

Of course the tax gap is increasing - the senior staff ...

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As [the FT reports](#):

Resignations by senior managers at HM Revenue & Customs rose sharply in the past tax year, as performance lapses at the organisation drew sharp criticism.

Forty-two HMRC staff at senior management level — earning more than £47,000 a year — resigned in the 2011-12 tax year, according to figures obtained by accountancy group UHY Hacker Young. This is a 45 per cent rise from the 29 resignations in 2010-2011, it said.

Any day now new tax gap data should be published: the gap will have risen. And we know the number of serious tax investigations is down 25% in a year. It's not surprising: if you lose your best and most senior staff your effectiveness is reduced. And that's just what's happening at HMRC. The trouble is, it's by design. And that's the scandal.