

APPLICATION FOR REOCCUPATION RELIEF

The Government announced in the Autumn Statement on 5 December 2013 that it will provide a 50% business rates discount for 18 months to ratepayers moving into previously empty retail premises between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2016 only. The premises must have been vacant for 12 months or more immediately prior to the reoccupation. Please refer to our guidance notes for full details.

Relief is awarded under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 as amended by the Localism Act 2011 and is subject to State Aid de minimis limits.

SECTION 1

Full Name(s) of Business Owner(s) or Limited Company	
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Type of Business (Please Tick):

Sole Trader

Limited Company

Partnership

Charity

Trading Name (If different from above)		Company or Charity Reg Number	
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SECTION 2

Address of Property which relief is to be claimed:

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Property Reference		Account Reference	
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Date of occupation:

Date of purchase/lease/tenancy/license (please delete as applicable):

What type of business are you operating from the property? (Florist, Café, Hairdresser, Newsagent, Pub etc.)

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Is the property wholly or mainly used for the purposes of above?

YES

NO

If no, please provide further details of what the property is used for:

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Please confirm how the property was last used, if known (ie. Florist, Café, Hairdresser, Newsagent, Pub etc.)

Business Declaration					
Name		Position within Business			
Signature			Date		
Correspondence Address					
Email		Telephone		Mobile	

Important: Please now complete details overleaf regarding state aid. We will not be able to process your application unless this section is completed.

State Aid

State Aid refers to forms of assistance from a public body, or publicly funded body, given to selected undertakings (any entity that puts goods or services on the given market) that have the potential to distort competition and affect trade between member states of the European Union.

Details available at: www.gov.uk/state-aid

European Union state aid rules generally prohibit government subsidies to businesses. Relief from taxes, including non-domestic rates, can in some cases constitute state aid.

However, there is a general exception from the state aid rules, where the aid is below a “de minimis” level (see Comm Reg 69/2001). This is €200,000 to any one business over any three-year period.

The Council will be mindful of these rules and will ensure compliance with the legal requirements and any permitted exemptions. Each case will be considered based on the organisation’s individual circumstances in full consideration of the state aid rules.

If we recognise that you are a business with a number of retail units, we will ask you to confirm you are not claiming support from another council.

State aid de minimis exemption: Please indicate your response below:

	I confirm that the business has not received any state aid during the previous three fiscal years (this being the current fiscal year and the previous two fiscal years).
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OR

	I confirm that the business has received the following state aid during the previous three fiscal years (this being the current fiscal year and the previous two fiscal years). Please give details below:
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Name of Organisation providing the assistance/aid	Value of assistance/aid	Date of assistance/aid	Nature of assistance/aid

- I confirm that I have read and understood the relevant information and State Aid de minimis regulations available at: www.gov.uk/state-aid
- I confirm that I represent the business and that the information provided in this is accurate for the purpose of a de minimis exemption.
- I understand that if claim incorrectly, any relief awarded will be recovered by the Council.

- I can confirm that the business is not covered by the exclusions as covered below:
 - Enterprises in road haulage operations for the acquisition of road freight transport vehicles.
 - Enterprises in the agriculture sector (with the exception of those active in processing and marketing of agricultural products).
 - Enterprises active in the coal sector, undertakings in difficulty, or for directly export-related activities.
 - The same costs that are being supported under another block exemption or notified scheme. It is unlawful to provide de minimis for costs being funded under the State Aid cover of an exemption or notified scheme if it means the specific allowable aid intensity will be exceeded.
 - For the setting up of distribution networks or export and the business is not in difficulty as defined by ‘This is defined’ in section 2.1 of the Community Guidelines and State Aid for Rescuing and Restructuring Firms in Difficulty (2004/C22/02).

Declaration

Name		Position within the company	
Signature		Date	
Email		Telephone No.	