Hull tax professional joins HMRC anti-abuse advisory panel

An experienced Hull tax professional has been appointed to a high profile role advising on the legality of arrangements.

Fiona Phillips, a partner at Andrew Jackson Solicitors, has joined HM Revenue & Customs' General Anti-Abuse Rule independent advisory panel. The 10-strong team is made up of senior tax practitioners and legal professionals, and was launched nearly a decade ago, when the legislation came into force.

It provides opinions on cases and approves HMRC Guidance on the question of whether "the entering into and carrying out of the tax arrangements is a reasonable course of action in relation to the relevant tax provisions". Since referrals began being made to the panel, opinions have been issued in anonymised form in 24 cases.

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Fiona, a chartered accountant and chartered tax advisor, said: "I am delighted to be able to bring my expertise to the panel and look forward to working with the rest of the members. "Obtaining the opinion from the GAAR advisory panel, which is independent of HMRC, is an important element of the operation of the general anti abuse rule."

She brings more than 30 years' experience to the role, a three year term which is unpaid and runs alongside her work with the Hull law firm, where she advises and guides companies through all aspects of their corporate tax affairs, with a special interest in Stamp Duty Land Tax and VAT for property clients.

John Whiting CBE, GAAR panel chair, said: “I’m very glad to be able to welcome Fiona as a member of the GAAR panel. Her expertise will be of real value to our work.”

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