



## Fact-sheet

### How long will my case last?

This is an often asked question from clients and it is quite understandable why that is the case. Unfortunately it is not always an easy question to answer. A number of factors influence the length of time it takes to conclude a tax enquiry case. You are fortunate in this respect if one of our consultants is supporting you. A review of your business records by one of our team will reveal certain points. It enables us to assess the severity of the case, which in turn informs us on how best to proceed. There may be positive factors available to us which our consultant may be able to use to effect for your benefit.

The speed with which questions raised by HMRC are dealt with by your consultant will influence the length of time your case will take to reach a conclusion. Tax inspectors are usually responsible for handling a number of tax enquiry cases at the same time. They have their own workloads which will comprise straightforward cases and some more challenging ones. They work with, and are influenced by, their own compliance managers.

The consequences of this are that it will not always be possible for your consultant to influence the speed at which your case progresses. If at any point there does appear to be unreasonable delay in progressing your case, your consultant will take whatever steps are required to take matters forward on your behalf. We understand that prolonged delays can lead to anxiety for a client.

We seek only to conclude cases on a basis most favourable to our client. That is in terms of tax, interest and penalties. In some instances we decide that a case should not be closed at a particular stage. This may be because we have good reason to believe that some further negotiation direct with the tax inspector may result in an even more favourable overall settlement for you.

**Speak to us in confidence**  
(and anonymously if you prefer)

**Ring now**

**0800 988 0585**