Property Tax and Assessment News from Around the World

# UNITED KINGDOM – August 2025

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### **UK GENERAL**

## Time for a wealth tax?

Calls for a Wealth Tax are again being raised in the UK and this article provides one woman's view on the pros and cons of introducing such a tax.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

Self's assessment: Time for a wealth tax?

#### **International Property Tax Institute**

## If mansion owners paid a fair council tax, local authorities wouldn't be in such a mess

This article looks at the government's plans to address levelling up by tilting central grants more towards poorer councils at the expense of rich ones but leaving the system the same. The article proposes that a radical reform in council tax is also needed to address the inequities caused by the narrow council tax bands and the out-of-date valuations.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

If mansion owners paid a fair council tax, local authorities wouldn't be in such a mess | Simon Jenkins | The Guardian

## REVEALED: Now Angela Rayner wants to tax your garden SHED thanks to her army of council snoopers. These are the steps you need to take NOW

This article provides alarmist news that "government snoopers" are gathering details from inspections, aerial photos etc of any alterations or additions to residential property in an effort to increase revenue from Council Taxpayers.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

REVEALED: Now Angela Rayner wants to tax your garden SHED thanks to her army of council snoopers. These are the steps you need to take NOW - Elrisala

## Kemi is wrong, we do need a land value tax

This article looks at the opposition by the leader of the opposition to the introduction of a land value tax to replace council tax. The article provides information on the history of the tax and how it should be introduced.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

Kemi is wrong, we do need a land value tax

# Latest business rates appeals figures foreshadow a tsunami of appeals in the next seven months says Colliers

Prior to the next revaluation of business rates coming into effect in April 2026, this article reports on the large numbers of checks, challenges and appeals still outstanding and hears from a rating practitioner that the situation is likely to get worse.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

<u>Latest business rates appeals figures foreshadow a tsunami of appeals in the next seven months says Colliers | Commercial News Media</u>

#### **International Property Tax Institute**

## 'Garden shed tax' warning for UK households - check if you're affected

This article reports that homeowners who have created a separate unit of living accommodation within the curtilage of their property may be assigned an additional council tax band.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

'Garden shed tax' warning for UK households - check if you're affected

## More than 200 pubs closed in six months amid tax hikes, figures show

This article reports on official government statistics that state that 209 pubs were demolished or converted for other uses over the six months to June. The article gives reasons for the closures including, the reduction in business rates relief for hospitality properties, the increase in national insurance and the increase in the minimum wage.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

More than 200 pubs closed in six months amid tax hikes, figures show

#### **ENGLAND**

# Heart of London Business Alliance warns of £2bn business rates hike in London and urges Government to reform "outdated" model before April 2026

This article reports on a warning from a group representing businesses in the capital, that next April could see a possible 26% increase in business rates across the capital from higher rateable values, higher rate multipliers and a cap on sector reliefs. The group calls for the government to carry out a complete rates reform.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

Heart of London Business Alliance warns of £2bn business rates hike in London and urges Government to reform "outdated" model before April 2026

### London 'staring down the barrel' of £2bn hit from higher business rates

This article reports on the same issues as the one above. The article provides further information including that the capital pays a third of all business rates in the UK.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

London 'staring down the barrel' of £2bn hit from higher business rates

#### **SCOTLAND**

### Outdated and Unfair: The Case for Council Tax Reform

This article reports that Tax Justice Scotland has published a briefing recommending the abolition of Council Tax. The article details the problems with the current system and explains why a reformed property tax is the best solution.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

Dave Watson: Outdated and Unfair: The Case for Council Tax Reform

### Will the Scottish Government Revalue Properties for Council Tax?

This article provides details of the preparations that the Scottish Government has undertaken for a revaluation of council tax, and outlines the next steps.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

Will the Scottish Government Revalue Properties for Council Tax? :: Caithness Business Index

#### **WALES**

# Welsh Hospitality 'Risks Being Taxed Out of Existence By Business Rates Proposal'

This article looks at a Welsh Government consultation regarding proposals to introduce differential multipliers for business rates purposes for Wales from 1 April 2026. The article examines a call from the hospitality sector saying that they have been sidelined and are facing substantial increases in the tax.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

Welsh Hospitality 'Risks Being Taxed Out of Existence By Business Rates Proposal'