

The logo for the Irish Tax Institute, featuring the text "Irish Tax Institute" in white, bold, sans-serif font. The text is positioned on a dark purple rectangular background. To the left of the text, there are several overlapping geometric shapes in shades of purple and blue, including a square and a rectangle, creating a modern, abstract design.

**Irish Tax
Institute**

Cost of Business Advisory Forum

Reporting & Compliance (incl. Revenue)

Anne Gunnell, *Director of Tax Policy & Representations*
18 February 2026

Who We Are and What We Do



Leading through tax education

- **Our Mission:** *The Irish Tax Institute is a powerful advocate for tax education, the trusted voice on tax policy and administration, and shares its knowledge to promote a sustainable and fair tax system that enables economic growth.*
- Over 6,400 members - Chartered Tax Advisers (CTA)
- Members working in professional service firms, global companies, Government Departments, Revenue, State agencies and international organisations (e.g. European Commission, OECD and IMF)

Reporting and Compliance (including Revenue)

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Tax administrative burden is a cost for Irish business and can impact Ireland's competitiveness

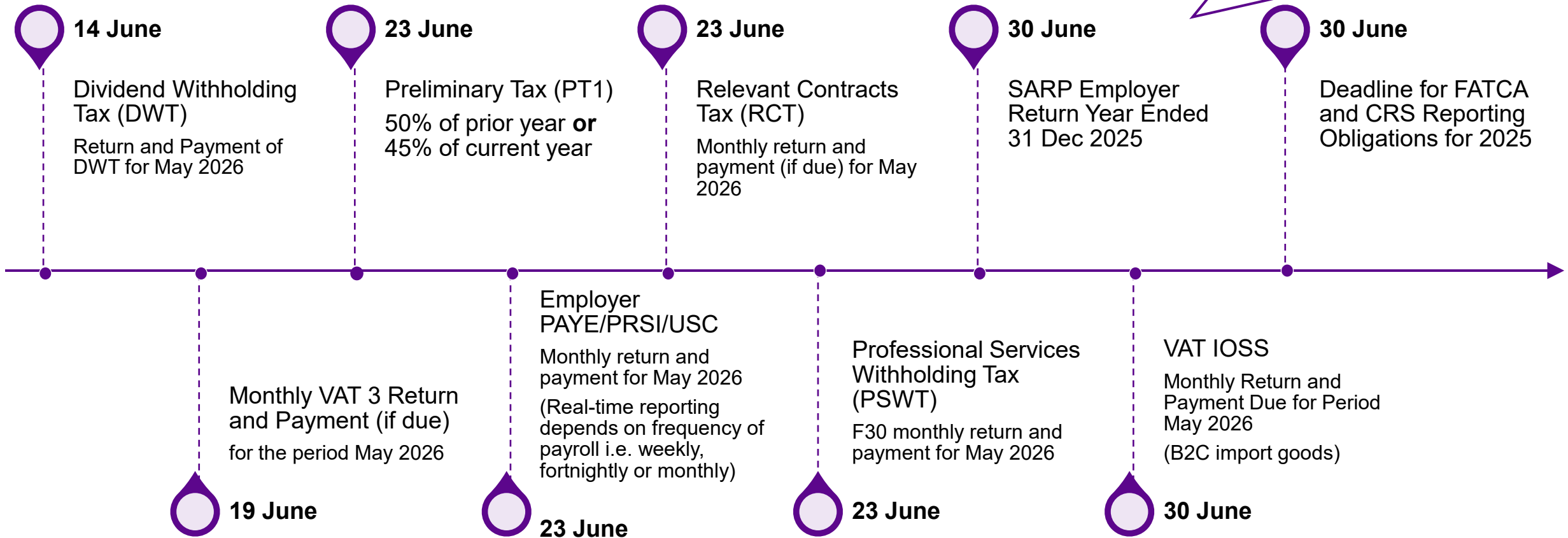
A large, light grey circle that serves as a background for the text.

Complex administration and disproportionate penalties can make tax reliefs inaccessible for SMEs

Example 1: Large Company – Y/E 31 December 2025

Compliance Deadlines - June

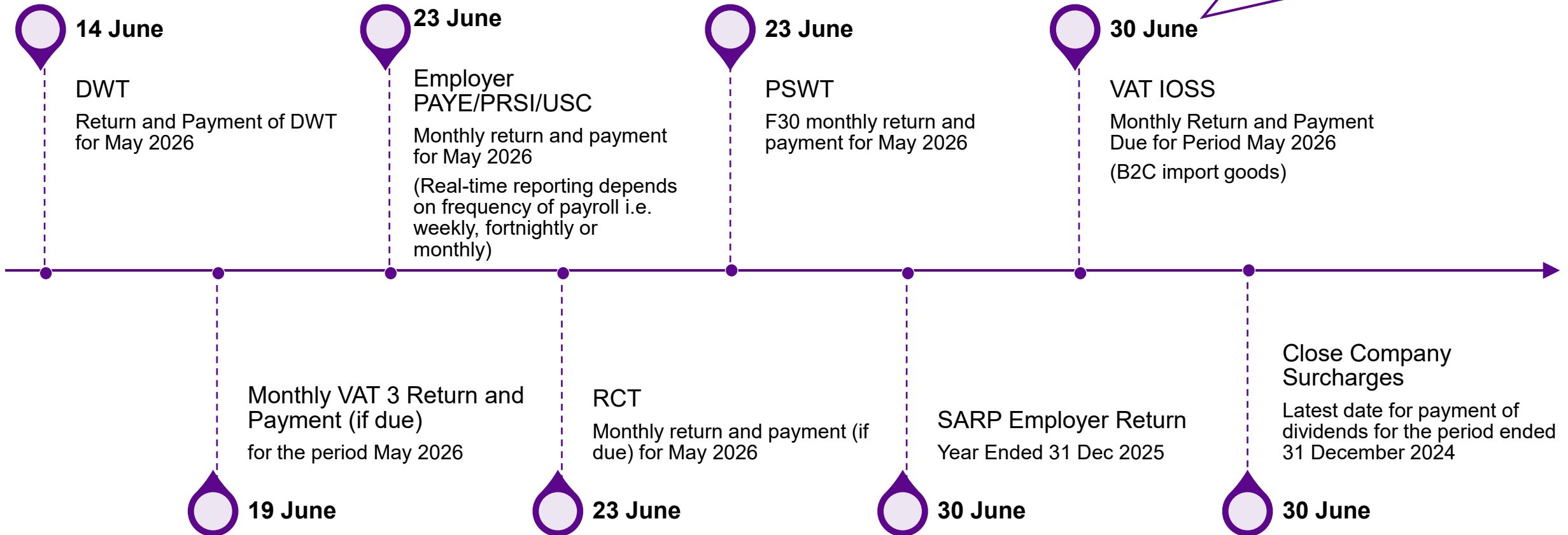
Employers may also have payment and filing obligations under ERR throughout the month



Example 2: Small Company – Y/E 31 December 2025

Compliance Deadlines - June

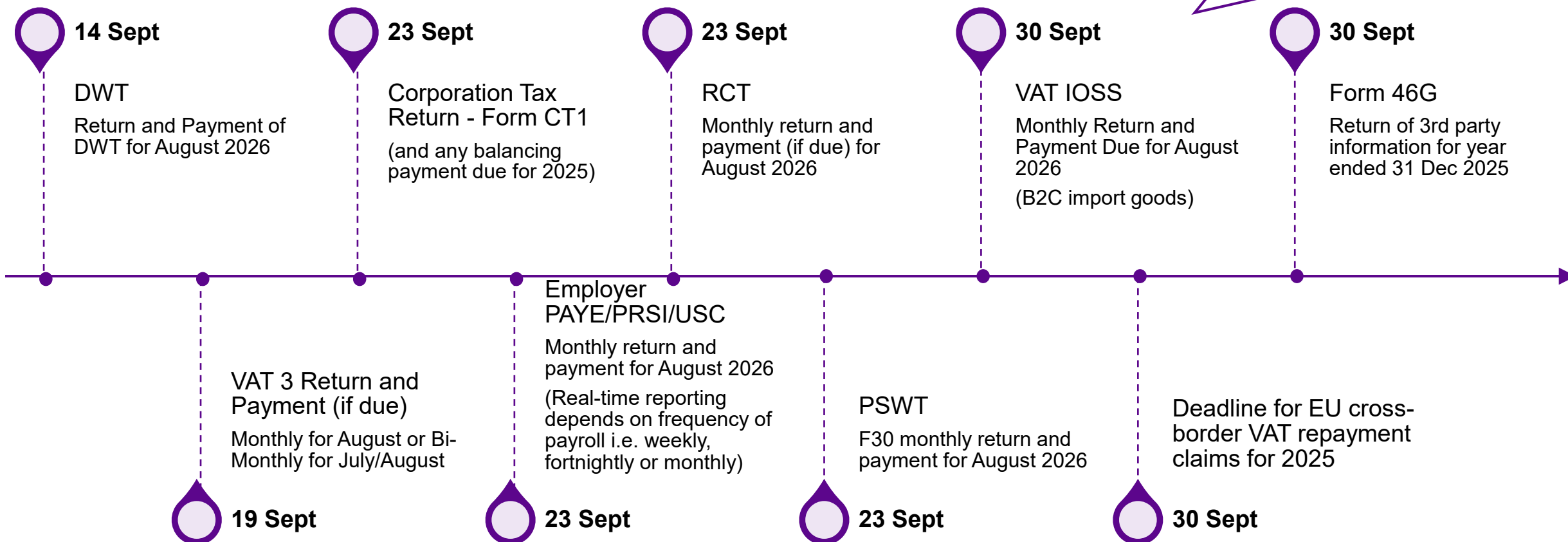
Employers may also have payment and filing obligations under ERR throughout the month



Example 3: Large Company – Y/E 31 December 2025

Compliance Deadlines - September

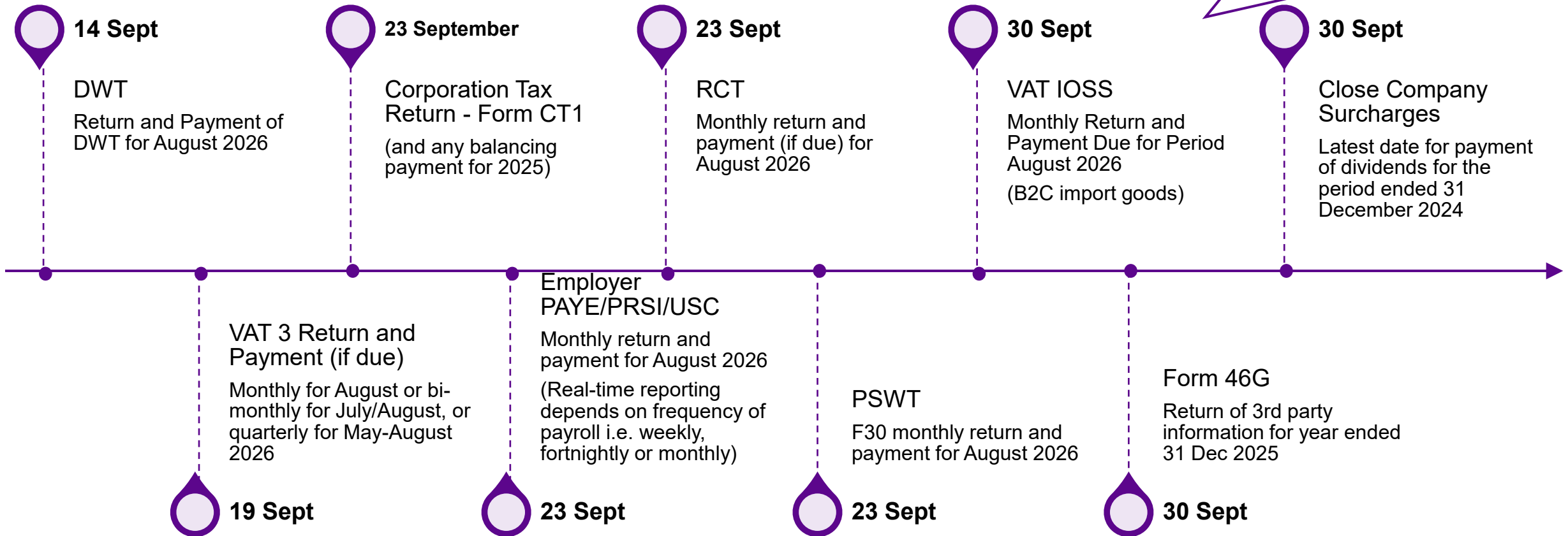
Employers may also have payment and filing obligations under ERR throughout the month



Example 4: Small Company – Y/E 31 December 2025

Compliance Deadlines - September

Employers may also have payment and filing obligations under ERR throughout the month



Areas where action needed to reduce costs for businesses complying with tax obligations



Enhanced Reporting Requirements (ERR)



Complex Tax Legislation and Administration



Proportionate Sanctions for Administrative Errors

Enhanced Reporting Requirements (ERR)



From 1 January 2024 employers must report details of non-taxable small benefits, remote working daily allowance and travel and subsistence expenses in real-time



Real-time nature of reporting imposes substantial administrative burden on businesses



Finance Act 2024 amendments to Small Benefit Exemption addressed some difficulties in reporting benefits under ERR



Revenue's recent updated guidance on provision of staff meals welcome but limited



Employers report reluctance to reward staff with small tokens of appreciation



Knock-on impact of ERR on small, local businesses and restaurants contrasts with Budget 2026 measures to support restaurants and businesses



A fixed penalty of €4,000 for failing to report in real-time is disproportionate and should be replaced with a more appropriate sanction

Enhanced Reporting Requirements (ERR) - Proposals



Complex Tax Legislation and Administration



Significant Administrative Burden and Complexity for SMEs

- “Think Small First” principle and the SME Test should apply to tax legislation, tax forms and Revenue guidance

Compliance Risks and Consequences

- Corporation Tax Return (Form CT1) increasingly complex (over 60 pages) and the RICT form is error-prone, causing compliance challenges for businesses
- Administrative errors can result in loss of reliefs, interest charges, and the 4-year time limit not applying even though taxpayer has made every effort to comply

Access Barriers to Tax Reliefs/Schemes

- Complex legislation and reporting requirements can make support measures like the R&D Tax Credit and Employment Investment Incentive (EII) inaccessible for SMEs

Costly Tax Appeals Process

- No option for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism
- Significant cost for taxpayer to appeal a Revenue Assessment before Tax Appeals Commission and move to public hearings likely to lead to increased costs
- More taxpayers will decide to pay a tax liability they consider incorrectly assessed, rather than proceed with a public hearing

R&D Tax Credit

- Welcome Revenue's efforts to raise awareness of common errors by taxpayers in completing R&D Panels in the Form CT1
- Frequency and commonality of errors in R&D Tax Credit claims highlights need to simplify Form CT1
- Other proposals to increase access and reduce compliance burden are:

Introduce a pre-approval process for first time R&D Tax Credit claims by small/micro companies

Provide SME-friendly guidance, with step-by-step instructions on the claims process and practical studies

Simplify Revenue guidance on overhead costs

Employment Investment Incentive (EII)

- Effectiveness of EII is hampered by complex rules (including GBER) and administration

Difficulties with EII

Exclusion of holding company structures

Connected party rules curtail investment by non-executive board members and key employees

Onerous administration and time consuming

Form RICT is macro enabled and prone to technological errors

Proposed Solutions

Include holding company structures in the scheme

Amend connected party rules

Introduce a streamlined process that uses non-mandatory template forms

Redevelop the Form RICT

Proportionate Sanctions For Administrative Errors

Disproportionate Penalties

- Recognise role of penalties in encouraging compliance
- But some penalties impose harsh consequences for administrative errors

Increased Administrative Costs

- Severe sanctions lead to costly appeals for taxpayers and tax authorities

Impact on Reliefs and Supports

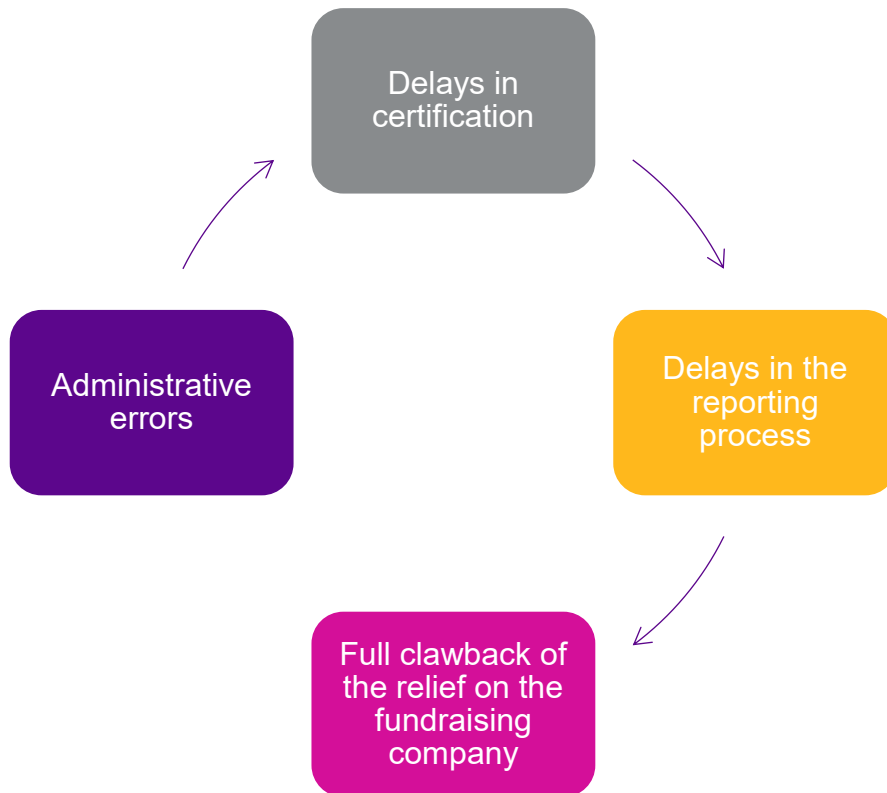
- Fear of penalties can reduce participation in tax reliefs

Need for Balanced Approach

- A fair penalty regime encourages compliance and cooperation and reduces the cost for businesses



Employment Investment Incentive (EII)



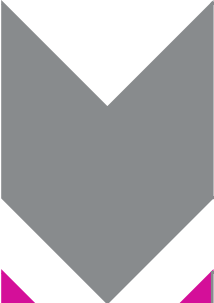
- Full clawback of relief on the company is disproportionate to the error

- Can act as a disincentive for companies to avail of EII

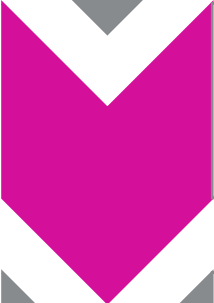
More proportionate sanction

Impose a monetary penalty for an administrative error or late filing of a return

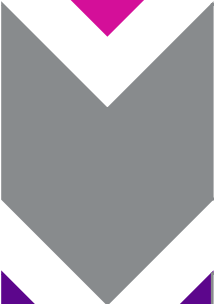
Key Employment Engagement Programme (KEEP)



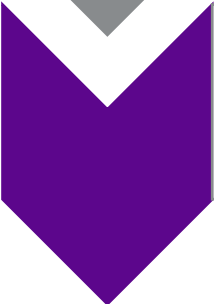
Do not qualify as KEEP options if grant below MV



No income tax, USC and PRSI exemption on exercise of options



Instead of full denial, impose a more proportionate sanction for valuation errors



Impose income tax on difference between MV and option price at time of grant

iXBRL Financial Statements

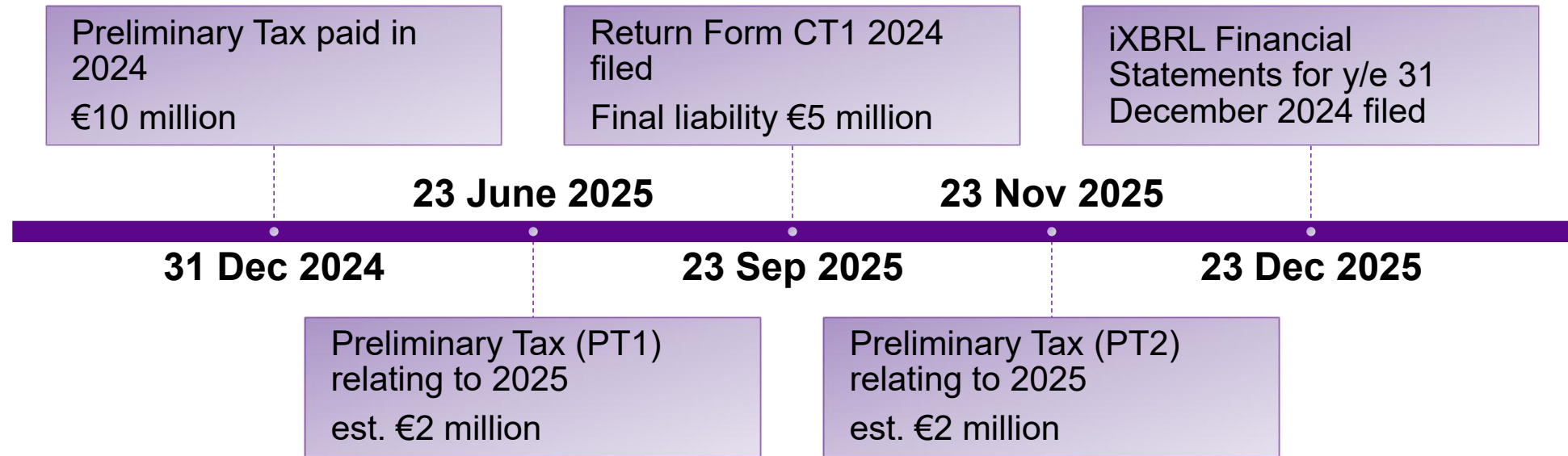
Impact of 10% Late Filing Surcharge

- 10% surcharge penalises compliant taxpayers for filing delays often beyond their control
- Surcharge applies regardless of the actual impact on reported figures

Propose Fixed Penalty Alternative

- Fixed penalty (rather than tax-geared) would be a more proportionate sanction and support compliance

Case Example: Interest on an underpayment of preliminary tax



- Overpayment of €5 million when Form CT1 2024 is filed on 23 September 2025
- Revenue asked to re-allocate €3m refund from 2024 to 2025: First against PT1 due 23 June 2025 and balance of €2m against PT2 due 23 Nov 2025
- Interest charged on underpayment of PT for 2025 despite sufficient overpayment in 2024 held on account by Revenue to fully discharge 2025 PT liability
- Revenue deems Co cannot make a valid claim to offset overpaid 2024 CT against its 2025 PT until 2024 tax return and iXBRL financial statements are filed despite filing deadline after PT payment date?

Thank You