



UNITED KINGDOM – April 2023

CONTENTS

- UK GENERAL 1**
 - UK FILM STUDIOS HIT BY CRIPPLING PROPERTY TAX HIKES AS TALKS WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCY CONTINUE..... 1
 - RETAIL GROUPS CALL FOR BUSINESS RATES REFORM TO SAVE BRITAIN’S HIGH STREETS2
 - BRITONS WHO KEEP GARDENS GREEN SHOULD GET COUNCIL TAX CUT, STUDY SUGGESTS.....2
- ENGLAND2**
 - BUSINESS RATES MODERNISATION BILL INTRODUCED TO PARLIAMENT.....2
 - CONCERN OVER ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN FOR BUSINESS RATEPAYERS2
 - BUSINESS RATES FOR AGENTS ‘STILL NOT RIGHT’, SAYS TRADE BODY.....3
 - PROPERTYMARK WELCOMES GOVERNMENT REVIEW OF OUTDATED COUNCIL TAX BANDING SYSTEM3
 - SALISBURY VOTE OVER COUNCIL TAX AFTER 44% INCREASE PLANNED.....3
 - RATES REFORM BRINGS SOME RELIEF ALONG WITH A BUNDLE OF RED TAPE.....3
- ENGLAND AND WALES 4**
 - A PROPERTY TAX BASED ON ANNUALLY UPDATED VALUES WOULD BE A GAMECHANGER.....4
 - HOW THE UK GOVERNMENT CAN IMPROVE COUNCIL TAX4
- SCOTLAND 4**
 - AGENCY UNCOVERS BIG FALL IN PROPERTY TAXES.....4
- WALES..... 4**
 - CONSULTATION TO CONSIDER TREBLE COUNCIL TAX RATE FOR SECOND HOMES4

UK GENERAL

UK Film Studios Hit by Crippling Property Tax Hikes as Talks with Government Agency Continue

There is concern regarding the rateable values of Film and TV Studios which have increased very sharply in the 2023 Revaluation which came into force on 1 April 2023. This article looks at the detail of the increases and comments on talks currently underway between the representatives of the studios and the assessing body, the Valuation Office Agency.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

International Property Tax Institute

IPTI Xtracts- The items included in IPTI Xtracts have been extracted from published information. IPTI accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the information or any opinions expressed in the articles.

[UK Film Studios Hit By Crippling Property Tax Hikes As Talks Continue – Deadline](#)

Retail groups call for business rates reform to save Britain's high streets

According to the British Retail Consortium (BRC) retail accounts for 5% of the economy but pays more than 20% of the business rates. This article looks at an urgent call for business rates reform in the retail and hospitality industries from representative groups and why this is necessary to stop further job losses, closures and future investment.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Retail groups call for business rates reform to save Britain's high streets \(cityam.com\)](#)

Britons who keep gardens green should get council tax cut, study suggests

Research from Sheffield University has shown that cities have lost as much as 50% of green space over the last 20 years. This article looks at the findings and their proposal to introduce a reduction in Council Tax or water bills for home occupiers keeping their gardens eco-friendly.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Britons who keep gardens green should get council tax cut, study suggests | Environment | The Guardian](#)

ENGLAND

Business rates modernisation bill introduced to Parliament

This article, provided by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, summarises the key measures contained in the Non-Domestic Rating Bill which had its first reading in the House of Commons on 29 March 2023.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Business rates modernisation bill introduced to Parliament | ICAEW](#)

Concern over administrative burden for business ratepayers

The new Non-Domestic Rating Bill is expected to have a second reading on 24 April 2023. This article looks at comments from a rating practitioner regarding the administrative burden that will be placed upon ratepayers by the measures in the new bill, with particular reference to those in the hospitality and leisure sectors.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

International Property Tax Institute

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[Concern over administrative burden for business ratepayers - \(beertoday.co.uk\)](#)

Business rates for agents 'still not right', says trade body

This article looks at comments from industry practitioners of the impacts of the new Non-Domestic Rating Bill and suggests that the government consider annual revaluations in line with the existing practice in the Netherlands.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Business rates for agents 'still not right', says trade body \(thenegotiator.co.uk\)](#)

Propertymark welcomes government review of outdated council tax banding system

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities recently carried out a consultation reviewing council tax bandings for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs). This article looks at the background to the consultation – how HMOs are currently valued and the proposed method of valuation – and includes comments about the consultation from a professional body.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Propertymark welcomes government review of outdated council tax banding system - Property Industry Eye](#)

Salisbury vote over council tax after 44% increase planned

This article looks at a referendum that will shortly take place, whereby Salisbury residents will vote in a parish poll on whether to cap future council tax rises at 5%, and the reasons behind it.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Salisbury vote over council tax after 44% increase planned - BBC News](#)

Rates reform brings some relief along with a bundle of red tape

The new Non-Domestic Rates Bill is currently at second reading. This article looks in detail at the positives and negatives of the measures included in the bill.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Rates reform brings some relief along with a bundle of red tape | Professional | Property Week](#)

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ENGLAND AND WALES

A property tax based on annually updated values would be a gamechanger

There has been no revaluation in England for Council Tax (residential properties) since it was introduced in 1993, with a valuation date of 1 April 1991. This article considers that not keeping up with market changes has created inequity in the system, and reports on a proposal to introduce a proportional property tax (PPT) based on values updated annually, similar to systems in the Netherlands and Denmark.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[A property tax based on annually updated values would be a gamechanger | Council tax | The Guardian](#)

How the UK government can improve council tax

This article looks at ways to improve the current system of council tax, which many see as regressive and unfair, by reassessing the out-of-date property values, increasing the number of tax bands, using a progressive rate system or replacing it with a local income tax.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[How the UK Government Can Improve Council Tax \(bbntimes.com\)](#)

SCOTLAND

Agency uncovers big fall in property taxes

This article looks at the fall in revenue collected in 2023 from Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (LBTT), the equivalent of stamp duty in England and Northern Ireland, when compared to that collected in 2022. Comments are provided from a lettings agency for the reasons behind this revenue.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Agency uncovers big fall in property taxes ... \(lettingagenttoday.co.uk\)](#)

WALES

Consultation to consider treble council tax rate for second homes

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Pembrokeshire County Council is considering trebling the amount of council tax payable on second homes in 2024-5. This article looks at The Welsh Government's new local tax rules for second homes and long-term empty properties.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Consultation to consider treble council tax rate for second homes | Western Telegraph](#)

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