

MOTION TO EAST LOTHIAN COUNCIL
25 April 2023

Motion: Business Rates

That East Lothian Council:

Notes the vital importance of retail, hospitality, and leisure businesses to the economy of East Lothian and that many of these businesses are facing substantial increase in business rate due to re-evaluation;

Understands that in England retail, hospitality, and leisure businesses are receiving 75% business rates relief to support them but due to decisions taken by the Scottish Government this relief has not been passed on to similar businesses in Scotland;

Further understands that the Scottish Government received £220 million in Barnett consequentials on the introduction of this policy in England;

Calls on officers to report back to Council setting out what can be done to support local businesses in dealing with the large increases in business rates they are facing and instructs the Chief Executive and Leader of East Lothian Council to write the relevant Scottish Government minister requesting that the Scottish Government introduce 75% rates relief for retail, hospitality, and leisure businesses.

Proposed by (name): Councillor Donna Collins
Date: 12 April 2023

Seconded by (name): Councillor George McGuire
Date: 13 April 2023

Received by (name of officer): Linda Gillie, Team Manager, Democratic and Licensing
Date: 13 April 2023