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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 (7/2021): Business Rates Review Technical Consultation

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

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/business-rates-information-letters

or for archived letters:

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

Business Rates Review Technical Consultation

The Government has published a technical consultation on reforms to the business rates system in England. The consultation provides further detail on several of the measures announced on 27 October as part of the Autumn Budget. This includes measures to support more frequent revaluations, including a new duty on ratepayers to provide information to the VOA and a supporting compliance regime; an improvement relief; exemptions for green technology; and administrative reforms.

The Government is therefore seeking views and further input from stakeholders on the detail of proposed reforms. Local authorities wanting to respond may do so by completing an online survey at: https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-taxation/business-rates-review-technical-consultation/

Alternatively, you can email your response to the questions in this consultation to ndr@communities.gov.uk. This consultation will last for 12 weeks, from 30 November 2021 to 22 February 2022.

The consultation can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/business-rates-review-technical-consultation.