

## Business Rates - Information for Agents

### Liaising with the council if you are acting on behalf of the ratepayer

The council is willing to disclose all charges, reliefs and rateable value history to any agent or person who has obtained written authorisation from the ratepayer to act on their behalf. All requests must be in writing to the address below and must be accompanied by the written authorisation.

Any request for information, other than for the current rateable value of premises, will be refused if the request is not made on behalf of the ratepayer as described above.

### How to obtain the rateable value of a property

#### The council's business rates office

The rating list can be inspected during office hours (9am to 5pm).

The business rates section also offers a service whereby a **current rateable value** will be supplied in response to a telephone request for this information. This service is over and above the requirements of Section 41 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 which requires a local authority to "deposit the rating list in its principle office" so that it can be inspected. This arrangement is on a goodwill basis and will be reviewed annually. During busy periods, this service may be suspended.

If you wish to view the rating list, please contact the business rates office, who will be happy to arrange an appointment. Contact details can be found below.

#### The Valuation Office Agency (VOA)

Rateable values, both current and historical, can be obtained online from the [VOA website](#).

#### The ratepayer

The rateable value and rating history may be obtained from the ratepayer if they are willing to disclose it to you.

### How to obtain the rateable history of a property

#### The Valuation Office Agency (VOA)

Rateable values, both current and historical, can be obtained online from the [VOA website](#).

## **The ratepayer**

The rateable value and rating history may be obtained from the ratepayer if they are willing to disclose it to you.

## **The council's business rates section**

The business rates section will supply rateable value history to any agent or person who has obtained authorisation from the ratepayer to act on their behalf. All requests must be in writing to the address at the bottom of this page and must be accompanied by the written authorisation.

## **National non-domestic rating multiplier**

Bolton Council works out the business rates bill by multiplying the rateable value of the property by the appropriate multiplier. The Government sets the multipliers for each financial year for the whole of England. There are two multipliers; the standard non-domestic rating multiplier (50.4p in 2019/20) and the small business non-domestic rating multiplier (49.1p in 2019/20). The former is higher to pay for small business rate relief (SBRR).

The Government sets the multipliers for each financial year for the whole of England. The Government normally changes both multipliers every year in line with inflation. By law, the multipliers cannot go up by more than the rate of inflation, apart from some minor adjustments to counteract losses from appeals. In relation to the standard multiplier only, the multiplier can increase to pay for small business rate relief. In the year of a revaluation, it is set at a level which will keep the total amount raised in rates after the revaluation the same as before, plus inflation for that year.

Some ratepayers or premises may qualify for transitional arrangements or other reliefs or discounts. This information may be obtained from the ratepayer, if they are willing to disclose it to you or from the business rates office if you are acting on behalf of the ratepayer (see Liaising with the Council if you are acting on behalf of the ratepayer above).

### **Standard Non-Domestic Rating Multipliers**

2019/20 £0.504

2018/19 £0.493

2017/18 £0.479

2016/17 £0.497

2015/16 £0.493

2014/15 £0.482

2013/14 £0.471

2012/13 £0.458

2011/12 £0.433

2010/11 £0.414

### **Small Business Rate Multipliers**

2019/20 £0.491

2018/19 £0.480

2016/17 £0.484

2015/16 £0.480

2014/15 £0.471

2013/14 £0.462

2012/13 £0.450

2011/12 £0.426

2010/11 £0.407

## **Contact us:**

**Telephone:** (01204) 331730 (Monday to Friday, 9.00am – 5.00pm)

**E-mail:** [business.rates@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:business.rates@bolton.gov.uk)

**Write to:** Business Rates Section, PO Box 32, Bolton BL1 1RX

**Visit:** The One Stop Shop – Appointment Only\*

Town Hall

Bolton

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 9.00am – 5.00pm

\*To ensure an officer is available to see you, please ring 01204 331730 to arrange an appointment.

## **External links**

[www.voa.gov.uk](http://www.voa.gov.uk) - Valuation Office Agency

[www.rics.org](http://www.rics.org) - Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

[www.irrv.net](http://www.irrv.net) – Institute of Revenues Rating and Valuation

[www.businesslink.gov.uk/businessrates](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/businessrates)