

## Payment plans help rising number of Self Assessment customers

If you need to fill in a self-assessment tax return, the online filing deadline of 31 January 2023 is looming fast - and it is also the date when the tax owed needs to be paid. This realisation can be overwhelming in the current cost of living crisis.

To help provide a solution and ease the financial burden, HMRC offers the 'Time to Pay' scheme, enabling Self Assessment customers to set up a payment plan to spread the cost.

HMRC is encouraging anyone yet to complete their return to do it as soon as possible. Those who have already completed their Self Assessment know what they owe and can budget to make payments on time.

Filing early also means customers, who are unable to pay their tax bill in full by the deadline, will have plenty of time to access support and advice on GOV.UK. HMRC may be able to help by arranging an affordable payment plan.

Myrtle Lloyd, HMRC's Director General for Customer Services, said: "We're here to help customers get their tax right and if you are worried about how to pay your Self Assessment bill, help and support is available."

In the 12 months to 5 April 2022, almost 142,000 customers were choosing to use self-serve Time to Pay to pay any tax

owed for the 2020 to 2021 tax year, spreading the cost of around £475 million into monthly instalments.



Using HMRC's self-serve Time to Pay facility means customers benefit from a tailored payment plan via monthly direct debits. This means they can spread the cost of their tax bill based on how much is owed and the length of time they need to pay. Self Assessment customers can apply on GOV.UK if they:

- have filed their tax return for the 2021 to 2022 tax year
- owe less than £30,000
- can pay in full within 12 months

If customers owe more than £30,000, or need longer to pay, they should call the Self Assessment Payment Helpline on 0300 200 3822.

A full list of payment options and eligibility criteria is available on GOV.UK by searching 'HMRC payment option'.

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