

TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE (RELIEF FROM NON- DOMESTIC RATES) BILL

EXPLANATORY NOTES ON LORDS AMENDMENTS

What these notes do

- 1 These Explanatory Notes relate to the Lords Amendments to the Telecommunications Infrastructure (Relief from Non-Domestic Rates) Bill as brought from the House of Lords on 7 December 2017.
- 2 These Explanatory Notes have been prepared by the Department for Communities and Local Government in order to assist the reader of the Bill and the Lords amendments, and to help inform debate on the Lords amendments. They do not form part of the Bill and have not been endorsed by Parliament.
- 3 These Explanatory Notes, like the Lords amendments themselves, refer to HL Bill 65, the Bill as first printed for the Lords.
- 4 These Explanatory Notes need to be read in conjunction with the Lords amendments and the text of the Bill. They are not, and are not meant to be, a comprehensive description of the Lords amendments.
- 5 Lords Amendments 1 to 13 were tabled in the name of the Minister.

Commentary on Lords amendments

- 6 Clauses 1 to 3 of the Bill amend Part 3 of the 1988 Act to introduce a new mandatory relief for hereditaments used for the purpose of telecommunications which are shown on non-domestic rating lists.
- 7 Lords amendments 1 to 12 would provide that the mandatory relief would only apply for days falling before 1 April 2022. The Lords amendment 13 provides a power for the appropriate national authority to make regulations which substitute a later date for 1 April 2022. Regulations that substitute a later date are subject to the affirmative procedure.

Financial Effects of Lords Amendments

- 8 The Bill contains provisions which will allow for changes to the chargeable amounts paid upon hereditaments wholly or mainly used for the purposes of facilitating the transmission of communication by any means involving the use of electrical or electromagnetic energy. The planned use of the power to provide relief for new fibre is estimated to cost £60m in total over 5 years up to 1 April 2022. Therefore, the Lords amendments have no financial effects.

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