

High Street and Retail Relief 2019/20

The Welsh Government will provide grant funding to continue the High Street and Retail Rates Relief scheme to eligible ratepayers for 2019-20. The enhanced scheme aims to provide support for eligible retail businesses by offering up to £2,500 discount on the non-domestic rates bill per property, to retailers occupying premises with a rateable value of £50,000 or less in the financial year 2019-20, subject to State Aid limits.

If you are entitled to this relief your account has been credited with the eligible amount (see below). If you believe that you are entitled and have not been awarded, please contact the Council Tax Team on 01633 644630 or email counciltax@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Eligible Amounts:

Which properties will benefit from relief?

Properties that will benefit from this relief will be occupied high street business and retail properties such as shops, restaurants, cafes and drinking establishments, with a rateable value of £50,000 or less.

Relief should be granted to businesses as a payment based on occupation between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020. It is recognised that there may be some instances where a local authority is retrospectively notified of a change of occupier. In such cases, if it is clear that the ratepayer was in occupation on or after the 1 April 2019, the local authority may use its discretion in awarding relief.

Level of support: up to £2,500

Eligible ratepayers will be retailers whose property has a rateable value between £6,001 and £50,000 on 1 April 2019. It is expected that retailers with a rateable value of £6,000 and below will receive full Small Business Rate Relief (SBRR), however it is left to the discretion of authorities to determine if there are properties not in receipt of SBRR that should be eligible for this relief.

Unlike previous years, the 2019-20 scheme is not limited to high street premises but will include all properties within Wales meeting the wider retail criteria.

Businesses NOT entitled to the targeted High Street relief include:

- *Properties with rateable value greater than £50,000*
- *Properties not reasonably accessible to the public*
- *Properties that are not occupied*
- *Those in receipt of mandatory charitable rate relief and*

Hereditaments that are being used wholly or mainly for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public

- *Financial services (eg. banks, building societies, cash points, ATMs, bureaux de change, payday lenders, betting shops, pawn brokers)*
- *Medical services (eg. vets, dentists, doctors, osteopaths, chiropractors)*
- *Professional services (eg. solicitors, accountants, insurance agents, financial advisers, tutors)*
- *Post office sorting office*
- *Tourism accommodation, eg. B&Bs, hotel accommodation and caravan parks*
- *Sports clubs*
- *Children's play centres*
- *Day nurseries*
- *Outdoor activity centres*
- *Gyms*
- *Kennels and catteries*
- *Show homes and marketing suites*
- *Employment agencies*
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