



Clerk & Chief Executive of each District Council;
Chief Executive, Northern Ireland Local Government Association;
Secretary, National Association of Councillors;
Secretary;
Secretary, Society of Local Authority Chief Executives;
Secretary, Association of Local Government Finance Officers;
Chief Executive, Local Government Staff Commission;
Secretary, Northern Ireland Local Government Officers Superannuation Committee;
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Your reference:
Our reference: LGD 1/33/00

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Circular No. LG 6/04

Dear Sir/Madam

DISTRICT RATE 2004/05

All twenty-six district councils in Northern Ireland have struck their district rates for the 2004/05 financial year.

A Press Release, setting out the detail of the rates for individual councils, is due for issue today. A copy is enclosed for your information.

Yours faithfully

MFT FINNEGAN (MISS)

Enc.

PRESS RELEASE

DISTRICT RATES FOR 2004/2005

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State with responsibility for the Environment, Angela Smith MP today announced that all district councils have struck their district rates for the 2004/2005 financial year.

Commenting on today's announcement, Angela Smith said:-

“The district rates are struck by 15 February each year by individual district councils to meet the costs of local services, including refuse collection and disposal; street cleansing; leisure and recreation facilities etc. District councils strike a domestic rate and a non-domestic rate.

This year, the district rates show percentage increases of between 3.50% and 9.62% for the non-domestic rate and percentage increases of between 3.49% and 9.63% for the domestic rate, when compared with the 2003/2004 figures. District rates vary from district to district, reflecting the rateable resources and spending policies of individual councils.

DISTRICT	Non Domestic Rate				Domestic Rate			
	2003/04	2004/05	Pence Increase Year on Year	% Increase year on year	2003/04	2004/05	Pence Increase Year on Year	% Increase Year on Year
Antrim	17.56	18.93	1.37	7.80%	124.75	134.50	9.75	7.82%
Ards	16.61	17.60	0.99	5.96%	133.90	141.87	7.97	5.95%
Armagh	18.87	19.98	1.11	5.88%	146.03	154.64	8.61	5.90%
Ballymena	14.69	15.95	1.26	8.58%	110.85	120.35	9.50	8.57%
Ballymoney	17.46	19.14	1.68	9.62%	120.40	132.00	11.60	9.63%
Banbridge	18.48	19.95	1.47	7.95%	130.80	141.19	10.39	7.94%
Belfast	17.15	18.17	1.02	5.95%	146.16	154.85	8.69	5.95%
Carrickfergus	18.51	20.04	1.53	8.27%	133.17	144.13	10.96	8.23%
Castlereagh	12.90	13.71	0.81	6.28%	107.95	114.80	6.85	6.35%
Coleraine	15.14	16.13	0.99	6.54%	115.00	122.50	7.50	6.52%
Cookstown	15.06	16.11	1.05	6.97%	120.74	129.11	8.37	6.93%
Craigavon	17.57	18.88	1.31	7.46%	133.67	143.64	9.97	7.46%
Derry	18.68	20.17	1.49	7.98%	146.02	157.67	11.65	7.98%
Down	16.64	18.11	1.47	8.83%	135.37	147.29	11.92	8.81%
Dungannon	14.49	15.47	0.98	6.76%	113.24	120.88	7.64	6.75%
Fermanagh	12.17	12.69	0.52	4.27%	103.00	107.45	4.45	4.32%
Larne	17.73	19.20	1.47	8.29%	139.50	151.05	11.55	8.28%
Limavady	17.52	18.54	1.02	5.82%	126.93	134.32	7.39	5.82%
Lisburn	15.47	16.54	1.07	6.92%	122.14	130.60	8.46	6.93%
Magherafelt	14.55	15.42	0.87	5.98%	104.97	111.22	6.25	5.95%
Moyle	19.58	21.26	1.68	8.58%	144.16	156.54	12.38	8.59%
Newry & Mourne	16.57	17.15	0.58	3.50%	147.00	152.15	5.15	3.50%
Newtownabbey	19.04	19.91	0.87	4.57%	133.81	139.93	6.12	4.57%
North Down	13.99	14.48	0.49	3.50%	130.63	135.19	4.56	3.49%
Omagh	16.14	17.13	0.99	6.13%	138.97	147.44	8.47	6.09%
Strabane	16.83	17.92	1.09	6.48%	127.01	135.27	8.26	6.50%

Notes to Editors

1. District Councils are required to strike their domestic and non-domestic rates by 15 February each year.
2. **District rates** are struck by individual district councils to meet the costs of local services, including refuse collection and disposal; street cleansing; leisure and recreation facilities etc.
3. Domestic and non-domestic **regional rates** are struck each year, by the Department of Finance and Personnel, to help pay for central services such as health, education, roads and transport.
4. The combination of district and regional rates is used to calculate the rates bills for ratepayers.
5. For further information please contact Brian Kirk, DoE Press Office Telephone 028 9054 0013.