

## Response to Rating Consultation

I wish to object to the proposed capital-value based rating system on the grounds that:

1) With 600k ratepayers paying for services and 1200k income-earners using services, any capital value-based system would be grossly unfair to a minority. The system should apply to all earners and hikes should be linked to income inflation..

2) Disability relief should not be dependant on your home being adapted for the disability. Blind, some physically or mentally handicapped may not have any adaptations to their homes yet they should receive the relief.

3) There should be a 25% reduction for single person's occupancy of a house.

4) Rates revenue will be at risk from fluctuations in the property market. While this allows Government to fleece ratepayers during times of high property inflation, it will put rates revenue (and consequently services) at risk during deflation..

5) Any Rate relief being directed at students must be given to them and not to their landlords. Landlords of Houses in Multiple Occupation should be charged commercial rates. They are running businesses

6) There should be an increase the savings limit for pensioners before their rate relief is affected

6) The maximum that people should pay for their rates should result in no more revenue than had previously been generated by the old Rating System: and should rise in line with the cost of services.

7) Water charges should continue to be included in Rates Bills