



# UNITED KINGDOM – January 2026

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## UK GENERAL

### **Business rates reform must even playing field between high street and online**

This article explores the Labour government’s manifesto promise to reform the business rates and finds them coming up short, with no more than tweaks to the existing system. The article puts forward the proposals of the Heart of London Business Alliance (HOLBA) to include a 2% levy on online sales.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Business rates reform must even playing field between high street and online](#)

### **2026 business rates revaluation could ‘cripple’ UK manufacturing**

This article reports that the Managing Director of a UK manufacturing company has warned that the revaluation for business rates, coming into force in April 2026, will put undue financial pressure on the sector increasing the risk of closure of many companies. The article explains why this is a particularly bad time and calls for government action.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[2026 business rates revaluation could “cripple” UK manufacturing](#)

## **New U.K. Business Rates Explained: Why The Changes Are Such A Threat To The Growing Flexible Workspace Sector**

This article, written by a representative of the UK Flexible Space Association, explains why the 2026 Revaluation threatens margins, small-business affordability, and sector growth. The article looks at the background to the property tax assessment of such space, including, the UK flexspace boom, the Valuation Office shift on serviced and coworking offices, the consequences of this in respect of empty space and SBRR and the combined impact on coworking and serviced offices.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[New U.K. Business Rates Explained: Why The Changes Are Such A Threat To The Growing Flexible Workspace Sector](#)

### **ENGLAND**

#### **Ex-estate agent slams mansion tax raid as a ‘burglar’s charter**

This article provides the view of an ex-estate agent and Conservative chairman that Labour’s proposed ‘mansions tax’ as a ‘burglar’s charter’ by making properties over £2m easily identifiable online.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Ex-estate agent slams mansion tax raid as a ‘burglar’s charter - Property Industry Eye](#)

#### **Government to water down business rate rise for pubs**

This article reports that the government has recognised the financial difficulties facing many pubs and will make changes to the way public houses are valued for business rates to reduce the increases faced in April 2026 when the revaluation comes into force. The article advises that exact details of the relief are not yet known.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Government to water down business rate rise for pubs - BBC News](#)