

Rateable Value The Valuations Office Website

All businesses that operate out of premises will have business rates.

Details of the rates can be found on

<http://www.voa.gov.uk>

This website allows access details of all rateable values. To access information the following is required

- Business address
- POSTCODE

Once on the website choose

- Business Rates
- For all revised rates - 2005
- For all existing rates – 1995

The vast majority of searches can be done using the postcode. With the 2005 valuation, after entering the Postcode, details of all businesses under that postcode will come up. To understand how the rateable value has been calculated, choose

- Select and tick the box
- View Details
- Click on “valuation”

If there are details available it will outline how the rateable value has been made up. Including all the facilities that the local authority thinks the property should be assessed on.

An article in Accountancy Age in June 2006 stated that nearly half a billion pounds in business rate tax relief was yet to be claimed because half of the small companies eligible for the cash have not to applied for their share.

Research suggested that out of 78,770 businesses that were eligible for small business rate relief, only 38,292 had claimed the rebate according to the Local Government Association.

Under new relief measures which came into effect at the beginning of April last year, eligible businesses with rateable values below £5,000 should get 50% back.