

Dear Ratepayer

Please find enclosed your Business Rates bill for 2021-2022

The enclosed 2021-2022 business rates bill includes 100% expanded retail discount as announced by the Chancellor during the Budget announcement on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021.

This has been awarded as you were entitled to this discount for 2020-21.

Please note, this 100% discount will **only apply for 3 months until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021** despite the Business Rates bill showing a 100% discount for the whole financial year.

The Chancellor also announced at the Budget, a further 66% discount from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 for the remainder of the 2021-2022 Financial Year for eligible Businesses.

Prior to the 100% expanded retail discount ending on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021, you will receive a revised Business Rates bill for the remainder of the 2021-22 financial year.

This will include the 66% discount should you be eligible, and instalments will be payable from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021. If you currently pay by direct debit, these will be taken as previously requested on 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> of July 2021.

The 66% discount applicable from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 is subject to a 'cash cap'. This means a ratepayer may only receive up to the following 'cash caps' of Expanded Retail Discount in 2021-2022, ignoring any relief for the period before 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021:

- a. £2 million for ratepayers which were mandated by the Government to close their business on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 due to the pandemic
- b. £105,000 for all other ratepayers

Full guidance is available at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-business-rate-relief/retail-discount>.

**We may ask you to complete an online form to confirm you do not exceed the cash cap.**

If you do not wish to accept the expanded retail discount, you can opt out by contacting us at [revenues@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:revenues@north-herts.gov.uk) – Please Type 'Cash Cap Opt Out' into the subject line of your email.

If you will exceed the cash cap by accepting the 66% discount from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021, and therefore are not entitled to this discount, please inform us as soon as you can.

Email us at [revenues@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:revenues@north-herts.gov.uk) – Please Type 'Exceed Cash Cap' into the subject line of your email