

Dear Ratepayer

Temporary Increase in amount of Small Business Rate Relief Available to Eligible Business Ratepayers

Key Facts

The Government has increased the support available to small businesses that pay business rates. It has done this by increasing the level of Small Business Rate Relief available to eligible businesses for a temporary period. From 1 October 2011 to 30 September 2012, eligible businesses with a rateable value of up to £6,000 will be entitled to 100% relief on their bill. If your rateable value is between £6,001 and £12,000, you will be entitled to relief on a sliding scale between 100% and 0%.

The revised reliefs will apply between 1 October 2011 and 30 September 2012.

What Happens Next?

Nothing - We have now calculated your revised rate bill taking into account the above.

If you have a rateable value of less than £6,000 your bill will show 100% Small Business Rate Relief for the period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012.

If you have a rateable value of between £6,001 and £11,999 your bill will show your revised instalments for the remainder of this year. Your instalments may have increased because you were able to pay the first ½ of the bill over 6 instalments (April to September) but the second ½ of the bill can only be spread over 4 instalments (October to January).

What if I have already paid too much by 1 October?

If your revised bill shows a credit amount on it, then you need do nothing as a refund will automatically follow this notice.

What if the council has taken recovery action for arrears?

If we have already taken recovery action against you for non-payment, we have revised your debt accordingly. Any costs or fees, already incurred, will remain payable by you. If you haven't already made arrangements to pay the arrears, please contact us immediately to avoid further action and/or costs.

If you have any other questions about your bill, or business rates in general, please contact us by any of the methods listed below.

Yours sincerely

Business Rates Team

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