

THE SHARE VALUATION WORKED EXAMPLES GROUP IN THE CHANGING VALUATION LANDSCAPE

William Franklin, Partner, Pett Franklin LLP

Webinar

Monday 11 January 2021 11:00-11:45 am



A WORD FROM TODAY'S CHAIRMAN





Professor Michael Mainelli

Executive Chairman

Z/Yen Group









TODAY'S AGENDA



- 11:00 11:05 Chairman's Introduction
- 11:05 11:30 Keynote Address
- 11:30 11:45 Questions & Answers

TODAY'S SPEAKER





William Franklin

Partner

Pett Franklin

PETTFRANKLIN HELPING SHARE GROWTH William Franklin - 11 January 2020

The Share Valuation Worked Examples Group In The Changing Tax Valuation Landscape

What is the WEG

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- > WORKED EXAMPLES GROUP
- > Sponsored by Esop Centre Proshare EOA SPLG and HMRC
- > Committee of valuers and advisers including head of SAV from HMRC
- Create more worked examples
- > Build on those already set out by HMRC in their manuals
- Collaborative
- Open source

Relevance

- Tax valuations for Employee Share Schemes in unquoted companies matter because;
 - > If awards of shares, determine income tax payable on award
 - > Can set value from which employee benefit from growth
 - Set limits of awards within government schemes e.g. £250k EMI limit or £3,200 SIP limit
 - Employee Share Schemes important for growth sectors of the economy eg life sciences

QUESTION

- What do YOU think a "best estimate" should mean in a range of potential values?
- 1. The *highest* possible potential value in that range
- 2. The *average* of the possible potential values within that range
- 3. The *most probable* of the possible potential values within that range

Landscape

- Pre 1997
 - > Siege warfare / case law warfare
- Post 1997
 - > Acceleration in share schemes in unquoted companies- EMI
 - > Climate change
 - > More commercial approach
 - > Agreement procedures (upfront) Brown certainty
- Generous discounts from March 1982 CGT rebasing
- "Golden age"

Overreach

- Growth shares
- ESS mistake
- Diversion of HMRC resources
- > Withdraw of Best Estimate Agreements and PTVC
- Clouds over government EMI scheme agreements
- Resources to Reduction of Tax Gap / Transfer Pricing
- > Not public service certainty of tax role

Lookback

- Uncertainties / Divergent Views
- Information standard
- Growth Shares
- Development Companies
- Discounts International comparisons
- Best Estimate; role and meaning

WEG



- Lost dialogue with withdrawal of PTVC
- Worked Examples Group
- > Narrow down range of uncertainty
- Collaborative approach
- > Open source
- Buffer / filter
- > Not a backdoor PTVC

New ownership structures

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> CICs

► EOTs

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EOT Pamela worked example

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https://sharevaluationweg.org/Worked_examples/EOT_company.html



EOT Company ("PAMELA")

Pamela Limited is an owner managed business which was founded by its CEO Ms Pamela Smith. Pamela Limited has grown steadily since it was started 20 years ago.

1) Ms Pamela Smith is looking to retire in a few years time and in the meantime would like to scale back her involvement with the business. From time to time the business has received approaches from potential purchasers but Ms Pamela Smith would prefer Pamela Limited to continue to be independent after she retires and be run by the management team and employees who have helped her build the business.

2) A couple of years ago she arranged for the company to issue free shares to all the employees under the government's Share Incentive Plan (SIP). The result was that Ms Pamela Smith held more than 95% of the company's single class of ordinary shares and the employees held the remaining shares through the SIP.

3) Valuation of the ordinary shares was agreed with HMRC for those SIP awards. This involved a theoretical calculation of the value of Pamela Limited of £3M based on a multiple of profits, with a large discount for the individual shareholdings being very small, uninfluential minority holdings in an unquoted company.

4) A few weeks ago Ms Pamela Smith converted Pamela Limited into an Employee Ownership Trust ("EOT") owned company under FA 2014 Schedule 37 rules by selling 70% of the Ordinary shares to the EOT, leaving her with over 25% and the employees holding the balance of the shares.

5) The sale of the 70% holding involved a Sale and Purchase Agreement. ("SPA") between Ms Pamela Smith and the EOT. The total maximum potential consideration for the sale of the 70% holding was agreed between Ms Pamela Smith and the trustees at £2.8 million based on a multiple of profits but with much of the consideration being deferred and dependent on the generation of future distributable profits and surplus cash after the change to EOT ownership. As a controlling interest was being sold there was no discount, unlike for the earlier SIP awards.

6) Under the SPA £800,000 is payable to Ms Pamela Smith immediately on completion from available cash and distributable profits. The balance of the maximum further potential consideration of £2 million is anticipated to be paid in 5 annual instalments of £400,000 over the next 5 years.

7) These instalments will only be paid, if in the future, the now EOT owned company generates sufficient surplus cash and profits to be able to gift money to the EOT to allow the anticipated instalments to be paid by the EOT to Ms Pamela Smith. If there are not sufficient distributable profits and cash generated in the future some or all of the consideration in excess of £800,000 cannot be paid to Ms Pamela Smith.

8) During the transitional period, while there is outstanding consideration due to Ms Pamela Smith, future profits of the company will be required to fund the paying off by the EOT of the consideration due to Ms Pamela Smith. As a result the potential for employees to receive dividends on their direct shareholdings is limited. But to deepen the employees' sense of ownership and responsibility, after the conversion to EOT status, direct employee share ownership is being increased by a new issue of free shares under the SIP. But these will be small minority holdings and control will remain with the EOT.

9) In the future after the end of the transitional period when the trust's obligations to the EOT have been fully discharged and future profits are fully available for shareholders it may then be appropriate to value further SIP share awards on a dividend basis of valuation.

10) But, as the fundamental economic nature of Pamela Limited's business has not changed following the conversion to EOT ownership, while future profits will be needed to fund the EOT's obligation to Ms Pamela Smith, a valuation based on a multiple of profits continues to be more appropriate with a discount for SIP shares being small uninfluential minority holdings in an unquoted company. However this theoretical valuation of Pamela Limited may also need to take into account, through a deduction (however determined) from the whole company value, for Pamela Limited's non-contractual obligation to fund the EOT from future profits to allow the EOT to pay the outstanding balance of the consideration to Ms Pamela Smith.

Current Projects

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Development Companies
 Growth shares
 Internally funded market makers

Fundamentals / Conflicts: Meaning of Best Estimate

- > S272 + S273 Willing buyer + willing seller
- Case law best possible price
- > Outlier? Rather than average / most probable
- > Best Estimate by directors average / most probable

- difficult to dislodge

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QUESTION AGAIN

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- What do YOU think a "best estimate" should mean in a range of potential values
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Fundamentals / Conflicts: Significance of Exchange

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- S272 + S273 Exchange of shares between willing buyer + seller
- > Development companies;
 - Shares issued by unquoted companies to fund its activities
 - > Is this market value?
 - Is it a good proxy? / what adjustments or discounts are needed?

NEW QUESTION

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Is the price at which shares are issued by an unquoted development company to fund its continuing activities to develop new products and markets likely *without any adjustment* to be the same value that a willing buyer and a willing seller would exchange between them a small number of shares?

> Yes

> No

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS





RESOURCES





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newspad

The Esop Centre's newspad, edited by Fred Hackworth, is a monthly publication providing in-depth coverage of the main international news in the employee share ownership field.

NB Reminder: The email address of Fred Hackworth, editor of *newspad*, has now changed to: fred_hackworth@zyen.com (please note the under-score). Please send all press releases, company bulletins and news items for *newspad* to the above address. Thank you.

January 2021

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Forthcoming Events

- Tuesday 12 Jan (11:00)
- Wednesday 13 Jan (11:00)
- Thursday 14 Jan (10:00)
- Friday 15 Jan (12:00)
- Monday 18 Jan (11:00)
- Tuesday 19 Jan (09:00)

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