

Empty Property Rates (EPR)

In April 2008, the Government introduced new empty rate charges which are currently raising over £900m from the owners of unoccupied non-domestic property.

The Chancellor has now delivered his pre budget statement to the House of Commons and it has been confirmed that there will be significant changes to the empty property rate charge in 2009/2010 to help small and medium businesses.

As a result from the 1st April 2009 empty rate charges will be as follows:

All unoccupied non-domestic properties with a rateable value below £15,000 will be exempt from empty rates

Unoccupied industrial, warehouse and storage properties with a rateable value above £15,000

100% relief from rates for 6 months followed by full liability

Other unoccupied property with a rateable value above £15,000

100% relief from rates for 3 months followed by full liability

- Relief runs from the date of vacation
- Listed buildings are exempt
- Buildings which are economically or functionally obsolete should not pay empty rates

If you would like more information about reducing empty rate charges please contact:

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