

I would like you to take on board these ideas when you conduct your review of rates.

1 - Landlord Allowance - Currently Landlords registered with LPS receive a 7% discount/allowance if they bill by the 30th September. This article should be removed from legislation, thereby freeing LPS resources to concentrate on other work. Landlords on this allowance should be encouraged to change status to Agent status and thereby avail of 15% discount.

2 - Student relief - This should also be removed from legislation, this does not help students and ultimately landlords will pass cost on to students. If you are serious about helping students then there should be a reduction in tuition fees rather than help with their rates. This relief is almost impossible to police.

3 - legislation - Legislation needs tightened, if you are serious about collecting rates then loopholes need to be closed. Too many people know the system and play the system year after year and LPS are powerless to stop them.

Legislation needs amended so that LPS can chase past Ratepayers when they leave Northern Ireland and move to Republic of Ireland or Mainland UK.

Legislation needs to be introduced stating that a person or Solicitor must contact LPS within a calendar month of vacating or entering a property. Currently there are hundreds if not thousands of properties on the LPS system with no ratepayers against them - If it was law for people to tell us, this would improve, which would therefore mean more rates would be collected which in turn means more money for services.

I firmly believe that when discussing changes to rating policy, LPS should be involved.

For each new relief granted, other ratepayers will need to pick up the cost, this is where it is hugely important that we have all people due to pay rates to be billed and paying rates.

Legislation for non payers needs improved and powers need to be used by LPS.