



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

Non-Domestic Rates Branch
LGF - BRV
Zone 5/D2
Eland House
Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5DU

Email: ndr@communities.gov.uk

Chief Finance Officers of English Billing Authorities

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE BUSINESS RATES SECTION

Dear Chief Finance Officer

Business Rates Information Letter (8/2012): New Burden - Business Rates Deferral Scheme 2012/13

This is the eighth business rates information letter to be issued by the Department of Communities and Local Government this year. Previous letters are available on the internet at:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/localgovernmentfinance/businessrates/busratesinformationletters/>.

This letter covers:

New Burden Payments - Business Rates Deferral Scheme 2012/13

1. The 29 November 2011 Autumn Statement announced a business rate deferral scheme for 2012/13 to be administered on a similar basis as the 2009/10 deferral scheme. The scheme allows ratepayers to spread the RPI increase in bills for 2012/13 over three years.
2. The necessary legislation - the Non-Domestic Rating and Business Rate Supplements (Deferred Payments) (England) Regulations 2012/994 - was laid in Parliament on 5 April 2012 and can be found at the following link:

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/994/pdfs/ukxi_20120994_en.pdf.
3. The Government committed to fully fund the additional net costs of the scheme to local government as a whole under the new burdens policy. We have estimated the total cost at £1,079,200. Communities and Local Government are making the necessary arrangements for payments to be

made and we will write to billing authorities with details of individual allocations and make the necessary payments during September.

4. We would like to thank billing authorities for delivering this important help to ratepayers and would urge you to continue to take every opportunity to promote the scheme, such as via your websites and in dealings with occupiers. Ratepayers can of course defer at any time through the financial year provided they still have some liability left to pay.