

FOI number: **HBC_FOI_20200450**
Date FOI Received: **11/08/2020**
Department: **Business Rates**
Title: **Business Rates Data Query**
Description: **Business Rates Data**

Request: (As Redacted sent by requestor)

I have downloaded your business rates data from this website: <https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Business/Business-Rates/business-rates-freedom-of-information.aspx> and I have a query about the data. There are 6 properties marked as having SBRR, when their RV is higher than 15000, and so would not be eligible. Having checked their 2010 RV as well they don't seem to be eligible for SSB either. Additionally I previously downloaded your October data which had 1036 props listed as having SBRR, and in the June data there are only 938 accounts listed with SBRR.

I appreciate that at this time FOI requests and queries may not be a high priority, but would it be possible for the SBRR column to be confirmed please?

Response: (Response as Redacted sent by service)

I have looked at the information available on our website and I agree, there are 6 cases where the RV is greater than 15000 and the SBR indicator is still on.

I agree that this is not correct. I can only assume that this was due to businesses previously being entitled to SBR prior to 2017. In all cases the businesses are in receipt of 100% discount either via Nursery discount or the expanded Retail Discount. To confirm though, the report is showing the correct RV, the flag seems to have stayed on after 2017.

Since October last year, we undertook a small business rate review and we checked businesses which had the flag in place as part of our work to ensure that small Business Rate grants are in the right place. In doing this work we removed the flag from a number of businesses but it looks like these 6 were missed. (I assume because they are all in receipt of 100% relief).

We are not due to update this information until later on in the year and we will ensure that the flags are removed then.

Hope this all makes sense.

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
Information Services

Information Services

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