

FOI number: **HBC_FOI_20200266**
Date FOI Received: **15/04/2020**
Department: **Business Rates**
Title: **Calculations of revaluation support 2017-2021**
Description: **Calculation method for the financial award of re-evaluation support grants.**

Request: (As Redacted sent by requestor)

In accordance with the provisions specified within the above Act I hereby request the following information. All information is strictly related to business rates.

- A copy of the calculation method for revaluation support that covers the years 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21
- Confirmation of where in the yearly charge the relief is applied from, i.e. after all others reliefs. If this is not already provided in the method mentioned above

Please provide the information in an electronic format, either a spreadsheet or a PDF. The Act requires that a response be provided within a period of 20 working days from the date hereof.

If this information is already provided in full, i.e. on your website, please reply stating this and we will accept the request as complete. However, please note that it must cover all of the above.

If you require clarification on any of the points above or should you wish to discuss this further then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Response: (Response as Redacted sent by service)

This was reported to September 2017 Council. I'm not sure if the policy was then published separately but the calculation is included in the report:

<http://www5.hertsmere.gov.uk/democracy/documents/g10278/Public%20reports%20pack%20Wednesday%2027-Sep-2017%2019.30%20Council.pdf?T=10>

Here is an extract from the report:

Calculation of Awards

2.20 The award will be a percentage relief that will be determined once all qualifying applications have been approved. The formula for determining this percentage will be as follows:

$$(A - B) / C = X\%$$

Where

A = The overall annual Discretionary Relief grant allocation for Hertsmere from the Department for Communities and Local Government for the financial year in question;

B = A percentage of A to be held back by Hertsmere Borough Council to mitigate any potential adjustments and/or challenges to scheme eligibility.

Residue from this sum to be redistributed before the end of the financial

year;

C = The overall increase in 2017-18 net rates payable, compared to 2016-17 net rates payable, for all qualifying ratepayers (i.e. a grand total).

2.21 The amount of financial award will then be calculated for each ratepayer by applying the percentage calculated in paragraph 2.20 above to the individual ratepayer's share of the increase of C above.

2.22 The total value of all awards of relief will be limited to the maximum financial allocation to Hertsmere Borough Council during any grant period. No applications can be accepted beyond the closing date.

2.23 Financial awards will be pro rata based upon a ratepayer's eligible period of liability. Originally we planned to hold a % back but in the end decided not to so B ended up being zero.

If you have any queries about the processing of your request then please do not hesitate to contact me. Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests together with a complaints/appeals procedure is available in our reception or via our website at:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Your-Council/Official-Publications--Guides--Policies/Access-to-Information.aspx>

The Information Commissioner oversees the application of the Freedom of Information Act. You may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545700
Website: www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please include the above reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

Thank you for your request.

Kind regards

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