



## 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?](#)

### 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a radical reform in council tax is also needed to address the inequities caused by the narrow council tax bands and the out-of-date valuations.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](#)

## International Property Tax Institute

IPTI Xtracts- The items included in IPTI Xtracts have been extracted from published information. IPTI accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the information or any opinions expressed in the articles.

## **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:

[Latest business rates appeals figures foreshadow a tsunami of appeals in the next seven months says Colliers | Commercial News Media](#)

## **'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](#)

## **Reeves considers replacing stamp duty with new property tax**

This article reports that the government are considering introducing a replacement for stamp duty – a tax paid by the seller for properties worth over £500,000, and a replacement local property tax for council tax.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Reeves considers replacing stamp duty with new property tax | Tax | The Guardian](#)

## **Business rates: public opinion, and the appeals backlog**

This article reports that business rates' payments are one of the major causes of closures of pubs and breweries in the UK due to the reduction in relief from 75% to 40% this year. The

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article also comments on the number of checks, challenges and appeals still outstanding despite the fact that there is only three months to the end of the 2023 Rating List.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Business rates: public opinion, and the appeals backlog - Beer Today](#)

### **Is Rachel Reeves about to overhaul the dreaded council tax?**

This article reports on the changes in stamp duty and council tax being considered by the government and reported in the previous article. This article delves into the historical background to the introduction of council tax, the funding crisis in local government and the possible timing of such changes.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Wednesday briefing: Is Rachel Reeves about to overhaul the dreaded council tax? | Tax | The Guardian](#)

### **A property wealth tax is now politically feasible**

This article reports on the views of a Senior Researcher Fellow of the University of Oxford who proposes a two-part solution to the fairer taxation of property in the UK which includes a reform of the most expensive Council Tax bands and a land value tax on the most expensive land (including unoccupied land). The article considers the proposals in detail.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Expert Comment: A property wealth tax is now politically feasible | University of Oxford](#)

### **Reeves's 'mansion tax' makes 'no sense' and could lose Treasury money, former IFS chief warns**

This article looks at the Chancellor's proposals to levy a "mansion tax" – effectively capital gains tax on high-value primary residences when they are sold. The article provides comments from several property and taxation specialists who believe the proposed tax would damage the economy.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Reeves 'mansion tax' makes 'no sense' and could cause Treasury to lose money, ex-IFS director warns | The Independent](#)

### **Labour promised to fix business rates, so why are we paying more?**

This article provides the views of the CEO of a major UK retailer who questions whether the Labour Government has fulfilled its manifesto pledge to "replace the business rates system, so we can raise the same revenue but in a fairer way".

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The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Labour promised to fix business rates, so why are we paying more?](#)

### **Radical' property tax would hit older and wealthier people, experts warn**

This article looks at the possible effects of the proposal, currently under consideration by the government, of replacing stamp duty with annual levy on homes over £500,000.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

['Radical' property tax would hit older and wealthier people, experts warn](#)

### **Business rates 'double hit' to cost English firms £2.5 billion next year**

This article hears comments from a large rating practitioner that next year inflation and a government tax change will combine to drive up business rates bills further. A new three-year business rates revaluation will be effective in April 2026, changing valuations in certain sectors and regions, there will be an increase in line with CPI (as at September 2025) and the 40% relief for hospitality properties is due to end.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Business rates 'double hit' to cost English firms £2.5 billion next year | The Standard](#)

### **Rightmove: Why Government must be careful with property tax reform**

This article hears comments from Rightmove, the online provider of properties offered for sale and to let. In the light of the Chancellor's proposed changes to introduce Capital Gains Tax on the sale of high value primary residences and an annual property tax to replace stamp duty, they are warning that any changes to property taxation must avoid unintended consequences which would risk stalling parts of the market.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Rightmove: Why Government must be careful with property tax reform](#)

### **The knotty problem of business rates**

This article gives one journalist's perspective of how the Labour Government are at risk breaking its manifesto promises for reforming business rates. The article looks at the history and reasons that property tax was introduced and considers the effects of the changes that the government have implemented so far.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[The knotty problem of business rates](#)

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## **C-store retailers called on to urge MPs over business rates reform ahead of Autumn Budget**

This article reports that the Association of Convenience Stores (ACS) has asked convenience store retailers to write to their local MPs in a bid to get action on business rates in the Autumn Budget. The article explains the action they are urging the government to take.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[C-store retailers called on to urge MPs over business rates reform ahead of Autumn Budget | Asian Trader](#)

## **Britain needs a wealth tax on property**

This article provides the view of a University of Oxford Professor of Economics with regard to the introduction of a wealth tax. The article promotes replacing the top two bands of Council Tax with an annual wealth tax of 0.5% as well as a 1% tax on all agricultural and unoccupied land valued above £40,000 per hectare.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Britain needs a wealth tax on property | Financial Times](#)

## **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](#)

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## **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'](#)

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