



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.

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.

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](#)

British seaside holidays will be killed off by Rachel Reeves and Labour's business rates hike, coastal MPs warn

This article considers the rates increases that will come into effect in April 2026. Property taxes for the average hotel will increase by 115%. The article looks at the coastal hotels which rely on tourism, The article hears from MPs for coastal towns and local businesses about the problems they are facing.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[British seaside holidays will be killed off by Rachel Reeves and Labour's business rates hike, coastal MPs warn | Daily Mail Online](#)

Labour should honour pledge on business rates and build from scratch

This article is written by an economist and examines whether the Labour Government have made any progress in their manifesto pledge to overhaul the rating system. The article

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explains the background to the increases that are likely to be seen in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors when the government is advising that this is the sector it is supporting, and asks why it is pubs that are having their problems addressed ahead of other deserving businesses.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Labour should honour pledge on business rates and build from scratch](#)

Government braced for increase in council tax band challenges - here's how to dispute yours

This article provides advice on how to challenge a council tax bill. The bills are being prepared for issue for the year 2026/27 commencing 1 April 2026. Many councils have applied the limit of 5% increase whilst several others have applied to the government to breach this limit.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Government braced for increase in council tax band challenges - here's how to dispute yours | Money News | Sky News](#)

Replace business rates with a land tax to boost growth

This article is written by an economic policy advisor who argues that liability for paying rates bills should be moved to become the responsibility of the landlord to spare businesses the administrative burden of managing property tax and reduce administration costs for local authorities by reducing the number of taxpayers.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Replace business rates with a land tax to boost growth](#)

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](#)

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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](#)

Entire hospitality trade rounds on Labour to extend pubs support - as hotelier reveals £12m hike in business rates for single establishment

This article reports on the government's decision to provide further business rates to pubs who have consistently complained about the increases in rates likely from 1 April 2026 when the new rating list will be effective. The article warns that the whole hospitality industry have appealed for similar treatment from the government for aid to offset the increases in rates and National Insurance payments for employees.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Entire hospitality trade rounds on Labour to extend pubs support - as hotelier reveals £12m hike in business rates for single establishment | Daily Mail Online](#)

£1.5m homes may be hit by Rachel Reeves's mansion tax

This article speculates that by the time the mansion tax comes into force in 2028, residential properties currently worth £1.5m will have appreciated to the lower £2m threshold.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[£1.5m homes may be hit by Rachel Reeves's mansion tax](#)

Pubs U-turn dismissed as 'temporary sticking plaster' as Reeves is blasted over botched business rates reform

This article hears complaints from other sectors of retail, hospitality and leisure following the chancellor's U-turn on pubs and calls for a comprehensive rates reform as promised by the Labour Government and a levy on online sales.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Pubs U-turn dismissed as 'temporary sticking plaster' as Reeves is blasted over botched business rates reform | This is Money](#)

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Don't just help pubs! More than 130 hotel bosses write to Rachel Reeves for industry-wide rates relief

This article reports that hotel operators have written to the chancellor regarding the state of the industry saying that it was 'critical' that the Government provides 'a whole-sector solution'.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Don't just help pubs! More than 130 hotel bosses write to Rachel Reeves for industry-wide rates relief | This is Money](#)

The problem with the mansion tax is that it's badly designed

This article is written by an Oxford University economist who expresses the view that the proposed mansion tax in England is badly designed. The article discusses the wide bands and increases in tax payable which will lead to more appeals for those whose valuations sit at the bottom of the bands and argues that a fairer system would be a proportional tax which would also raise more revenue.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[The problem with the mansion tax is that it's badly designed](#)

Don't just help pubs on business rates, hospitality chiefs plead

This article hears calls from the wider UK hospitality industry that the chancellor should widen the relief that is to be given to pubs to other struggling parts of the sector.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Don't just help pubs on business rates, hospitality chiefs plead](#)

Chancellor intervenes as pub closures and rates pressure force emergency support package

This article reports on the chancellor's announcement of the support package that is being provided for the pub sector.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Chancellor intervenes as pub closures and rates pressure force emergency support package | TheBusinessDesk.com](#)

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Business rates: Reaction from campaigners and business owners

This article provides opinion from industry experts and representatives of the chancellor's recently announced extra support for pubs and reports on calls for the government to scrap the revaluation and maintain current valuations, in preparation for a full overhaul of the system from 2027.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Business rates: Reaction from campaigners and business owners - Beer Today](#)

Business Rates Relief Still Leaves Pubs Facing a 52% Cost Shock

This article reports that the measures introduced to support pubs will still leave the majority facing a near 52% increase over the rates paid in the Covid period. The article concludes that this is just a short-term fix for the industry rather than a solution.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Business Rates Relief Still Leaves Pubs Facing a 52% Cost Shock](#)

NORTHERN IRELAND

Pubs and hotels face higher rates bills after revaluation

This article looks at the increases that pubs and hotels will face in Northern Ireland when the 2026 revaluation is effective from 1 April 2026. The article explains how business rates are calculated and why pubs and hotels particularly have seen large increases in their valuations. It also looks at increases in other sectors of the market.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Northern ireland pubs and hotels face higher rates bills after property revaluation - BBC News](#)

'Relief' for pubs and hotels as rates revaluation halted

This article reports on the announcement by the finance minister that the 2026 revaluation will not go ahead in April and provides opinion from the hospitality industry.

The article can be accessed via the following link:

[Rates: 'Relief' for pubs and hotels as rates revaluation halted - BBC News](#)

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