

# Application for Fresh Start Relief

This scheme offers 100% relief for a period of 12 months where the following circumstances are met -

- The property has previously been in receipt of empty property relief for a continuous period of at least 6 months; and
- From 1 April 2021 the property has a rateable value of no more than £95,000 (£65,000 prior to 1 April 2021); and
- The property is not used for payday lending.

The level of relief for each business will depend on:

- Whether or not each property is eligible for one of the existing rates relief schemes; and
- The level of other public sector assistance received by the business

Please be aware that no other relief can apply during the period fresh start relief is awarded.

If you think your business may qualify for fresh start relief please complete and return the application form to the above address.

If you need any help please contact us:

Telephone: 01506 282020 (Option 2)

Email: [BusinessRates@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:BusinessRates@westlothian.gov.uk)



**Important: All sections of this form must be completed.**

**1. The Ratepayer and the Property**

This application is being made for/ on behalf of:

For the property at:

Account Number:

a) Date you are claiming relief from:

b) Date property became empty (if known)

c) Last use of property (if known)

d) Intended use of the property

e) Do you own or lease the above property.

Own  (go to 2a) Lease  (go to 1f)

f) Name of owner(s):

Owner(s) contact address:

**2. Other Properties**

a) Do you have a Non Domestic Rates liability for any other property in Scotland.

Yes  (go to 2b)

No  (go to 3a)

b)

Address	Rates Reference	Rateable Value

**Note:** If the other properties are not in West Lothian, please provide details of any relief awarded, including type of relief and the amount of relief awarded. Please also provide a copy of your rates bill.

### 3. State Aid

a) Has your business received additional state aid de minimis totalling 200,000 euros over a rolling three-year period. Yes  (go to 3b) No  (go to 4)

b) Please provide details:

**Note:** Fresh Start relief is granted as de minimis aid for State Aid purposes. There is currently a ceiling of 200,000 Euros of de minimis aid that can be granted over a 3 year period. **If you consider that you have already received in excess of, or close to, this sum over the past three years, please attach details with this application form.**

The current European Commission exchange rate can be found at -  
[http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts\\_grants/info\\_contracts/inforeuro/inforeuro\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/inforeuro/inforeuro_en.cfm)

### 4. Declaration

West Lothian Council is required by law to protect the public fund it administers. It will share information provided to it with other bodies responsible for administering public funds in order to prevent and detect fraud.

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information given by me is true and correct. I understand that the council will make all necessary enquiries to confirm the details of this application.

I agree to inform the council immediately of any change that may affect entitlement to relief. Failure to do this will result in any entitlement to relief being withdrawn retrospectively.

Signature:

Date:

Print Name:

Your status within the business:

Contact Address:

Telephone (Daytime):

Email Address:

**If you have provided us with an email address we will send your bill to you electronically.**