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Tax Transparency

A key part of a complex ESG puzzle

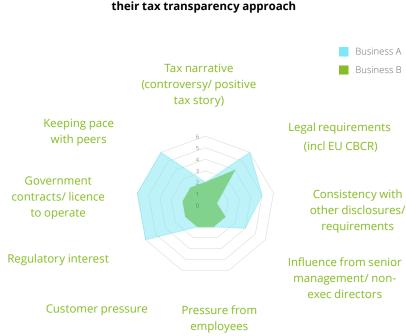
What is driving Tax Transparency?

Businesses are under increasing pressure to go beyond financial reporting norms to publish details of their approach to managing tax and its outcomes, i.e. the taxes they pay and collect around the world. This pressure is a function of stakeholder interest, emerging ESG standards (such as Global Reporting Initiative 207) and tax legislation. A key legislative development is the EU's introduction of public CBCR which will influence the disclosures of most businesses in the next few years.

It's important to note that CBCR is only part of the story and there are broader Tax and ESG conversations to be held. In order to meet their legal requirements and stakeholder expectations in a meaningful way, businesses should take charge of their narrative and provide the full story.

Of those clients who joined Deloitte's Tax Transparency webinar in May 2021, 59% intend to publish more than is legally required in the coming years, with 26% intending to provide detailed narrative and data.

Businesses will have different drivers influencing their tax transparency approach



What should I disclose?

Whilst there is no single right answer and most groups differ in their content and approach, the following common themes provide a good guide for structuring your disclosure:



Context

How and where do you operate? How does your tax strategy link to your ESG and overall strategy?



Approach

How do you approach tax risk, tax planning, and your interactions with tax authorities?



Key matters

What is specific to the tax profile of your business / sector that a reader should know about?



Outcomes

How much tax do you pay? How much do you collect on behalf of tax authorities? What level of country detail do you need to provide?



Assurance

What level of assurance do you need for your statement?



How do I get started?

From whiteboard to webpage, there are four steps which groups go through when developing their tax transparency disclosures. These are:



1. Understand the landscape

Develop an understanding of

the external and internal factors

which will shape your response

to this agenda.

2. Set a tailored strategy

Agree a strategy with key stakeholders that gives you a clear goal and plan to realise it.



3. Mobilise efficiently

Make sure you have the governance, controls, processes and systems to execute on the plan.



4. Communicate confidently

Execute your communications strategy, delivering your key messaging with confidence.





How can Deloitte help?

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