

2 November 2017

## Supplementary forecast information release: Business Rates Appeals

The OBR is releasing the information below following a request for further detail underlying the March 2017 *Economic and fiscal outlook (EFO)* business rates forecast. We will, as far as possible, meet ongoing requests to release supplementary forecast information, where this will improve the quality of public debate on the public finances. Our full release policy is available on our website.

The request we have received relates to the assumptions we made about post-revaluation appeals in our business rates forecasts. These forecasts are produced bottom-up for England and top-down for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, so the release relates only to our forecast for business rates in England. To put the appeals forecast in context, we have also published our England-only business rates forecast (shown in the third line of Table 1). These are produced on the basis of advice from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). In line with DCLG's published National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR1) figures, the forecast includes information about the provisions that local authorities have made against future changes to the ratings list (shown in the first line in Table 1). We use this information to calibrate a smoothed profile for projected appeals over the forecast period (shown in the second line). The ratio of appeals to receipts averages 3.2 per cent over the five-year forecast period.

**Table 1: March 2017 forecast for business rates appeals**

	£ billion, unless otherwise stated				
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
England: provision made by local authorities (a)	1.3	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
OBR smoothed forecast assumption for England appeals in final March 2017 forecast (b)	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0
OBR England-only business rates forecast (c)	25.3	27.1	28.2	28.9	29.5
Appeals as a per cent of receipts (b/c)	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3