



Office of the
Deputy Prime Minister

Creating sustainable communities

Common Commencement Dates

Statement of Forthcoming Regulations 2006



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February 2006

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Introduction

This statement is intended to provide businesses with an indication of when new, amended or reduced requirements on them will be coming into effect over the coming year. These regulations will, wherever possible, be implemented on one of two 'Common Commencement Dates' (CCDs) each year. **These are the 6th April and 1st October.**

Every effort has been made to align to a CCD, however there are a few exceptions that readers should be aware of:

- We are currently in a transitional phase and have previously committed to commencing some regulations on dates this year other than 6th April or 1st October.
- EU regulations and consequential domestic legislation are exempt from CCDs as the commencement dates are dictated by EU regulation. Where possible, during EU negotiations, Ministers will encourage the alignment of the transposition or coming into force date with a CCD.
- CCDs do not apply to emergency legislation, where there would be a significant public cost or if it would cause detriment to a particular sector of business.

Changes to the Annual Statement

It should be noted that this statement provides an **indication of forthcoming regulations** and is **not a commitment by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister to commence regulations as listed**. Certain measures may be deferred or, where necessary, brought forward. As such, this report will be updated in the summer and stakeholders are advised to sign up for our electronic news alerts to keep aware of developments in their area. This can be done at www.odpm.gov.uk

Table of Forthcoming Regulations – 2006

| Planning and Minerals | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| <i>Description</i> | <i>Proposed in Force Date</i> | <i>Further Information</i> |
| Transfer of Planning Powers to West Northamptonshire Urban Development Corporation (UDC) | | |
| <p>Intention is to transfer development control from the LA to West Northamptonshire UDC, so as to support its work on unlocking the area's regeneration and growth potential.</p> | March (TBC) | <p>Consultation Paper 1 (Apr 2005)</p> <p>Consultation Paper 2 (Nov 2005)</p> <p>Note that ODPM has committed itself to implementing these regulations in March 2006, hence why they are not aligned with a CCD.</p> |
| Control of Major-Accident Hazards Regulations | | |
| <p>To give effect to the changes to planning requirements arising from Directive 2003/15/EC amending Council Directive 96/82/EC on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances (the Seveso II Directive).</p> <p>The amendments are largely technical and scientific, designed to broaden the scope and improve the effectiveness of the Directive in preventing major accidents and limiting their consequences. However, a key feature is the revised classification and definition of some dangerous substances and preparations, and changes to qualifying quantities that determine whether an establishment falls within scope of the Directive.</p> | 6th April | Consultation Paper (Mar 2005) |
| Changes to the Use Classes Order for Casinos | | |
| <p>Following introduction of the Gambling Act 2005, changes are being considered on whether casinos should be removed from the D2 use class and whether they should benefit from permitted development rights.</p> <p>The Government's preferred choice is to alter the Use Class Order so that casinos would be sui generis (of its own kind) but with limited permitted development rights – the one way right under the General Development Procedure Order to convert to any Class D2 use.</p> <p>Consultation on these proposals finished late 2005 and a final announcement on whether to go ahead with this is imminent.</p> | 6th April | Consultation Paper (Jul 2005) |
| Monitoring of Mineral and Landfill Permissions – Implementation of a New Fees Regime | | |
| <p>Establish a fees regime enabling Mineral Planning Authorities to charge for the costs of monitoring conditions in planning permissions.</p> | 6th April | Consultation Paper (Jun 2005) |
| Internal Floor Space Control (Mezzanines) | | |
| <p>Policy to introduce a threshold for requiring planning permission, with regards to an increase in the amount of internal floor space ('mezzanine floor') in the retail sector. Intended to provide benefits to town centre retail by controlling any increases in floor space at large out-of-town retail parks.</p> | 6th April (TBC) | <p>Consultation Paper (Mar 2005)</p> <p>Note that ODPM has made a general commitment to implement this change to the General Development Procedure Order as soon as possible; hence it may be that these regulations come into force the month before (or possibly after) 6th April.</p> |

| Planning and Minerals (continued) | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| <i>Description</i> | <i>Proposed in Force Date</i> | <i>Further Information</i> |
| Changes to Major Application Determination Periods | | |
| <p>The aim of this measure is to clarify and harmonize secondary legislation in regards to the processing of major planning applications. Specifically, the proposed changes reconcile three time periods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the period after which applicants can take their major application to appeal for non-determination (currently 8 weeks); – the target time period in which Local Authorities are required to deal with major planning applications (currently 13 weeks); and – the government policy that authorities should be allowed 16 weeks for determination on planning applications that require Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs). | 6th April (TBC) | <p>Consultation Paper (Mar 2005)</p> <p>Note that ODPM has made a general commitment to implement this change to the General Development Procedure Order as soon as possible; hence it may be that these regulations come into force the month before (or possibly after) 6th April.</p> |
| Local Development Orders (LDOs) | | |
| <p>Provides a discretionary power for Local Authorities to make a LDO which grants planning permission to certain types of development. The LDO can apply to a part or the whole of a Local Authority area.</p> <p>This will also save relevant companies and individuals the cost of making an application.</p> | 6th April (TBC) | <p>Consultation Paper (Mar 2005)</p> <p>Note that ODPM has made a general commitment to implement this change to the General Development Procedure Order as soon as possible; hence it may be that these regulations come into force the month before (or possibly after) 6th April.</p> |
| Outline Planning Permission, Reserved Matters and Design & Access Statements | | |
| <p>Intention is to amend the outline planning permission process and requirements for the submission of Design and Access Statements. The three key changes are in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – information that must be submitted with the outline application; – the list of reserved matters; and – Design and Access Statements accompanying the outline or detailed application. | 1st April (TBC) | <p>Consultation Paper (Mar 2005)</p> <p>Note that ODPM has made a general commitment to implement this change to the General Development Procedure Order as soon as possible; hence it may be that these regulations come into force the month before (or possibly after) 1st June.</p> |
| Changes to the Validity Criteria | | |
| <p>To clarify the idea of a 'valid application' in secondary legislation. Amendments to the General Development Procedure Order will specify that the relevant date for beginning an application determination period ('start date') is the first day following the date on which a valid application is received by a Local Authority and where 'a valid application' has the appropriate fee attached.</p> <p>This proposal also clarifies what must be included with an application for it to be 'valid'.</p> | 1st October | <p>Consultation Paper (Mar 2005)</p> |
| Criteria for Consulting Statutory Consultees | | |
| <p>Minor amendments and clarifications to statutory consultees (e.g. the Environment Agency) for certain types of consultation as part of a planning application.</p> <p>Consultation is expected in Spring 2006, though revisions to the Environment Agency criteria for applications in flood risk areas are part of the consultation package on PPS25.</p> | 1st October | <p>Consultation Paper on PPS25 (Dec 2005)</p> |

| Planning and Minerals (continued) | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| <i>Description</i> | <i>Proposed in Force Date</i> | <i>Further Information</i> |
| Standard Application Form (1App Project) | | |
| This will ensure consistency in the planning process by introducing a standard application form across all Local Authorities for planning and associated consents. | 1st October | Consultation Paper (Mar 2005) ODPM Planning Portal |
| Town and Country Planning (Flooding) Direction 2006 | | |
| The Direction requires the local planning authority to notify the Secretary of State of any application for major development where it is minded to grant permission, despite there being a sustained objection from the Environment Agency on flood risk grounds.-It will subject planning applications for flood risk areas to more thorough scrutiny, enabling appropriate, sustainable development to continue. Currently out for consultation as part of the PPS25 package. | 1st October | Consultation Paper (Dec 2005) |
| Control of Advertisements Review | | |
| The Government's consultation paper Outdoor Advertisement Control made suggestions for change, in the light of experience to date and representations received. Proposed amendments to the advertisements regulations have now been completed and are largely designed to clarify the arrangements so that they operate more consistently, efficiently and effectively, bringing benefits to all parties involved. These will include: | 1st October | Outdoor Advertisement Control (Jul 1999) Telephone Kiosk Glass Advertising (Jul 2001) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a new deemed consent class for telephone kiosk advertisements. This was as a result of a separate consultation 'Telephone Kiosk Glass Advertising' issued in 2001; - clearer advertisements appeals procedures; - amendment to Class 13 to change the criteria for deemed consent for advertisements displayed on the same site for the past ten years; - adding Government Departments and Agencies to Class 1 so that any functional advertisement they wish to display are in the same category as those displayed by Local Authorities, statutory undertakers and public transport undertakers; and - new size limits on some deemed consent classes. <p>Further consultation is expected in Spring 2006.</p> | | |
| General Permitted Development Order – Demolition of Sports Buildings | | |
| To require a planning application for the demolition of sports buildings, where the demolition is not part of a wider development requiring permission. | 1st October | Consultation Paper (Jul 2000) |
| General Permitted Development Order – Article 4 Directions | | |
| To enable local planning authorities to serve article 4 directions more swiftly and effectively on farmland and woodland threatened with division into a multiplicity of small plots, the owners of which may be many and hard to trace. The Government wants to help Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to avoid neglect of plots, or unauthorised minor development on them, where the LPA considers there is a credible threat to important amenities such as attractive rural landscape. Consultation is expected in February or March 2006. | 1st October | |

| Planning and Minerals (continued) | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| <i>Description</i> | <i>Proposed in Force Date</i> | <i>Further Information</i> |
| Listed Building Consents & Appeals | | |
| <p>To simplify the process by which listed building consent and enforcement appeals concerning Grade I and Grade II* are determined.</p> <p>Proposed changes include allowing Inspectors to determine listed building consent and enforcement appeals relating to Grade I and Grade II* listed buildings, with the Secretary of State reserving the ability to decide those of particular significance (instead of the Secretary of State determining all cases, which is how the current system works).</p> <p>Consultation is expected in February or March 2006.</p> | 1st October | |
| Environmental Impact Assessment and Habitats (Extraction of Minerals by Marine Dredging) Regulations | | |
| <p>These will replace an existing voluntary procedure by a statutory procedure for determining applications to dredge for minerals and, in so doing, formally transpose the EIA and Habitats Directive provisions for this sector.</p> <p>Consultation is expected in May 2006.</p> | By the end of 2006 | Note that European regulations are exempt from CCDs. |

| Housing | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---|
| <i>Description</i> | <i>Proposed in Force Date</i> | <i>Further Information</i> |
| <p>Homebuy – Expanding the Opportunity to Own</p> <p>To implement a new form of low cost home ownership tenure for social tenants and the review and rationalisation of other forms of government supported low cost home ownership schemes.</p> <p>The role of Zone Agents is also being expanded to cover all low cost home ownership schemes that are funded by the Housing Corporation in all regions. This will provide a simplified one-stop-shop for potential applicants and a gateway to all the low cost home ownership options available to them.</p> <p>Social landlords and developers will be able to bid for funding to provide these products on a voluntary basis and Local authorities are invited to introduce Social HomeBuy from April 2006.</p> | 1st April | <p>Consultation Paper (Apr 2005) and general information</p> <p>This change is being brought in to coincide with the Local Government Financial Year of 1st April – 31st March.</p> |
| <p>Selective Licensing of Privately Rented Properties</p> <p>This is focused on the management of a property and will not require inspection like with licensing of HMOs (see below), which also looks at the condition of the property. This will give local authorities the discretion to license privately rented properties as being managed by landlords who are fit and proper to do so. Should it be considered that they aren't, then they must pass the management over to an agent who is.</p> <p>If this is refused, the LA would have the power to take over the property (though not ownership).</p> | 6th April | <p>Housing Act 2004 Information</p> <p>Consultation on Secondary Legislation (Dec 2005)</p> |
| <p>Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)</p> <p>Licensing of over 100,000 high-risk HMOs in the private rented sector.</p> | 6th April | <p>Housing Act 2004 Information</p> <p>Consultation on Secondary Legislation (Dec 2005)</p> |
| <p>Approval of Codes of Management Practice for Student Accommodation & Exception from Licensing for University-managed Buildings</p> <p>The Housing Act 2004, section 233, is to be used to approve Codes of Practice laying down standards of conduct and practice to be followed with regard to the management of student accommodation in multiple occupation whether excepted from HMO Licensing or not.</p> <p>Schedule 14 is to be used to except accommodation managed by higher or further education establishments complying with a code.</p> | 6th April | <p>Consultation on Student Codes of Practice (Sep 2005)</p> |
| <p>Management Orders</p> <p>Management Orders enable Local Authorities to take over the management of private rented properties which are liable to be licensed under HMO or Selective Licensing schemes, but where the Local Authority does not envisage that the property is suitable to be licensed in the near future.</p> <p>The Local Authority will first have to use an Interim Management Order which lasts for a year. At the end of that period, if the problem has not cleared up or if the property still cannot be licensed, they must introduce a Final Management Order. This lasts for up to 5 years but must be kept under review and if the property becomes suitable to be licensed during that period the Order must be revoked, management given back to the prospective licence holder and a licence granted.</p> <p><i>continued on next page</i></p> | 6th April | <p>Housing Act 2004 Information</p> <p>Consultation on Secondary Legislation (Dec 2005)</p> |

| Housing (continued) | | |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Description</i> | <i>Proposed in Force Date</i> | <i>Further Information</i> |
| <p>Management Orders (continued)</p> <p>Local Authorities will also be able to use Special Interim Management Orders to take over management of individual properties which present anti-social behaviour problems, and where the landlord is not taking appropriate action to deal with it.</p> | | |
| <p>Residential Property Tribunals</p> <p>These regulations will establish the Residential Property Tribunal (RPT). The RPT will have jurisdiction as the first instance appeal body from decisions made by Local Housing Authorities (LHAs) under Parts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 of the Housing Act 2004. These include decisions concerning HHSRS, HMO Licensing, Selective Licensing, Management Orders and Empty Dwelling Management Orders. The RPT will also have jurisdiction to determine applications from LHAs to make discretionary management orders (Part 4) and Empty Dwelling Management Orders.</p> <p>These regulations will also establish the fee structure for appeals and applications heard by the RPT.</p> | | |
| <p>Park Homes – Implied Terms and Written Statement</p> <p>Proposes 22 amendments to implied contractual terms, forming part of agreements that allow park home occupiers to place a park home on a site and occupy it as their only or main residence.</p> <p>The proposed measures envisage a tightening of the resale process, increased transparency in the payment system and more residents' rights to enjoy the pitch they reside on. Several changes are also proposed to the written statement – the written summary of the occupation agreement which site owners must provide to occupiers.</p> | | |
| <p>Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS)</p> <p>Reforms to improve upon the existing Housing Fitness Standard by covering all the important health and safety risks in dwellings. An important element of measures to improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable people.</p> <p>This will bring about a more evidence based, health and safety risk assessment.</p> | | |
| <p>Empty Dwelling Management Orders</p> <p>An Empty Dwelling Management Order (EDMO) is a device by which a Local Housing Authority (LHA) may secure occupation of a privately owned dwelling that has been unoccupied for a period of at least 6 months where the owner has no plans to secure occupation of it in the near future. The policy (also known as 'compulsory leasing') allows for management control (but not ownership) of the dwelling to pass across so that the LHA effectively steps into the shoes of the owner and is able to create a letting of the dwelling (with or without the consent of the owner).</p> | | |

| Housing (continued) | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---|
| <i>Description</i> | <i>Proposed in Force Date</i> | <i>Further Information</i> |
| <p>'Minded To' Notices</p> <p>LAs serve notices on businesses (landlords) when they are 'minded to' seek enforcement action.</p> <p>This proposal will remove this requirement and encourage adoption of the Enforcement Concordat as a better way of reaching sensible decisions between Local Authorities and property owners.</p> | 6th April | <p>Housing Act 2004 Information</p> <p>To be repealed through schedule 16 of the Housing Act 2004.</p> |
| <p>Park Homes – Amending the Definition of a Caravan</p> <p>Currently, the cheapest and most effective method of achieving energy efficiency within caravans is to cover them in external cladding. However, the addition of cladding increases the dimensions of some caravans beyond those permitted under the Caravan Sites Act 1968.</p> <p>These regulations increase the dimensions slightly so as to resolve this problem.</p> | 1st October | Consultation Paper (Aug 2005) |
| <p>Implementing the Findings of the 'Economics of the Park Homes Industry' Report</p> <p>To bring about a transparent payment system, reduce harassment of residents and ensure the future growth of the Park Homes Industry.</p> <p>Consultation is expected in Spring 2006.</p> | 1st October | Economics of the Park Homes Industry Report (Oct 2002) |
| <p>Park Homes – Updating the Model Standards</p> <p>Model Standards are the conditions normally expected as a matter of good practice on sites. In updating the Model Standards we have aimed to take account of the recommendations of the Park Home Working Party.</p> <p>Note that the Model Standards are non-statutory guidance.</p> <p>Consultation exercise finishes on 13th April 2006.</p> | 1st October | <p>Government Response to the report of the Park Home Working Party (2000)</p> <p>Consultation Paper (Dec 2005)</p> |
| <p>Safeguarding Tenancy Deposits</p> <p>Tenancy deposit schemes will safeguard tenants' deposits and help to remove the risk of misappropriation of tenants' deposits by landlords and letting agents. Where a landlord or agent takes a deposit from a tenant for an assured shorthold tenancy, he will be legally required to safeguard that deposit with a Government-sponsored scheme.</p> <p>Landlords or agents will face civil penalties if they fail to comply with this requirement.</p> | 1st October | <p>Housing Act 2004 Information</p> <p>Consultation on Secondary Legislation (Nov 2005)</p> |
| <p>Notification by Landlords to their Leaseholders (and other tenants) – Rights and Obligations Relating to Service Charges</p> <p>Leaseholders (and other tenants) may be asked to hand over large sums of money (service charges) to their landlords under the terms of their lease (or tenancy) for the upkeep of the property, and may also be asked to pay administration charges when seeking approval or consent from the landlord under the lease/tenancy, for example, for erecting a satellite dish or building an extension, or seeking information. As such the leaseholder (or tenant) has a number of rights and obligations in this regard.</p> <p>To ensure the leaseholder (or tenant) receives sufficient information about their rights and obligations, landlords will be obliged to provide a summary to their leaseholders/tenants when demanding payment of a service charge, and are already obliged to provide a summary when demanding an administration charge. Regulations will set out the content of both summaries to ensure clarity for both the leaseholder or tenant, and the landlord.</p> | 1st October | <p>Commonhold and Leasehold Reform Act 2002</p> <p>Consultation Paper (Jun 2004)</p> |

| Building Regulations and Fire Safety | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| <i>Description</i> | <i>Proposed in Force Date</i> | <i>Further Information</i> |
| Energy White Paper Commitments – Part L Amendments and Part-Implementation of the Energy Performance of Building Directive (EPBD) | | |
| <p>This revision of the Building Regulations aims to raise energy performance standards for new buildings and in existing buildings when subject to works and to implement the technical elements of the EPBD. Other amendments are also being made to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Part P (Electrical Safety); and – procedural aspects of the building regulations and the approved inspector regulations (in particular expanding the self-certification provisions under the latter). <p>The technical elements of the EPBD require EU member states to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – introduce a national calculation methodology (NCM) for calculating the performance of buildings – set minimum energy standards for buildings using the NCM and to review these at least every 5 years; – require compliance with these standards. <p>The EPBD also contains administrative elements that require member states to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – require energy performance certificates to be made available whenever buildings are constructed, sold or rented out; – inspect the efficiency of boilers (or introduce an information regime instead); and – inspect fixed air conditioning systems. <p>The Government is to make a statement on implementation of the administrative elements shortly.</p> | 6th April | <p>Consultation Paper (Jul 2004)</p> <p>Interim Approved Documents for Part L in anticipation of implementation of the Building Regulations on 6 April 2006</p> |
| Review of Guidance on the Ventilation of Buildings – Part F | | |
| <p>Approved Document F needs to be amended so that ventilation systems are designed to provide sufficient fresh air to maintain good indoor air quality, without relying on an uncontrolled contribution permeating through the building envelope and leading to draughts as well as wasted energy.</p> <p>The approach adopted can be summed-up as: <i>Build tight and ventilate right.</i></p> | 6th April | <p>Consultation Paper (Jul 2004)</p> <p>Interim Approved Documents for Part F in anticipation of implementation of the Building Regulations on 6 April 2006</p> |
| Regulatory Reform Order on Fire Safety | | |
| <p>To simplify, rationalise and consolidate existing legislation spread over many Acts. This will create one simple risk-based fire safety regime applying to all buildings which the public might use (not private dwellings).</p> | 1st October (TBC) | <p>General information from the ODPM website</p> <p>The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 – S.I. 2005/1541</p> <p>Press release relating to implementation (Jan 2006)</p> |
| Code for Sustainable Buildings | | |
| <p>The Code for Sustainable Homes signals a new direction for building standards. Wherever practicable we intend to develop and introduce a system of sustainable building standards based on voluntary compliance.</p> <p>Consultation exercise finishes on 6th March 2006.</p> | 1st October | <p>Consultation Paper (Dec 2005)</p> |

| Local Government | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---|
| <i>Description</i> | <i>Proposed in Force Date</i> | <i>Further Information</i> |
| Local Government Pension Scheme Amendments (1) | | |
| <p>The proposed changes will have the effect of amending the Local Government Pension Scheme regulations in accordance with the Finance Act 2004.</p> <p>This will impact on those businesses who perform services on behalf of Local Authorities and have contracted into the Local Government Pension Scheme.</p> | 6th April (TBC) | <p>Consultation Paper (Dec 2005)</p> <p>There is a possibility that these regulations may need to come into force on 1st April, in line with the Local Government Financial Year.</p> |
| Local Government Pension Scheme Amendments (2) | | |
| <p>This represents a package of changes as detailed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - removal of the provision commonly known as the 85 year rule; - administration and governance changes, which will make changes to the way in which both employers and Administering Authorities run the LGPS; - new compensation regulations which will bring provisions in line with age discrimination legislation; and - other miscellaneous amendments in order to keep the LGPS up to date. | 1st October | Consultation Paper (Dec 2005) |

| National Non-Domestic Rates | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---|
| <i>Description</i> | <i>Proposed in Force Date</i> | <i>Further Information</i> |
| Electronic Billing and Central Rating List Hereditaments | | |
| <p>The objective is to introduce the facility to electronically serve non-domestic rate bills to businesses on the Central Rating List. This facility is already available to local billing authorities with respect to businesses on local rating lists.</p> <p>Businesses on the central rating list will therefore have the choice of whether to receive demand notices by electronic means or in hard copy format.</p> | 1st March (TBC) | Note – a number of NNDR regulations have a sectoral exemption from CCDs, as they are tied into the Local Government Financial Year. |
| Central Rating List Amendment Regulations | | |
| <p>This change will continue the current arrangements for the rating treatment of unbundled local loops – of which BT is presently deemed to be in rateable occupation and therefore the ratepayer.</p> <p>The current arrangement comes to an end on 1st April 2006 and these Regulations will amend that provision.</p> | 1st April | |
| Former Agricultural Premises Rate Relief and Demand Notice Amendment Regulations | | |
| <p>To amend the Non-Domestic Rating Demand Notice Regulations to inform ratepayers that Former Agricultural Premises Rate Relief will end on 15 August 2006.</p> <p>Note that the above end date is set in statute as being 5 years after the Rating (Former Agricultural Premises and Rural Shops) Act 2001 came into force – which was 15th August 2001.</p> | 1st April | Note – a number of NNDR regulations have a sectoral exemption from CCDs, as they are tied into the Local Government Financial Year. |
| NNDR Appeals Amendments | | |
| <p>Minor correcting amendments to appeals regulations and also changes to allow a proposal (appeal) to be made in the light of a tribunal or court decision at any time up to 6 months after the compilation of the local rating lists, i.e. by 30 September 2010 for the current 2005 valuation.</p> <p>This change will also apply retrospectively insofar that ratepayers will have until 30 September 2006 to make a proposal against the 1995 or 2000 lists.</p> <p>Consultation exercise finishes on 3rd March 2006. These proposals have been extensively developed with stakeholders.</p> | 6th April | Consultation Paper (Jan 2006) |
| Small Business Rate Relief Amendment Order | | |
| <p>To reduce the requirement on businesses to register annually for small business rate relief. The intention is that only one application would be needed to cover the financial years 2007/08 – 2009/10, and then from 2010/11 only one application will be required during the life of a valuation list (every 5 years). There will however be a requirement on ratepayers to update their Local Authority with any change of circumstance likely to effect entitlement.</p> <p>This also introduces some other minor changes to tidy up and clarify the existing arrangements.</p> <p>Consultation is expected in March 2006.</p> | 1st October | |