



Department for  
Communities and  
Local Government

Non-Domestic Rates Branch  
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11 April 2014

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**Chief Finance Officers of English Billing Authorities**

**FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE BUSINESS RATES SECTION**

Dear Chief Finance Officer

**Business Rates Information Letter (8/2014); Review of Business Rates  
Administration – Discussion Paper**

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

<https://www.gov.uk/business-rates-information-letters>,

or for archived letters:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20120919132719/http://www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/localgovernmentfinance/businessrates/busratesinformationletters/>.

**This letter covers:**

**Review of Business Rates Administration – Discussion Paper**

The Government announced at the Autumn Statement 2013 that it would publish a discussion paper on the administration of the business rates system. That discussion paper was published 10 April and can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-seeks-views-on-administration-of-business-rates-system>

A press notice is at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/business-rates-administration-review-discussion-paper>

The review's scope was set out in terms of reference published in February 2014. It will consider longer term reforms to the system - to be implemented after the next revaluation in April 2017 - to make it simpler, more transparent, and more responsive to economic circumstances.

The full terms of reference for the review can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/business-rates-administration-review-terms-of-reference/business-rates-administration-review-terms-of-reference>

The government is seeking views on the discussion paper and we are keen to receive responses from practitioners and local government. Responses are requested by **Friday 6 June 2014**. Electronic submissions should be e-mailed to [businessrates.review@hmtreasury.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:businessrates.review@hmtreasury.gsi.gov.uk).

Further details are contained within the discussion paper.