

Your Guide to the VAT Online Portal

INDIVIDUAL VAT TAXPAYERS GUIDE

Contents

| Introduction | 2 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Registering as a VAT Taxpayer with Customs & Excise | 2 |
| Registering for Online Services | 2 |
| Your Details | 4 |
| Security Details | 5 |
| Memorable Questions | 6 |
| Confirmation of registration | 7 |
| Forgotten Online Services Login ID or Password | 7 |
| Registering for the VAT Online Portal | 9 |
| Understanding your account screen on the Online Portal | 17 |
| The toolbar | 17 |
| Inbox | 17 |
| My Tax | 18 |
| Returns | 18 |
| Profile | 18 |
| Filing a VAT return | 19 |
| Making a Payment | 25 |
| Method One – Via Notifications and Reminders | 25 |
| Method Two – VAT Homepage | 26 |
| Method Three – My Tax | 27 |
| Making a Payment | 29 |
| Paying by bank transfer | 33 |
| Payment Reference | 34 |
| Paying online | 35 |
| Paying instalments | 36 |
| Payment History | 37 |
| How to submit an enquiry | 39 |
| Checking for new messages | 45 |
| Other ways to contact Customs & Excise | 46 |
| FAQs | 47 |
| What happens if I lock myself out of my Online Services account? | 47 |

Introduction

As an individual VAT taxpayer you can complete your VAT returns and make payments online using the Isle of Man Government's Online Services, accessible from the website www.gov.im.

In order to use the VAT Online Portal you need to:

- Already be registered for VAT with Customs & Excise
- Have a user account on Online Services

If you aren't already registered for VAT you won't be able to sign up for the VAT Online Portal as you need your VAT TIN number to hand when you sign up.

Registering as a VAT Taxpayer with Customs & Excise

Information on how to register for VAT can be found on the Customs and Excise site on www.gov.im.

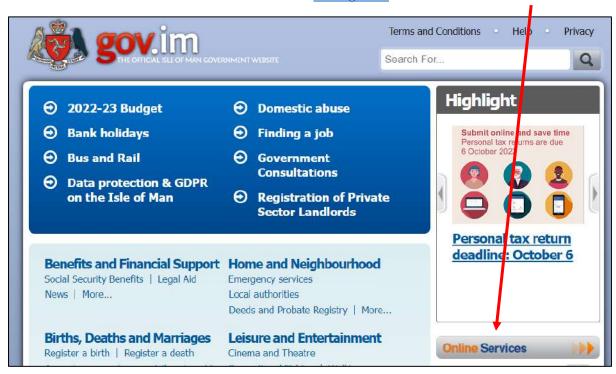
Here's a quick link to help you:

Registering for VAT

Registering for Online Services

Registering for Online Services is a quick and easy process.

Go to the Isle of Man Government main website at www.gov.im and click on Online Services:



Click on **Login/Register**:



Now click on the **right new user link**:

| Existing User? | New User? | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Login ID: Password: Security: OPublic or shared computer What's this? Private computer | Register as an organisation | Register as an individual |
| Having problems logging in? | Choose this if you are representing a company or business acting on its own behalf. e.g. Limited Company, Partnership, Trust, LLC or as an agent for others. • I'm still not sure whi want | Choose this type of registration if you want to make transactions of a personal nature or if you are a sole proprietor. |

There are **two types** of user accounts for **Online Services**:



Choose this if you want to make transactions of a personal nature or if you are a sole proprietor. Or you manage your own agency and wish to make transactions on behalf of others.

Use this one if you are a **sole proprietor** or you act as a **Tax Agent under your own name** for other companies for the purposes of **VAT returns and payments**



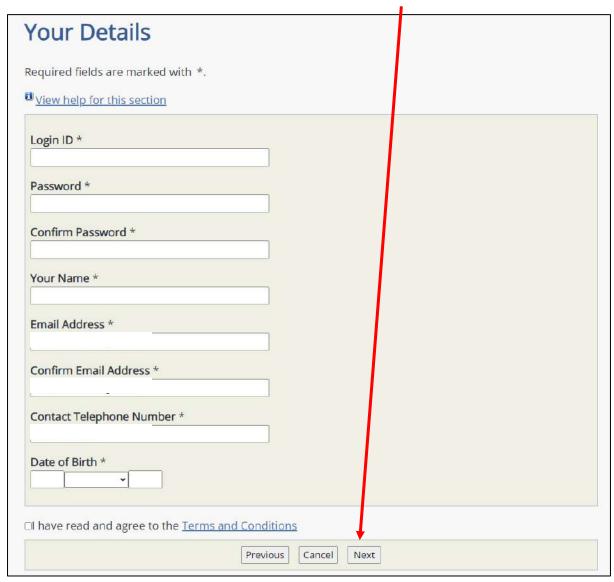
Register as an organisation

Choose this if you are representing a company or business acting on its own behalf e.g. Limited Company, Partnership, Trust, LLC. Or you are representing a Business entity that acts as an agent for others and wishes to make transactions on their behalf.

Use this one if you represent a **company** that would like to use VAT Online for their **own VAT returns and payments** or you work for a **company that acts as a Tax Agent** for other companies for the purposes of **VAT returns and payments**

Your Details

Complete all the fields on the **Your Details** screen and then click **Next**:



Hint:

Login ID – You choose your **Login ID**; this will be the username you use whenever you log into Online Services:

The Login ID will be your personal identifier with Government and should not be a reference number used by specific services such as Tax Reference or VAT Reference.

This must:

- contain only alpha-numeric characters (letters a-z and numbers 0-9)
- · be between 6 and 20 characters
- not contain any spaces or punctuation.

For example,

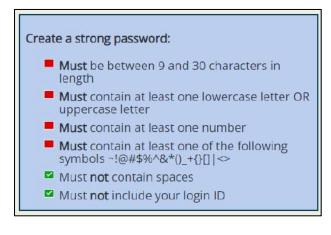
Your Login ID could be your own name with no spaces

JimmyCustomer

Of

FloydFish123

Password – You choose your own password:



For example,

Your password could be:

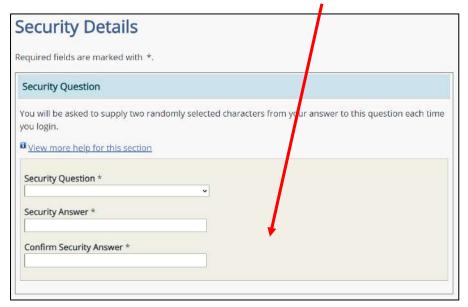
Jimmy123!!

But if your Login ID is JimmyCustomer your password could not be:

JimmyCustomer123!!

Security Details

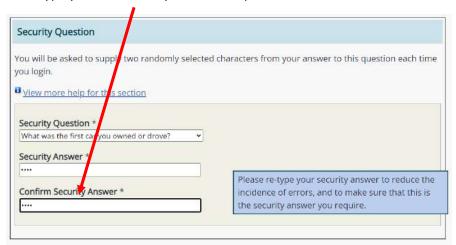
When you log into Online Services after your registration is confirmed you will be prompted to enter two letters from the answer to the **Security Question**. There are five questions you can choose from. Click on the drop-down arrow to select the **Security Question** you want to use:



Click on the question you want to use from the **options** listed:

| ou login. | d characters from your answer to this question each time |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| View more help for this section | |
| Security Question * | Please select a question from the list that you hav an appropriate answer for. |
| What was the first School you attended? | and a barrow by twee arrows and twee |
| What was the first car you owned or drove? What was the first Company you worked for? | |

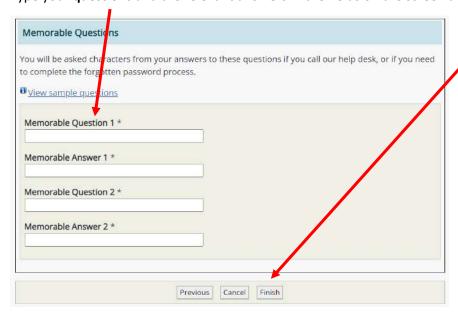
Then type your **answer** to your chosen questions in the answer fields:



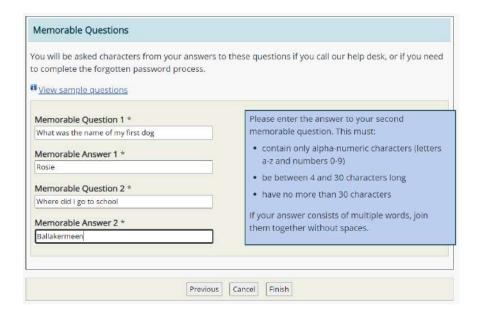
Memorable Questions

For additional security you have to create two Memorable Questions for yourself.

Type your **questions** and the relevant **answers** in the fields on the screen and click **Finish**:

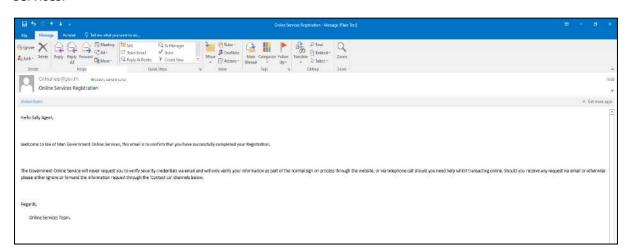


For example,



Confirmation of registration

Once you hit Next you'll receive an automated e-mail confirming your registration for Online Services:



Forgotten Online Services Login ID or Password

If you forget your Login ID or your password you can access Online Services Help by going to the Online Services homepage and clicking **Help** at the bottom of the screen:

Help Cookies Contact Privacy.

OGL All content is available under the Open Government Licence, except where otherwise stated

© Crown copyright

Click How to manage your details:

- Why create on new account
- · How to manage your details
- Using the secure message service

Click Online Services Help:



Click Show menu:



Click Forgotten Password/Login Details:

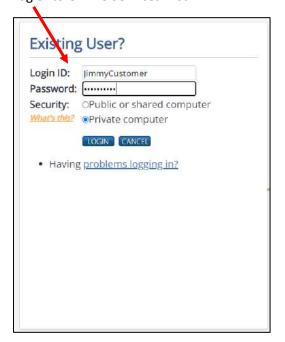


Click the **correct option** from the three available and follow the steps to either obtain your **Login ID**, a new **password** or a new **security answer**:



Registering for the VAT Online Portal

Log onto Online Services first:



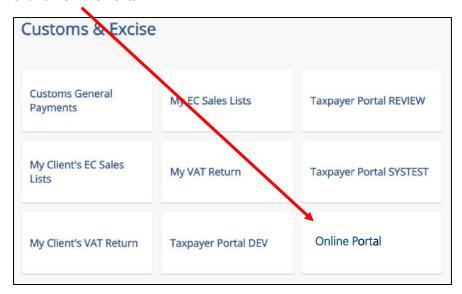
Enter the letters from your **Security Answer** when prompted to:



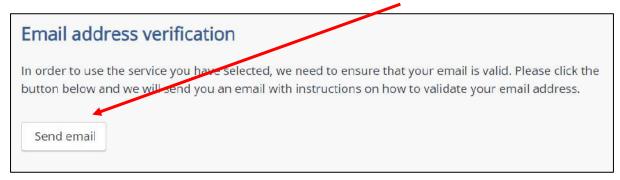
On the Online Services Home page scroll down and click on **Customs & Excise**:



Click on Online Portal:



You'll then be prompted to verify your e-mail address; click on **Send email**:



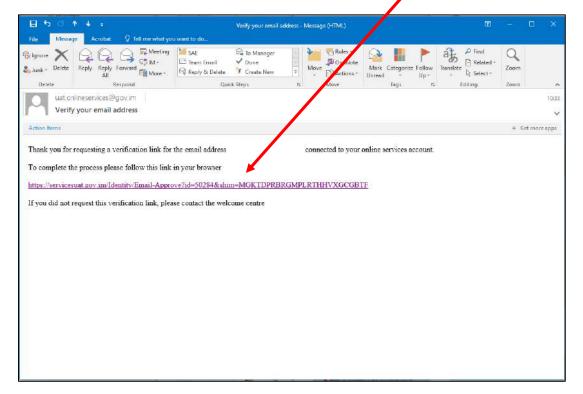
You'll see this onscreen message after you click **Send email**:

Email Sent

We've sent you an email, please check your spam folder and follow the instructions provided.

Once you have completed this, please click here to return to your service

When you receive your verification e-mail you need to click on the **link** contained within it to verify your e-mail:



All being well, you should see an automated message in a new window in your web browser to confirm that your e-mail address has been successfully verified.

Email address verification

You have successfully verified your email address, please close this tab and continue using online services.

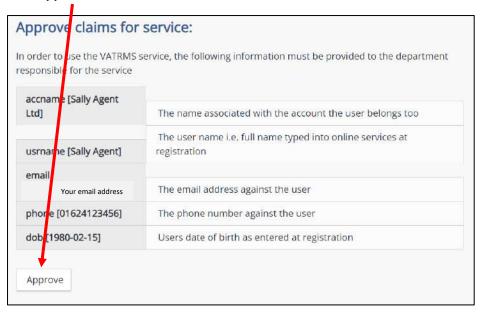
Click back on the open tab on your web browser and click on the **link** in the **Email Sent** screen:

Email Sent

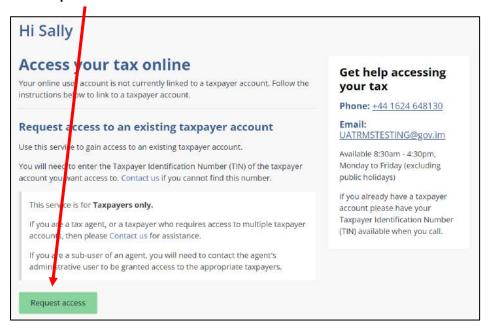
We've sent you an email, please check your spam older and follow the instructions provided.

Once you have completed this, please click here to return to your service

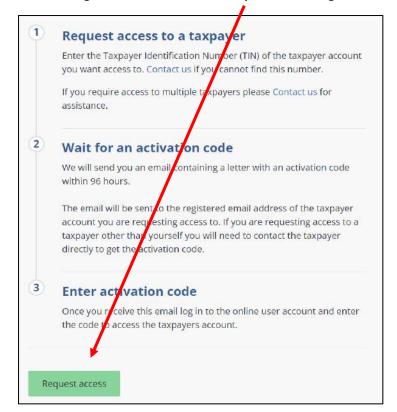
Click Approve:



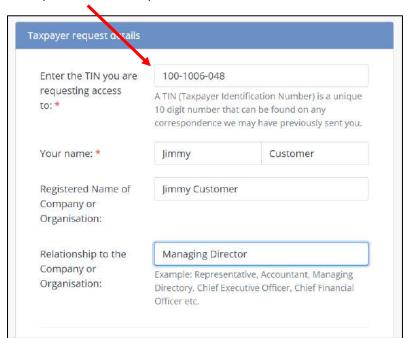
Click Request Access:



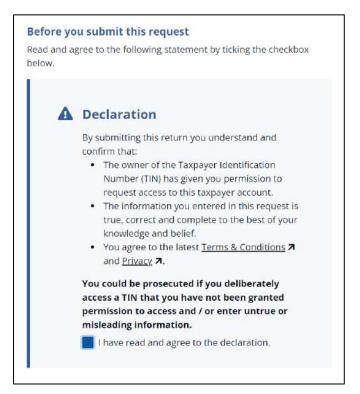
Read through this screen and click **Request Access** again at the bottom:



Enter your **TIN** and complete the other details on the screen:



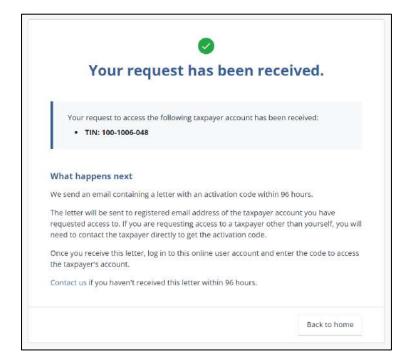
Scroll down the screen and click into the **box** under the **Declaration** to show that you have **read and agree to the declaration**:



The click **Submit Request**:

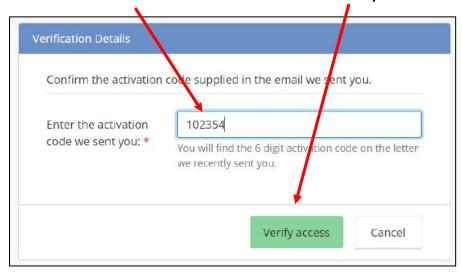


You should then see this screen:

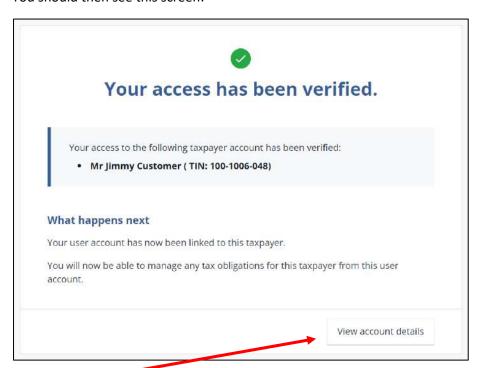


Once you receive your activation code via a letter e-mailed to you log back onto Online Services, go to Customs & Excise and click on Taxpayer Portal.

Now enter the activation code from the letter and click Verify access:

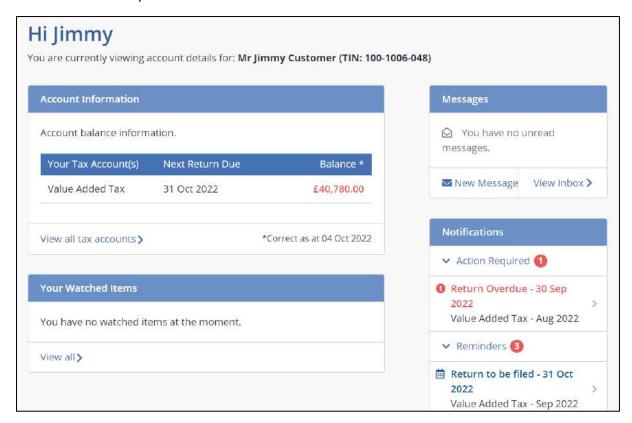


You should then see this screen:



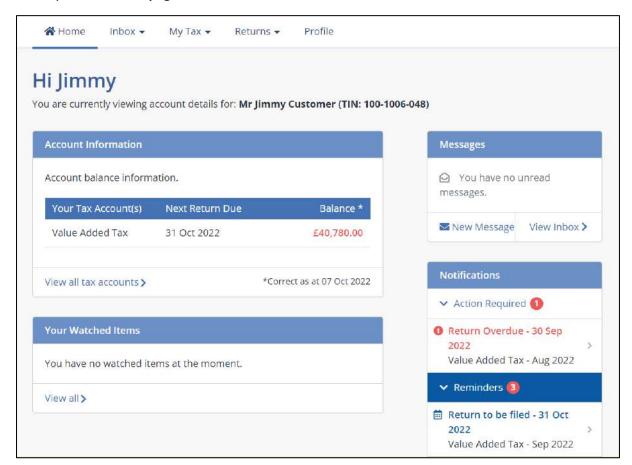
Click on View account details:

You should now see your account screen:



Understanding your account screen on the Online Portal

This is your **VAT homepage**:



The toolbar

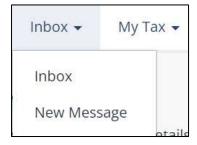
The toolbar at the top of the screen has some options that will help you to manage your account and your VAT returns and payments:



Inbox

You can send secure messages to Customs & Excise about your account and your VAT returns and payments. Customs & Excise will also send you secure messages through this same platform.

Clicking on Inbox on the toolbar allows you to **view your inbox** or start a **New Message** to Customs & Excise:



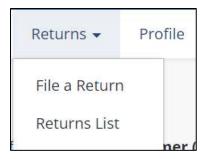
My Tax

If you click on **My Tax** on the toolbar you can **view** all your **tax accounts**, **make a payment** or **view** your **payment history**:



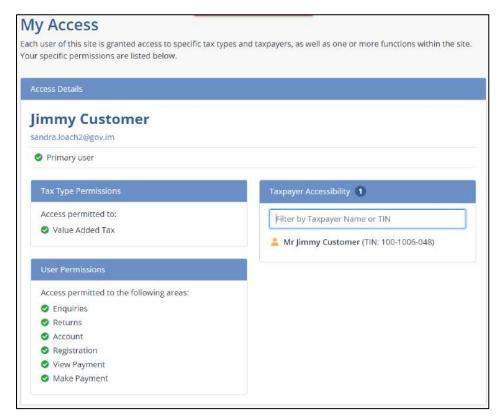
Returns

If you click on **Returns** on the Toolbar you can **file a return** and **view** the list of **returns** you have **submitted**:



Profile

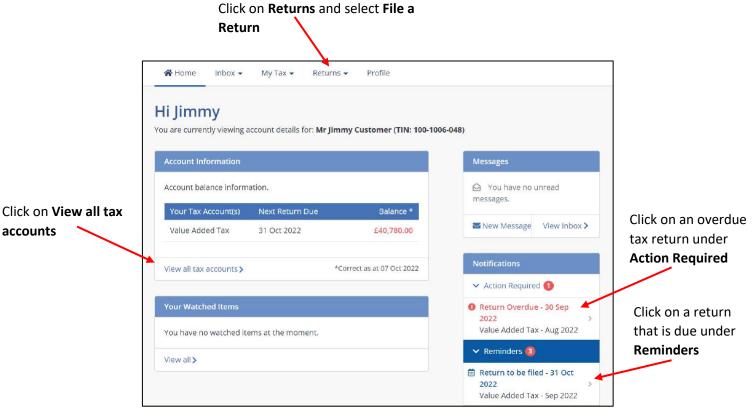
If you click on **Profile** in the toolbar you'll be able to see your user profile for the Online Portal:



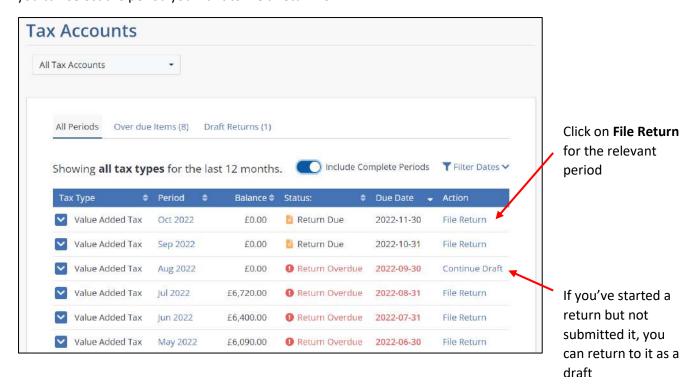
Filing a VAT return

To file a VAT return log onto your Online Services account first. Then click on Customs & Excise and select the Online Portal.

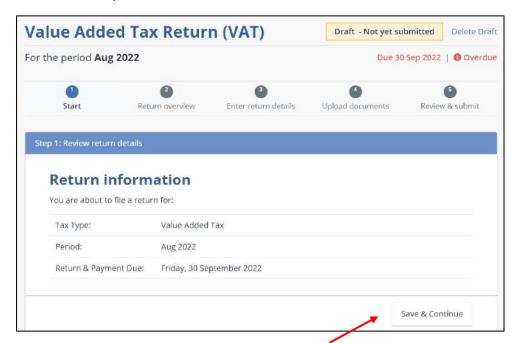
There are four ways to access returns that need filing from the homepage:



Clicking on File a Return and View all tax accounts will take you to your tax accounts screen where you can select the period you want to file a return for:

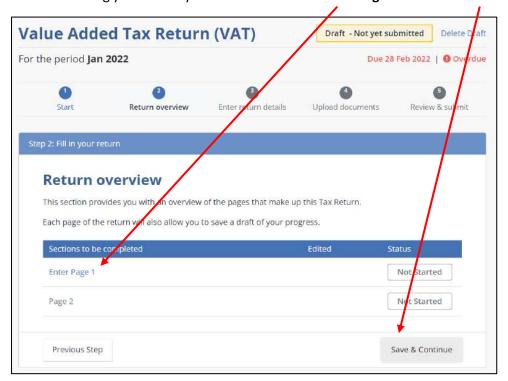


Clicking on a **due** or **overdue** return will take you straight to through the first page of the return for the relevant tax period:

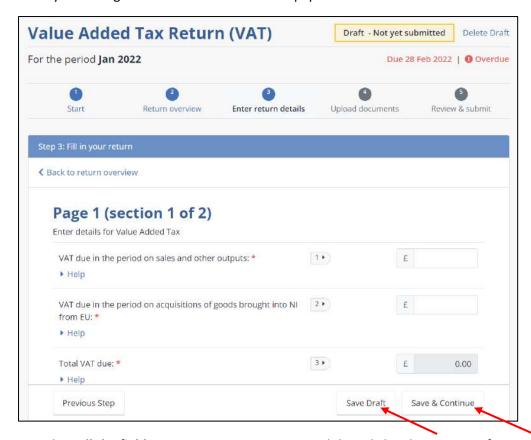


Check the details on this screen and then click **Save & Continue**:

To start entering your return you can either click on **Enter Page 1** or **Save & Continue**:

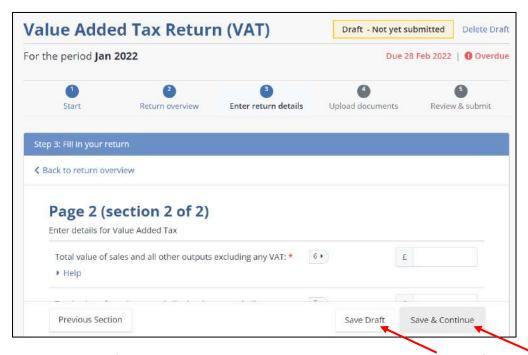


The layout of Pages 1 and 2 is the same as the paper VAT Return form.



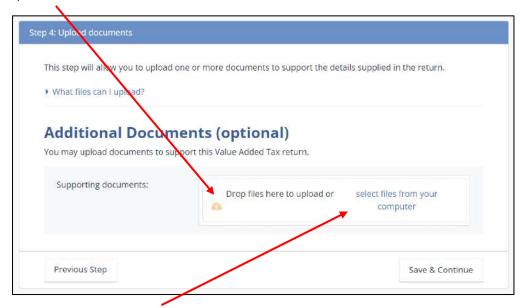
Complete **all the fields** on Page 1 as appropriate and then click either **Save Draft** or **Save & Continue**:

If you select **Save Draft** you can come back to the Return later to complete it by accessing it through your Tax Accounts.



Complete **all the fields** on Page 2 as appropriate and then click either **Save Draft** or **Save & Continue**:

You can upload supporting documents to your return if necessary. Either drag and drop files over the space **here**:

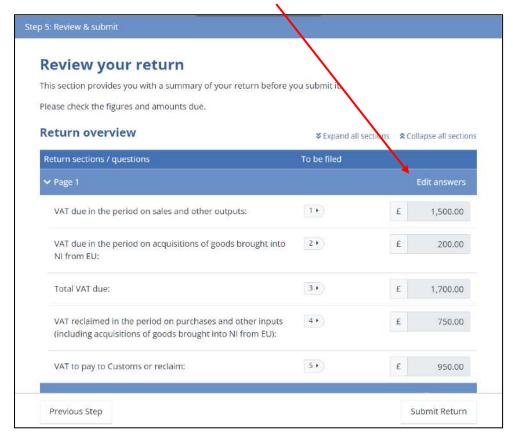


Or click on **select files from your computer** to use File Explorer to find the relevant documents, then click **Save & Continue**.

If you **don't** have any **supporting documents** you need to attach simply click on **Save & Continue** to move to the next screen.

You can now review your Return before submitting it:

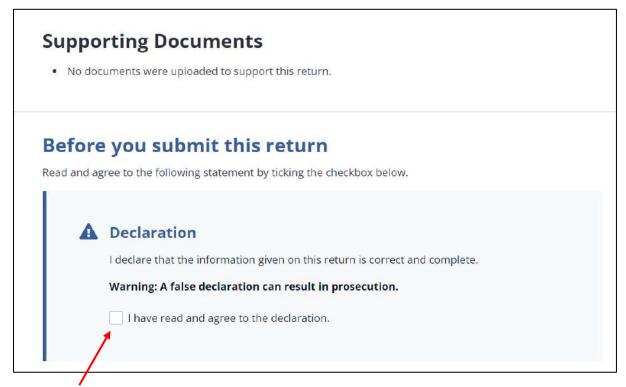
To edit your answers on Page 1 click on Edit answers:



To **view and/or edit** your answers on Page 2 **scroll** down the screen and click on the **arrow** to show the detail you inputted on Page 2 and click **Edit answers** to edit Page 2:

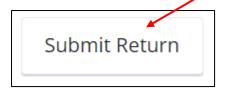


Once you are happy that you have entered all the correct information and uploaded any supporting documents if you have any, scroll down the Review your Return screen to the **Declaration**:

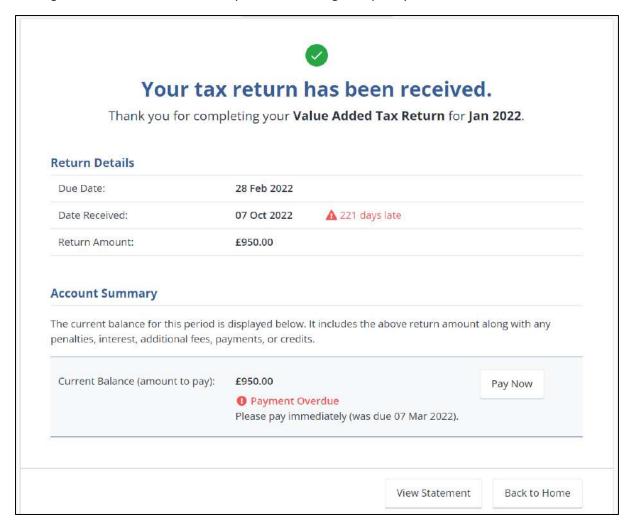


Click the box beside I have read and agree to the declaration:

When you're ready click on Submit Return:



You'll get an immediate onscreen response confirming receipt of your Return:



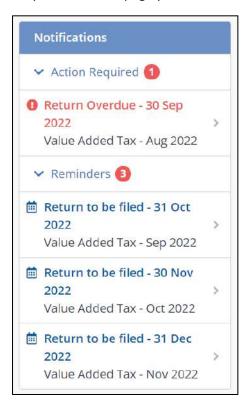
You can now pay the payment amount immediately or leave this for now, bearing in mind that you may have penalties to pay for late filing or a Return and/or late payment of any overdue amounts.

Making a Payment

You can make payments online or via bank transfer and there are multiple ways to mark payments as made online.

Method One – Via Notifications and Reminders

On your VAT homepage you will see Notifications and Reminders on the right of the screen:



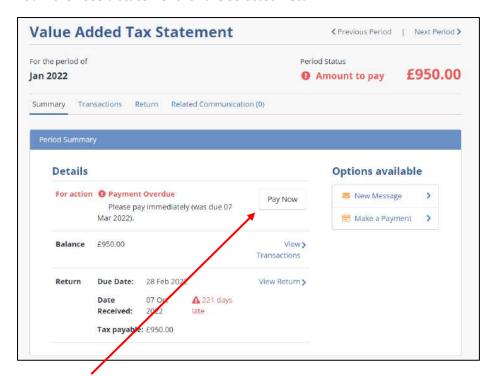
If you have filed a Return before it's due date, but haven't yet paid any amount you may owe, you will see a **reminder** for it.

If you have filed a Return and the payment is now overdue you will see a **notification** for it:



You can click on the **Notification** or **Reminder** to go through to the payment screen.

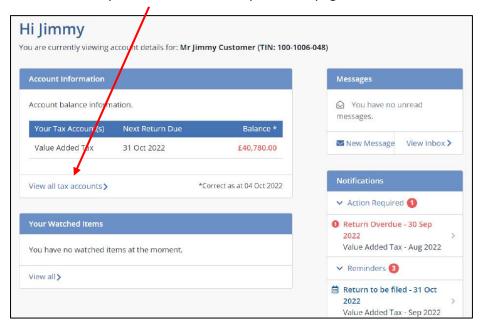
You'll then see a **statement** for the selected Return:



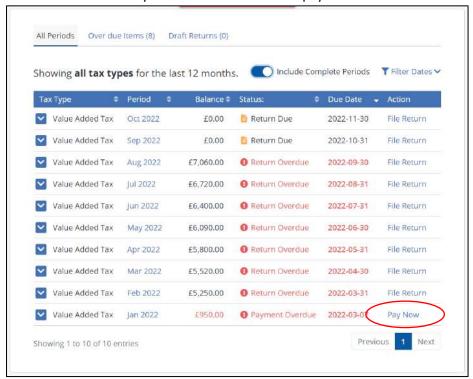
Click Pay Now:

Method Two – VAT Homepage

You can view all your tax accounts from your Homepage:



You can then see from your tax accounts where a payment is due:

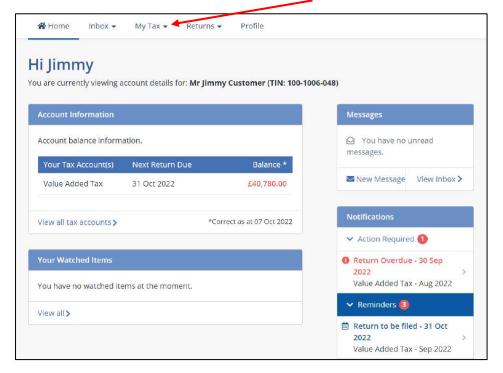


Where you have filed a Return and not made a payment you will see the status of the return showing either **Payment Due** or **Payment Overdue**.

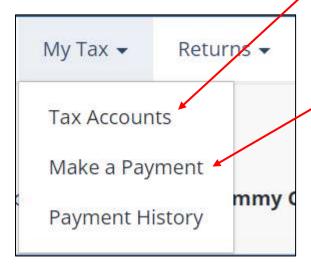
Clicking Pay Now for a Return will take you through to the payment screen.

Method Three – My Tax

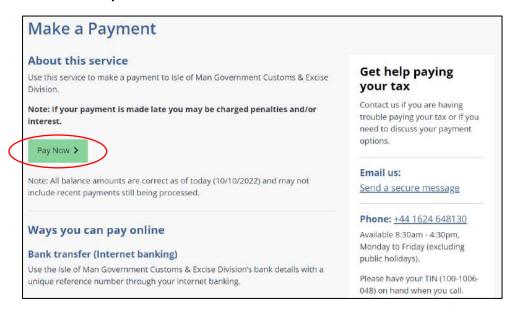
On your VAT homepage you can click on **My Tax** at the top of the screen:



From the menu options you can either **view all your tax accounts** or go to the **Make a Payment** screen:



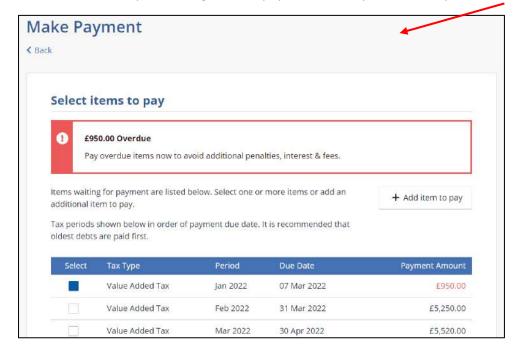
The Make a Payment screen looks like this:



To make a payment from here click on Pay Now:

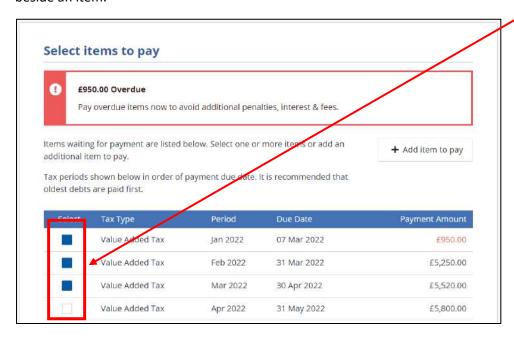
Making a Payment

Whichever method you use to get to the payment screen you will end up on the screen below:



The item you have selected from any of the methods using **Pay Now**, will be selected on the above screen automatically.

From the **Make Payment** screen you can add additional items to pay, either by clicking on the **box** beside an item:



You can select multiple items to pay this way.

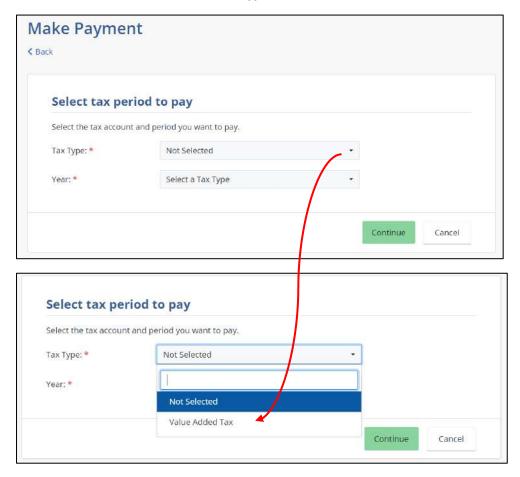
Or you can additional items by clicking on **Add item to pay**:



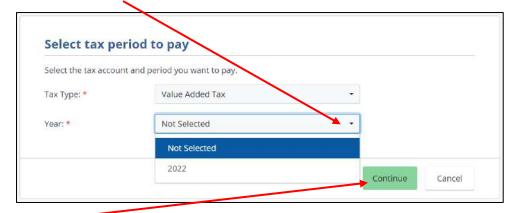
Using this method only allows you to add one additional item at a time.

If you select **Add item to pay** you need to complete some additional screens before you can select the additional item itself.

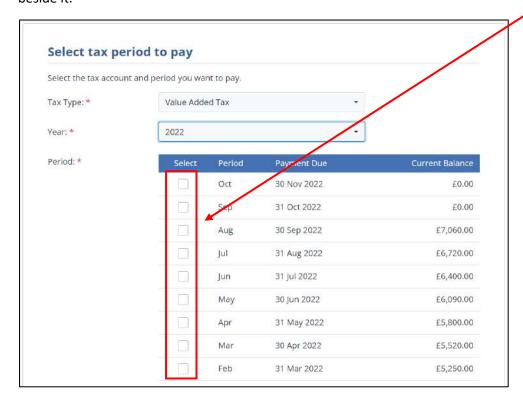
Click on the arrow and select the Tax Type:



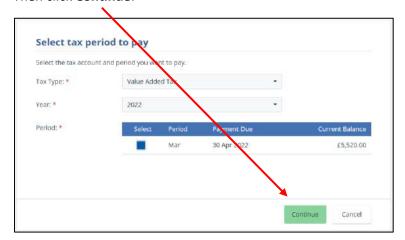
Then select the **Year**:



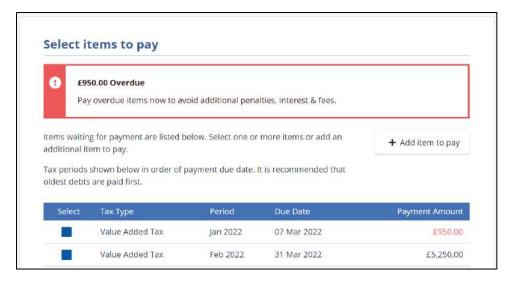
Click **Continue** then select the **Period** from that year that you want to pay by clicking in the **box** beside it:



Then click **Continue**:



This brings you back to this screen:

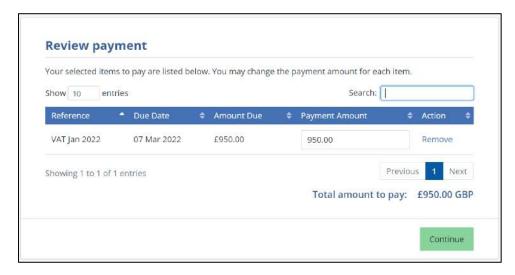


To add another item you can either scroll down the screen and click the box beside a period or click on **Add item to pay** again.

Once you have selected all the items you want to pay, click **Continue** at the bottom of the Make Payment screen.

You can now review the items you have selected to pay. The payment amount on the Review payment screen will default to the amount due for each item.

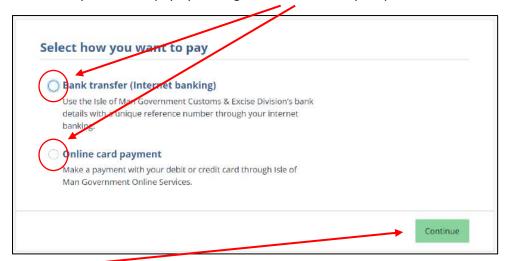
If you are happy with the item/s you have selected to pay click **Continue**:



If you want to **add or remove** any items click the **back button** on your web browser to go back to the **Make Payment** screen.

You can make a payment online or you can pay by bank transfer using your bank's online software or banking app.

Select how you want to pay by clicking the button beside your preferred method:

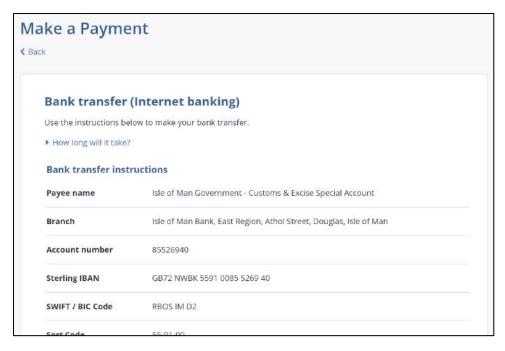


Click Continue:

If you are paying by bank transfer you **must** select **Bank Transfer** as your preferred payment method in the screen above and not simply make a payment as you need the payment details and your **unique payment reference number** to include on your bank transfer as the reference. **Without selecting Bank Transfer** and clicking **Continue** on the above screen you **will not** see your **unique payment reference** nor the **bank details** for Customs & Excise.

Paying by bank transfer

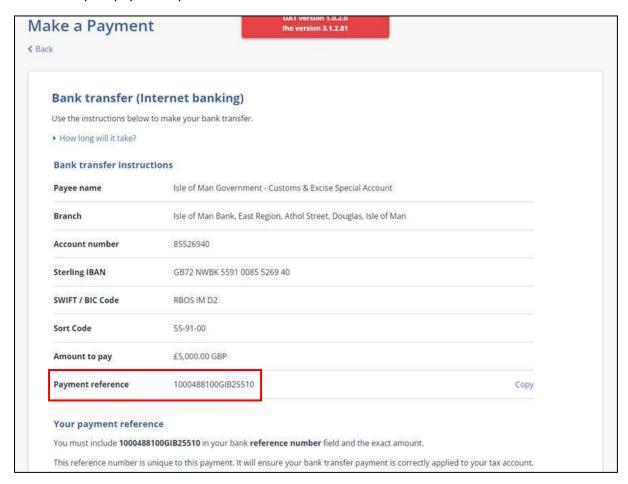
If you select **Bank transfer** as your preferred payment method when you click **Continue** on the payment options screen you'll see details of the information you need in order to pay using your bank's internet site or banking app:



If paying by this method don't forget to allow for the processing time and make sure this doesn't push your payment past the payment deadline, which could incur penalties.

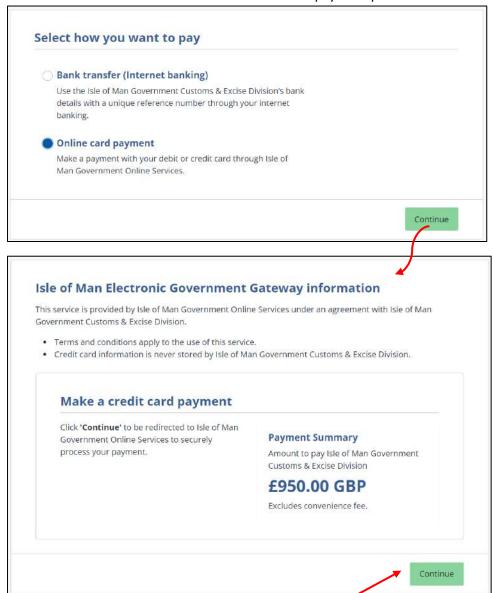
Payment Reference

You must quote the **Payment Reference** on your transfer if you choose to pay via **Bank Transfer**. Your payment reference includes your **unique tax identification number** or **TIN** and makes it easier for the payment to be matched to your account when it is received by Customs & Excise. You can find your **payment reference** number on the Bank transfer screen once you have selected **Bank Transfer** as your payment option:



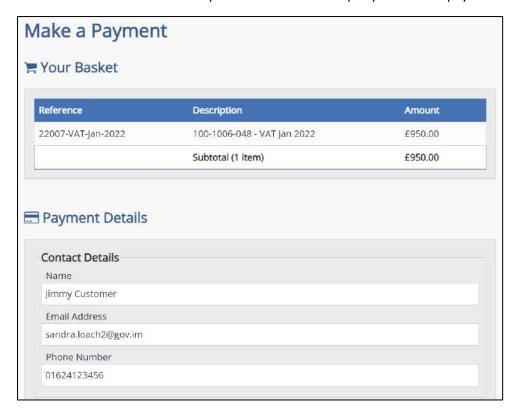
Paying online

If you select **Online card payment** when you click **Continue** on the payment methods screen you'll be directed to the Isle of Man Government's online payment portal.

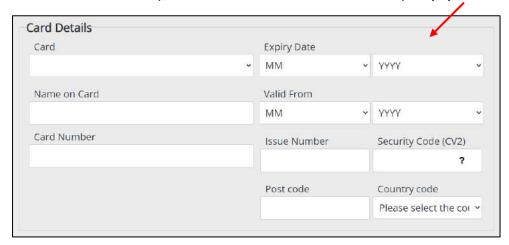


Read the information on the screen and then click **Continue**:

You'll then be directed to check your **contact details** as per your chosen payment card:



Amend these if necessary, then scroll down the screen and enter your payment card details:



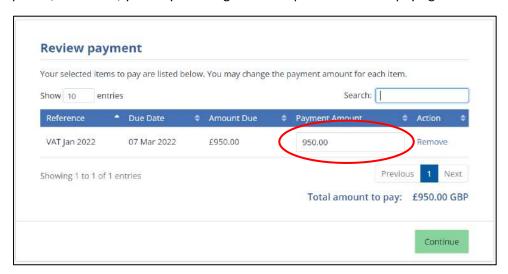
When you are ready, scroll down the screen, check your **Order Summary** and click **Pay Now**:



Paying instalments

You can amend the amount for a specific item by clicking in the Payment Amount box and typing the amount you want to pay.

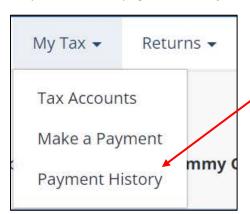
By manually choosing the amount you want to pay you could pay a due amount in instalments. However, you must be mindful of making sure you the full amount due by the deadline date for that period; otherwise, you may be charge overdue penalties for not paying in time.



Payment History

You can check your payment history onscreen.

On your VAT homepage click on My Tax and select Payment History:

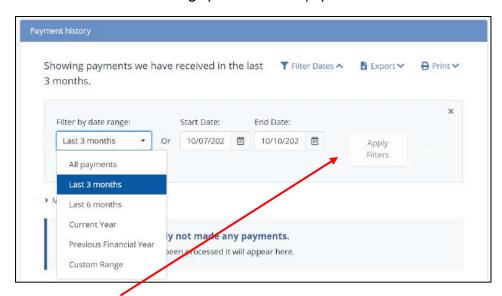


The system defaults to showing any payments made in the previous **three months**:



You can search for older payments by clicking Filter Dates:

Choose the **dates** or **date range** you want to see payments from and to:



Click Apply Filters:

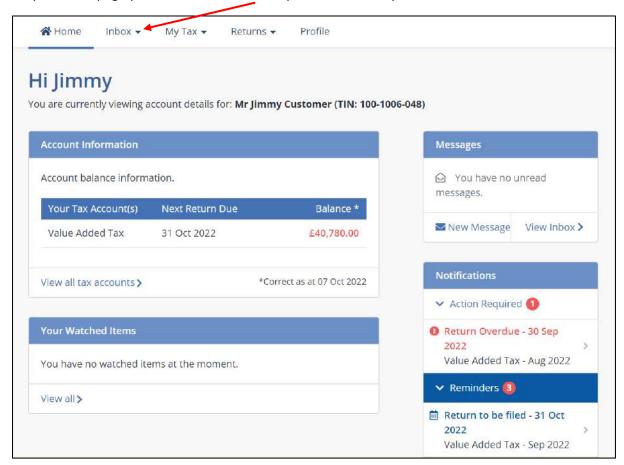
You can also export payment details by clicking on **Export** and choosing your preferred format or **Print** your payment history directly to your own printer.

How to submit an enquiry

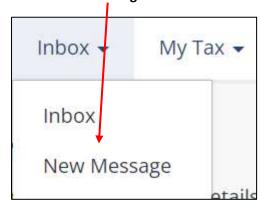
If you need to contact Customs & Excise about your VAT account, returns and/or payments you can send them messages using the online service.

Log onto Online Services; go to Customs & Excise and select Online Portal.

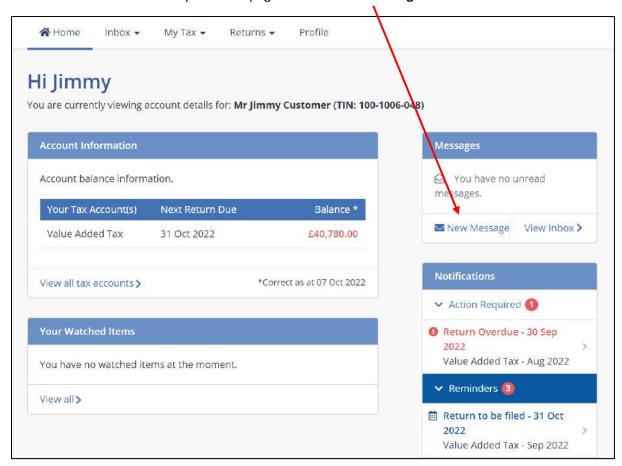
On your homepage you can either click on dropdown arrow for your **Inbox**:



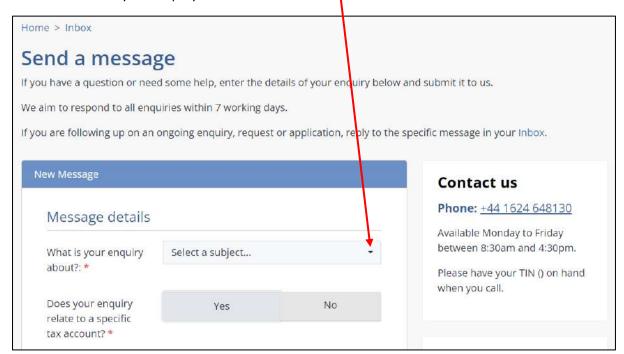
Click on **New Message**:



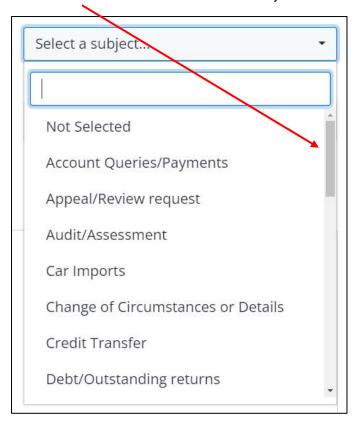
Or use the Inbox shortcut on your homepage and click **New Message**:



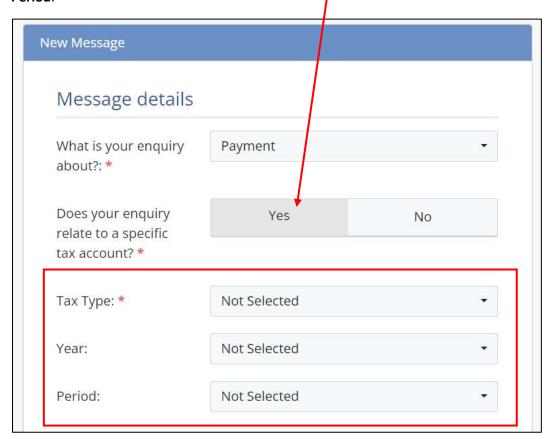
Select the subject of your message by clicking on the **arrow** and selecting the subject from the list that best matches your enquiry:



Use the scroll bar to see all the available subjects:



If your enquiry relates to a specific tax account click **Yes** and complete the **Tax Type**, **Year** and **Period**:





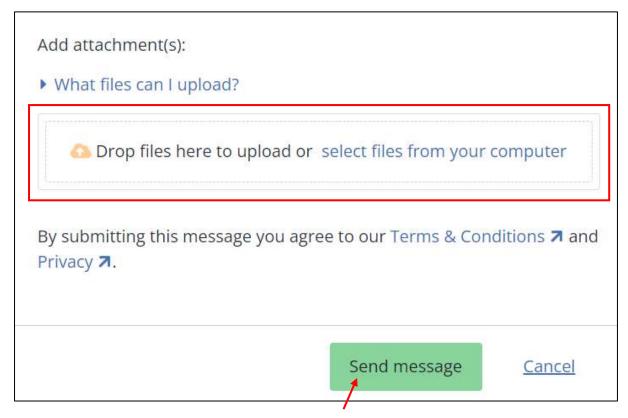
If your enquiry doesn't relates to a specific tax account leave this option as **No**:



Type your message in the freeform text box:

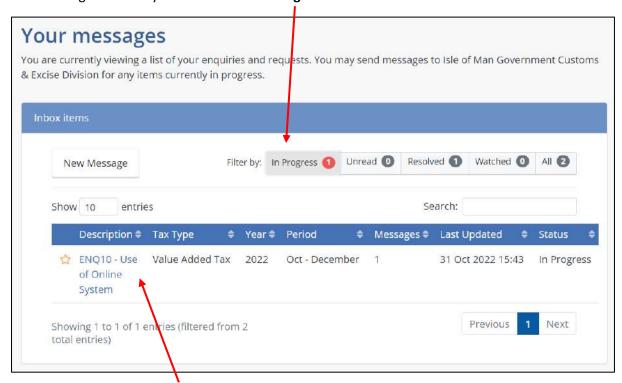


You can attach files to your enquiry if you need to either by **dragging them** onto the field below or clicking on **select files from your computer** and searching for the files on your PC:



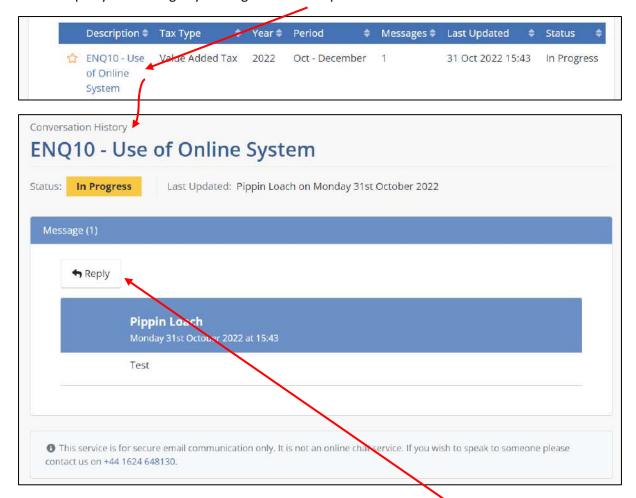
When you are ready to send your message click **Send message**:

Your message will sit in your **Inbox** in the **In Progress** section until it is resolved:



This is how your in progress message will look in your Inbox:

You can open your message by clicking on the Description:

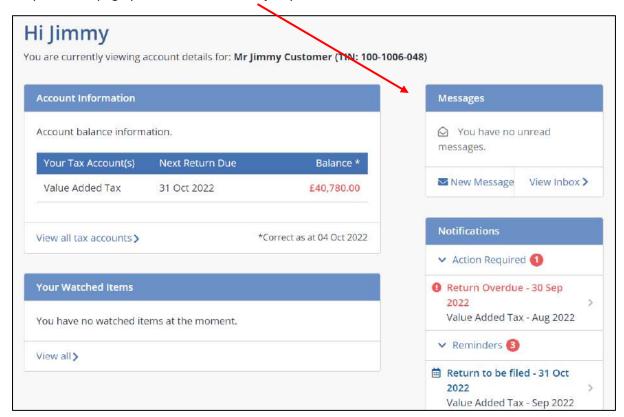


You can add an additional message to this conversation by clicking on **Reply**:

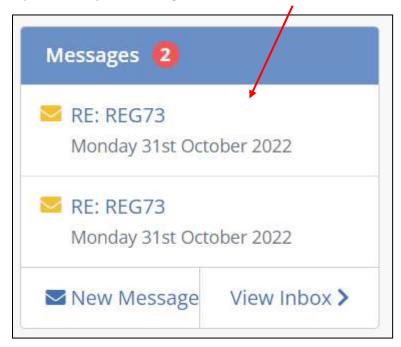
Checking for new messages

To check for messages from Custom & Excise log onto Online Services; go to Customs & Excise and select VAT.

On your homepage you can see a **summary** of your Inbox:

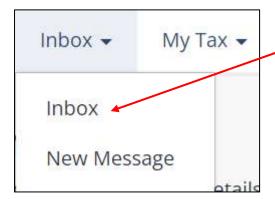


If you have any new messages it will look like this:

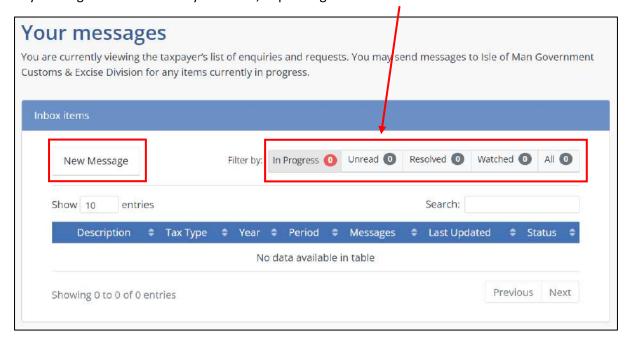


Click on a message to open it:

You can also access your Inbox from your homepage click on **Inbox** and select **Inbox** from the dropdown:



Any messages will be listed in your Inbox, depending on their **status**:



You can also start a new message from your Inbox too by clicking on **New Message**:

Other ways to contact Customs & Excise

As well as being able to message Customs & Excise through the online service you can also telephone them on +44 1624 648130.

This number will manned Mondays to Fridays from 8.30am to 4.30pm.

You'll need your tax identification number (TIN) to hand when you call.

FAQs

What happens if I lock myself out of my Online Services account?

Follow the onscreen instructions to contact the Online Services helpdesk. Please note, Customs & Excise are unable to help you with any issues with your Online Services account. They can help you with your Customs & Excise account and online access only.