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Northampton accountant: Don't let the taxman take cash from your bank account

Anyone who has to fill out a tax return in Northamptonshire should get professional help – or risk the taxman taking cash directly from their bank account in the future.

That's according to Northampton accountant Mark Robinson, of Beanaccounting.co.uk, based in Derngate.

His warning comes off the back of a report issued last week. It said that one million taxpayers paid the wrong tax last year, because of errors by HM Revenue & Customs.

They have now asked for new powers to let them take cash directly from the bank accounts of people who owe them money.

Mark said: "Paying too much tax is an inconvenience, but once you realise the mistake you can have the money returned or taken into account against next year's tax bill.

"But if you pay too little tax, you face a future claim against you, including interest and maybe even a fine.

"The new powers HM Revenue & Customs has asked for will give them the ability to clear out your bank account. That's a scary thought when you look at the number of mistakes they make."

Mark believes anyone who has to fill out a self assessment tax return should get a professional to do the sums for them, rather than rely on the taxman working it out.

And that doesn't necessarily mean wealthy people. Pensioners, freelancers, and anyone with more than one job could be at risk.

Mark added: "It's not expensive to get an accountant, and it will give you immense peace of mind.

"In fact, sometimes a good accountant can save more money in tax than the cost of their fee."

- **There's further help and information on filling out tax returns at www.Beanaccounting.co.uk**

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NOTES TO EDITORS

- For further information or to arrange photos, please call Mark Robinson on 01604 234439
- The business is called Beanaccounting.co.uk and the website address is www.Beanaccounting.co.uk
- Beanaccounting.co.uk is based at 51 Derngate, Northampton
- The business works in association with MJB Accountants Limited, a firm of Chartered Certified Accountants and Chartered Tax Advisors