

NON-DOMESTIC RATES

RURAL RATE RELIEF SCHEME

RURAL SETTLEMENT LIST

2026-2027

**RURAL RATE RELIEF SCHEME
RURAL SETTLEMENT LIST
SECTION 42A LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1988**

Rural Rate Relief is available to certain businesses in designated rural areas with populations of not more than 3,000.

From 1 April 2017, rate relief of 100% can be granted provided the business is:

- the only general store, food shop (excluding catering premises) or post office in the settlement concerned, with a rateable value of £8,500 or less, or
- the only public house or petrol filling station in the settlement concerned, with a rateable value of £12,500 or less.

Test Valley Borough Council also has the power to grant discretionary rural rate relief of up to 100% to any business in a qualifying rural settlement which the Council considers to be of benefit to the local community, with a rateable value of £16,500 or less, and that it is considered reasonable to grant such relief having regard to the interest of all its Council Taxpayers.

The following list identifies the qualifying rural settlements in the Test Valley Borough Council area effective for the financial year 2026-2027. The list is reviewed annually and is published by 31st December each year in respect of the following financial year.

QUALIFYING RURAL SETTLEMENTS

The following are designated as qualifying settlements within designated rural areas, with populations of not more than 3,000 and will be included in the Rural Rate Relief scheme in their entirety. Unless otherwise indicated areas are based on parish boundaries.

Abbotts Ann	Leckford
Ampfield	Linkenholt
Amport	Little Somborne
Appleshaw	Lockerley
Ashley	Longparish
Awbridge	Longstock
Barton Stacey	Melchet Park
Bossington	Michelmersh
Braishfield	Monxton
Broughton	Mottisfont
Buckholt	
Bullington	Nether Wallop
Chilbolton	Over Wallop
Chilworth (Old Village only)	
East Dean	Penton Grafton
East Tytherley	Penton Mewsey
Enham Alamein	Plaitford
Facombe	Quarley
Frenchmoor	
Fyfield	Sherfield English
 	Shipton Bellinger
Goodworth Clatford	Smannell
Grateley	Stockbridge
Houghton	Tangle
Hurstbourne Tarrant	ThruXTon
 	Timsbury
Kimpton	Upper Clatford
Kings Somborne	
 	Vernham Dean
	West Tytherley
	Wherwell

QUALIFYING RURAL SETTLEMENTS

The town of Andover together with Charlton, and the town of Romsey are wholly urban areas, and no parts thereof are designated as rural areas. Therefore, businesses within these areas will not be eligible for Rural Rate Relief.

The areas of North Baddesley, Nursling & Rownhams, Valley Park and Wellow contain populations of more than 3,000, and businesses within these areas will not be eligible for Rural Rate Relief.

If you would like any further information regarding the Rural Rate Relief scheme, please contact:

Finance & Revenues Service
Test Valley Borough Council
Beech Hurst
Weyhill Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 3AJ

Tel: 01264 368000

Email: businessrates@testvalley.gov.uk

Website: www.testvalley.gov.uk

December 2025