

NORTH TYNESIDE

Hardship Rate Relief for Businesses

National non-domestic rating



North Tyneside Council

Application Form

www.northtyneside.gov.uk

NORTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL

Hardship Rate Relief for Businesses

National non-domestic rating

Criteria

Under Section 49 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 the Council can consider applications for rate relief from ratepayers who would sustain hardship if the Council did not grant relief. The Council must however take due regard of the interests of its Council Tax payers when making its decisions.

Up to 50% business rates relief (maximum of £50,000) is available for businesses with rateable values exceeding £15,000 that can demonstrate that they are suffering financial hardship. Businesses with a rateable value below £15,000 should apply for Small Business Rates Relief.

Eligibility

- Business based in North Tyneside
- Employing at least five staff
- Rateable value of £15,000 or more
- Must be able to demonstrate current hardship
- Can demonstrate medium to long-term viability
- EU State aid rules apply which includes a ceiling on the overall assistance from public bodies

Preference will be given to businesses operating in sectors of importance to the Borough's or regional economy.

Ineligible businesses

The following businesses will not normally be eligible for grant/relief assistance:

- Pubs and social clubs
- Bus, taxi or transport companies
- Fishing, agriculture or aviation
- Landlords, agents or developers

The Council has discretion to accept applications from any business that can show that by them receiving relief they will provide an overriding social and economic benefit to the area.

A business that is experiencing a general or seasonal downturn in sales is not likely to be supported.

To ensure the resources are accessible to all, businesses previously receiving financial assistance will not normally be supported.

Assessment criteria

North Tyneside Council receive more applications than they are able to support and Hardship Rate Relief is awarded on a discretionary basis. Up to a maximum of £50,000 can be awarded depending on the jobs being created or safeguarded, the business need and the strength of the application. Applicants must be able to demonstrate that their business model is viable and they are able to trade out of any current financial difficulties. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Payment

Hardship Rate Relief is credited to the business rates account once approval has been granted.

Repayment of the relief may be demanded if an applicant is found to have made a fraudulent application or if, within three years from the payment of the grant, the recipient: ceases to trade, moves out of North Tyneside or fails to provide monitoring information required by the scheme.

To apply

To apply for the relief all applicants must complete a diagnostic review with a business adviser at North Tyneside Council and submit an application form, two years accounts and a 12-month cashflow forecast to:

The Business Rates Team
North Tyneside Council
Quadrant East, Silverlink North
Cobalt Business Park
North Tyneside NE27 0BY

Contact details

For further details about National Non-Domestic Rates please contact the Business Rates Team on **(0191) 643 2365** or email team.revenue@northtyneside.gov.uk

For general business support enquiries please contact North Tyneside Council's Business & Enterprise Team on **(0191) 643 6401** or email business@northtyneside.gov.uk

Application form

Business name

Email address

Business address

Web address

Business activity

Postcode

Business start date

Telephone number

Contact name

Mobile number

Position in company

Business status (limited company sole trader, partnership LLP, etc)

If a limited company, please give details of any holding company

Rate account number

Current rate charge

Rateable value of business address

Financial years for which relief is sought

Have you applied to the Valuation Office Agency for a reduction in rateable value? Yes No

If yes, on what grounds?

What is the current position regarding the appeal?

Are you seeking other sources of funding? Yes No

If yes, please give full details?

Please give details of any other financial assistance, training or publicly funded business support you have received over the last 3 years?

What financial investment has been made in the business in the last 3 years?

Total Number of Jobs provided by the business

Number of employees (inc proprietor, partners & directors)	Full-time	Part-time	Total
a. 12 months ago			
b. Currently (at the date of this application)			
c. Estimated in 12 months time			

Give a detailed description of the product or service provided by the business?

Why is hardship relief required?

Please explain briefly the benefits that any rate relief granted would bring to your business.

What will be the consequences of hardship relief not being awarded?

How will you ensure the long-term viability of the organisation?

Outline your marketing strategy and methods you will use to promote your business?

Outline the skills and experience of the management team?

Declaration

I declare that the information contained within this application is to the best of my knowledge, accurate and complete in all respects, and I accept that any relief paid will become immediately repayable in the event of any material inaccuracy or submission of false information. I accept that there is no right of appeal. I have read and accept the terms and conditions relating to the payment of financial assistance and I acknowledge the circumstances in which the financial assistance may be reclaimed.

Signed Print name
Company Position Date

A business adviser from North Tyneside Council will contact you to undertake a diagnostic review and the findings of this will be used to form the decision on your funding application.

Adviser Signature Adviser name
Company Date of diagnostic review

Recommendations from diagnostic review	
Actions	
Adviser comments	

Checklist for applicants

Application form, signed and dated Business Adviser Signature 2 years trading accounts included Cashflow

DATA PROTECTION ACT The information on this form is required as evidence for claims to be made from Council initiatives. The data will only be used to satisfy monitoring and audit requirements and will not be used for any other purposes. Completion of this form is necessary to verify the amounts the Project Sponsor claims back as part of the running costs of this project. This information, if stored on computer, is subject to the rules and provision of the Data Protection Act.

Equal opportunities

In order to help us to monitor the effectiveness of our scheme, we encourage applicants to respond to the following short series of questions. This information will have no bearing on the appraisal of the application.

Please tick the boxes as appropriate.

Business status Pre-start (New business) Existing (Up to 12 months old) Existing (12 months plus)

Gender Male Female

Age 16 - 24 years 25 - 49 years 50 years or over

Ethnicity Please indicate the most appropriate category below:

<input type="checkbox"/> White - British	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Asian British - Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed - White and Black - Caribbean
<input type="checkbox"/> White - Irish	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Asian British - Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed - White and Black - African
<input type="checkbox"/> Other White background	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed - White and Asian
<input type="checkbox"/> Black or Black British - Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian background	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Mixed background
<input type="checkbox"/> Black or Black British - African	<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Information refused
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Black background	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Ethnic background	

Disability I consider myself to have a disability I do not consider myself to have a disability

