

RICS Rating Conference 2018

Future of the UK business rates system

24 January 2018, St James' Court, A Taj Hotel

www.rics.org/ratingconference

08:45 Registration and refreshments

09:30 Chair's opening comments

Mark Higgin, Partner – Head of Rating, Montagu Evans LLP

09:45 Keynote address: Learnings from the Barclay Review

Ken Barclay, Chair, Commission into the Review of Non-Domestic Rates in Scotland

10:15 Panel discussion: The future of the ratings system

11:00 Networking refreshment break

11:30 How to achieve more frequent revaluations

- Lessons learned from international examples of increase frequency in revaluations
- Impact on the appeals process
- Embedding a system which is more responsive to the actual state of the property market

Pedro Wrobel, Chief Strategy Office, VOA

12:15 Implementing self-assessment

- Accessibility of information regarding the value of neighbouring and comparable properties
- Interplay between a formula-based approach and more frequent revaluations
- Challenges/opportunities for smaller businesses
- Key factors for consideration in a formula-based approach

13:00 Networking lunch

14:00 Afternoon keynote address: Implementing planned improvements to the online check, challenge and appeal service – the client perspective

- Fully digital Challenge form
- A digital dashboard for correspondence and notifications
- Online valuations for land and miscellaneous properties
- Improvements to document upload facilities
- Access to the API for shops, warehouses and factories

Margaret Whitby, NDR /CCA Product Owner, Valuation Office Agency

Brigid McBride, Director of Digital Transformation, HMRC

14:30 Taxation of online versus traditional retail

How should the current rating system address the burgeoning imbalance between traditional bricks & mortar retail & web-based retail?

15:15 Networking refreshment break

15:35 Examining the impact of emerging technology on the business rates system

A discussion around the use of Automated Valuation Models and Artificial Intelligence and their use in business rates and valuation.

- What are they?
- How do they work?
- Where do they fit in terms of discussions around self-assessment and more frequent revaluation?

Roger Messenger, Partner, Wilks Head & Eve

16:10 The international perspective: A comparison of global property tax systems

Paul Sanderson, President, International Property Tax Institute

16:50 Chair's closing remarks