

APPLICATION FOR LOCAL NEWSPAPER RELIEF

In the March 2016 budget the Government announced that it would introduce a £1,500 discount for office space occupied by local newspapers, up to a maximum of one discount per local newspaper title and per hereditament, and up to state aid limits, for 2 years from 1 April 2017.

In order to claim the relief, please complete the application form below and the State Aid declaration on the reverse. The amount of relief will be determined by the Council and notified to you on your revised bill. .

Please note that 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 <input type="checkbox"/>	Limited Company <input type="checkbox"/>	Partnership <input type="checkbox"/>	Charity <input type="checkbox"/>
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Title of newspaper claim is in respect of		Company or Charity Reg Number	
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SECTION 2

Address of Property which relief is to be claimed:			
Property Reference		Account Reference	

Business Declaration

- I understand that the property the application relates to is designated as office space wholly or mainly used by employees of the applicant.
- I confirm that no other claim for Newspaper Relief has been made in respect of the newspaper title stated on this form.
- I understand that relief will be calculated on a daily basis and that Northumberland County Council reserves the right to recalculate, or terminate and remove the relief entirely (in the event that the property ceases to be eligible for relief), for example due to a change to the rating list for the property concerned (retrospective or otherwise).
- I confirm that to the best of my knowledge that the information set out within this form is accurate, true and complete.
- I understand that if any of the information contained within this claim is incorrect, or if the grant of relief paid to me is also awarded by another source, the amount can be recovered from me.

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:

<input type="checkbox"/>	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

<input type="checkbox"/>	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 form 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 aid 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.	