

POLICY NOTE

THE NON-DOMESTIC RATES (REVERSE VENDING MACHINE RELIEF) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2020

SSI 2020/36

The above instrument is made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 153 of the Local Government etc (Scotland) Act 1994 and all other powers enabling them to do so. The instrument is subject to the negative procedure.

Purpose

The purpose of these Regulations is to provide for a 100% non-domestic rates relief from 1 April 2020 for sites wholly or mainly used to provide Reverse Vending Machines (RVMs), defined as a device that is designed to receive, identify and process used relevant containers and provides a means for refund of the deposit paid on a used relevant container received by the device. Relevant containers are defined as sealed containers designed for a single use supply of a drink to a consumer, the supply of which includes a refundable deposit,

Policy Objectives

The Scottish Government is committed to creating a more circular economy where products and materials are kept in a high-value state of use for as long as possible – maximising resources to benefit the economy and the environment.

The Regulations will ensure that the use of lands and heritages wholly or mainly for provision of a reverse vending machine, with the main purpose of processing used single-use empty bottle containers, will not result in rates bills. The rates relief is 100%.

Consultation

There is no statutory obligation to formally consult on these Regulations.

Impact Assessments

No Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment is required because the present instrument will not impose new regulatory burdens on businesses, charities or the voluntary sector.

Financial Effects

No lands and heritages are currently eligible for this relief as none are entered on the valuation roll. The effect of this relief on non-domestic rates income is the future revenue foregone from lands and heritages that will be eligible for relief. The Scottish Fiscal Commission¹ did not cost this policy as it estimated that the policy will have a very small fiscal effect that it does not consider to be material in cost.

¹ <https://www.fiscalcommission.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Scotlands-Economic-and-Fiscal-Forecasts-February-2020.pdf>

Scottish Government
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