Specialists
- Deanne Windsor, Australian Business Software Industry Association (ABSIA)
- Josef Bobinac, Fast Track
- Amanda Gascoigne, Gascoigne Consulting
- Matthew Addison, Institute of Certified Bookkeepers
- Kitty Tsung, Lion
- David Wilson, MYOB
- Susan Kotler, MYOB (transitioning to MYOB rep for RWG)
- Chris Denney, SuperChoice
- Martin Etherington, Xero
- Marilena Bressan, Client Engagement, Single Touch Payroll – ATO
- Anna Ryan, Communications, Single Touch Payroll – ATO
- Martin Mane, Digital Partnership Office (DPO) – ATO
- Luke Beaman, Digital Partnership Office (DPO) – ATO
- Donna Chapman, People Change Management, Single Touch Payroll – ATO

Topics discussed:

- Priorities and focus of the Readiness Working Group for 2018
- STP Program focus areas
- Deployment and transition planning
- Communications update
- Deferrals and exemptions
- Stakeholder Engagement activities

Key Outcomes:

- Members discussed the refocus of the STP Readiness Working Group and how member participation is vital to be able to contribute their knowledge of STP amongst the industry they represent. Members reflected on the learnings from last year and set the scene for priorities and what is needed to be achieved over the next six to eighteen months.
- Updates were provided around the STP Program focus areas noting the progress of the Business Scenarios and the Operational Framework requirements and implementation approach.

- Members were advised that a greater focus being brought to the deployment and transition planning and the approach for the Implementation Plan was outlined. Additional resources have been brought on to look at transition tracking and reporting. A dashboard is being developed that will provide a comprehensive overview of the DSP transition, from registration to whitelisting and also an employer's transition from updating their product to sending STP reports.
- A micro group will be formed with members from the RWG to review and provide feedback on the dashboard, the information captured and how the reporting of this could be used for the RWG, providing the forecast of numbers as a readiness perspective.
- Members noted the update on the progress of the next phase of communications, outlining the collateral and correspondence being developed to assist in supporting employers to get ready for the implementation of STP.
- Members discussed and provided feedback on the draft process flow for intermediary initiated deferrals. This process is still being worked through; more decisions will come back to the RWG for a readiness point of view.
- Members were advised that additional information is being drafted around the employer direct deferral and exemptions process. This will be published to ato.gov.au in the coming month. Members agreed there was interest in seeing the drafted web content and how it has been contextualised, what draft has been issued to others for review and the opportunity to have input into the content, noting the required timeframes for publishing.
- An update was provided on upcoming engagement. As part of the 'get ready' phase, the next round of bulk correspondence to employers will be going out from 6 March 2018. Further collateral is being developed for each stakeholder group to assist in supporting their customers/clients. These include a DSP and Intermediaries resource pack and a train the trainer support package.