

**DISCRETIONARY LOCAL DISCOUNTS
OR MARKET GRANTS 2013
NOTES FOR GUIDANCE AND
INFORMATION**

TELEPHONE: DIRECT LINE 01237 428985/6

DISCRETIONARY LOCAL DISCOUNTS

1. Will be awarded from 1st April 2013.
2. This will be awarded to shops and retail establishments (excluding charity shops) situated in the town centres of Bideford, Torrington and Holsworthy.
3. Plans showing the extent of the town centres are available on request, but will basically be the retail centre of the town around the High Street.
4. Relief will be considered when the shop or retail establishment is a new business occupied by a new independent local trader.
5. The local discount will be a set amount of £300.00 which will be granted for a three year period 2013/14 to 2015/16 – the discount will only be applicable where there is a balance to pay. If the business is in receipt of small business rate relief, and the relief covers the liability, the local discount will not apply.
6. Discount granted will be offset against the rate charge.
7. The scheme will require the completion of an application form together with a business plan to establish that the viability of the business has been researched prior to setting up the business as well as cash flow forecasts

MARKET SPECIFIC GRANT

Not a discount as such, but a grant to be financed from the capping of discretionary relief for larger organisations.

- a. This will be awarded to markets liable to pay business rates
- b. Markets will be required to submit an annual application form, together with a business plan specifying the events that will be taking place in the forthcoming year and the likely effect on the market and the towns.
- c. Market organisers will be awarded grants to cover the arranging of events to promote the market and to increase footfall in the main towns

GENERAL NOTES

Section 69 of the Localism Act 2011 amends Section 47 of the Local Government Act 1988 to replace the limited circumstances in which local authorities can currently give discretionary relief, with a power to grant relief in any circumstances.

Further advice and information can be obtained from the Business Rate Team –

Telephone: 01237 428985/6 Email: business.rates@torridge.gov.uk

Please complete the application form and enclose business plans and return to:-

Business Rates Team
Torridge District Council
PO Box 24
Bideford
Devon EX39 2YS