Business Rates in 2007/08

By Fern Silverio Group Manager - Revenues

Proposed 2006/07 Multipliers

- Standard 0.444p (0.433p)
- Small Business 0.441p (0.426p)
- Increased in line with September 2006 RPI – a figure of 3.6%

SBR Detail

- In line with Local Government Act 2003, there are 2 multipliers:
 - The non domestic rating multiplier which includes the supplement to pay for the small business relief [supplement = 0.003p]
 - The small business non-domestic rating multiplier which is applicable to those that qualify for the small business relief

Small Business Rate Relief

 Approved by Parliament in 2004 giving the local authority the right to grant small business rate relief to eligible ratepayers from 1/4/2005

• So far in 2006/07 **803** small businesses have received relief worth in excess of **£486k**

Small Business Rate Relief

- Legislative changes in 2006 replaced the condition that ratepayers apply annually for relief.
- Instead, it requires an application to be made in respect of the 5 year period between revaluations of commercial property
- Businesses who apply this year will therefore not need to re-claim until 2010/11 so long as certain defined circumstances do not change.

Small Business Rate Relief

• The deadline for 2006/07 applications is 30 September 2007.

SBR Detail

- Relief is available at 50% for ratepayers occupying single properties with a rateable value up to £5,000, with relief declining in percentage terms on a sliding scale until it is 0% at £10,000.
- The relief is only available to ratepayers with either-
- one property, or
- one main property and other additional properties providing those additional properties have rateable values less than £2,200
- The rateable value of the property mentioned in (a), or the aggregate rateable value of all properties mentioned in (b), must be under £21,500 (or £15,000 outside London).

SBR Detail

- The scheme is funded through a supplement on the rates bills of those businesses not eligible for the relief. The supplement is built into the standard nondomestic rating multiplier. However, ratepayers of eligible business properties with rateable values between £10,000 and £21,500 (£15,000 outside London) do not have to contribute towards the relief and will have their bills calculated using the lower small business non-domestic rating multiplier.
- Ratepayers must apply for the relief each year and must be eligible on the 1st April of each year. If a ratepayer ceases to be eligible on a day during the year in question, the relief will cease on that day. An application for relief must be submitted in writing to the local authority within 6 months of the end of the financial year to which it relates.

Contact Details

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