Dear Customer,

VAT Flat Rate Scheme - Are you using the right sector?

HMRC wants to support customers to get their tax right.

We're writing to remind you that you should be using the appropriate trade sector when calculating your flat rate percentage. You can find the list of trade sectors on GOV.UK. Additional help can be found at VAT Notice 733.

There is guidance available to demonstrate what businesses fall within Agricultural Services and Farming.

If you carry out any other business in addition to Agriculture and Farming, such as Bed & Breakfast provision or Retail, the Flat Rate Scheme may not be appropriate for your business.

It is important that the correct sector is used so that the correct percentage rate is paid.

If you find that you have used the wrong rate, HMRC VAT Notice 700/45 explains how to notify HMRC of errors on previous VAT returns.

This can be a complex area of tax and you may want to ask an adviser for help. If you have an appointed tax agent, they have not received a copy of this email.

If after reading this message you think you need to make any changes to your previous tax declarations, you may still be able to make an unprompted disclosure. You can find more information on GOV.UK under 'HMRC compliance checks factsheets', 'Penalties'.

Extra support

You can get help from HMRC if you need extra support, for example if you need information in a different format or need help filling in forms or if you have personal circumstances that make it difficult for you to deal with us. If this is the case, please tell us, we will help in whatever way we can. To find out how to access extra support visit GOV.UK and search 'Get help from HMRC'.

Yours faithfully

HM Revenue and Customs