



HOME-BASED BUSINESSES

The local property tax you pay, in England and Wales, will be either **Council Tax** or **Non-domestic (business) Rates**, depending on the type of property.

Some properties are part business and part domestic, so may pay both taxes. Good examples are public houses where the publican lives on the premises or shops where the shopkeeper lives in a flat over the shop.

What if you are a home-based business?

Generally, you should not have to pay business rates for minor business use of the home. The Government does not normally expect home-based businesses to have to pay business rates if:

- You use a small part of your home for your business (for example you use a bedroom part of the day as an office), and
- You do not use it to sell goods or services to visiting clients or members of the public (as opposed to selling by post), and
- You do not employ other people to work at the premises, and

- You have not made alterations of a sort that would not usually be associated with a home (such as converting a garage to a hairdressers or installing a hydraulic car lift).

These are general guidelines.

Some situations might need the facts of each case to be considered. If you are uncertain, please contact us through our website or on 03000 501501.