

# House of Commons: Written Statement

## Treasury

Written Statement made by: **The Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Jesse Norman)**.

### **Billing Authorities Update**

Local Government is responsible for the administration of non-domestic rates in England. As part of this function, billing authorities will shortly begin preparing to issue annual rates bills to businesses. Nevertheless, as authorities will be aware, my right honourable friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer will make the Budget Statement on 3 March 2021. The Budget will set out the next phase of the Government's plans to tackle the virus, protect jobs and support business. Billing authorities in England should therefore consider issuing business rates bills after the Chancellor has set out his plan at the Budget.

The Government recognises the crucial work local authorities continue to do to support the pandemic response; by their taking this action, it believes it is in the public interest to avoid any potential confusion for businesses and to avoid the cost of having to re-bill businesses in light of any measures that may be included in the Budget.