BUDGET 2026: WHAT CHANGES WHEN FOR EMPLOYERS AND SMALL BUSINESSES

As at 23/11/2026. Status: Unchanged; Announced (no law yet); In Finance Bill (Bill 2026-27, Commons 2nd reading 23/11/2026); Made (regulations made); Enacted (Act passed). Sources: Budget 2026, OOTLAR and Annex A, TIINs, legislation.gov.uk.

From	Measure	Before	After	Who it affects	Status	Your action	Done (Y)
1 Jan 2027	**Main rate first-year allowance (plant and machinery)**	40%	50% on expenditure from 1 Jan 2027	Mainly sole traders, partnerships and leasing	In Finance Bill		
1 Apr 2027	**National Living Wage, 21 and over**	£12.71	£13.21	Employers	Announced		
1 Apr 2027	**Minimum wage 18 to 20 · 16 to 17 and apprentices**	£10.85 · £8.00	£11.27 · £8.31	Employers	Announced		
1 Apr 2027	**Main rate writing-down allowance, companies**	14%	12% (hybrid rate for periods spanning the date)	Companies with a main pool	In Finance Bill		
1 Apr 2027	**England: small business rate relief for qualifying RHL properties**	100% to £12,000, taper to £15,000	100% to £18,000, taper to £21,000	Shops, hospitality and leisure	Announced		
1 Apr 2027	**England: relief for pubs, social clubs and live music venues**	15%	35% (venues with RV £1m or more stay at 15%)	Pubs, clubs, venues	Announced		
1 Apr 2027	**England: RHL bill increases capped by CPI for 2027-28 and 2028-29**	None	Real-terms freeze	Qualifying RHL properties	Announced		
1 Apr 2027	**England: vape shops and adult gaming centres lose RHL multipliers**	RHL multipliers	Standard multipliers; vape shops also lose SBRR	Vape shops, adult gaming centres	Announced		
1 Apr 2027	**Wales: higher multiplier factor; lower multiplier extended to hospitality and leisure**	1.026 × standard	1.042 × standard; 2027-28 values not yet set	Properties in Wales	Made		
1 Apr 2027	**Corporation tax main rate · small profits rate**	25% · 19%	25% · 19%; FY2028 rates set in the Finance Bill	Companies	Unchanged		
6 Apr 2027	**Personal allowance · higher rate threshold (rUK)**	£12,570 · £50,270	£12,570 · £50,270	Employees, sole traders	Unchanged		
6 Apr 2027	**Savings income rates (basic · higher · additional)**	20% · 40% · 45%	24% · 44% · 49% (Finance Act 2026 had set 22% · 42% · 47%)	Savers across the UK	In Finance Bill		
6 Apr 2027	**Property income rates, England, Wales and NI**	20% · 40% · 45%	24% · 44% · 49% (Finance Act 2026 had set 22% · 42% · 47%)	Landlords taxed on property income	In Finance Bill		
6 Apr 2027	**Dividend rates (ordinary · upper · additional)**	10.75% · 35.75% · 39.35%	10.75% · 35.75% · 39.35%	Director-shareholders	Unchanged		
6 Apr 2027	**Employer NI · Employment Allowance**	15% above £96 a week · £10,500	15% above £96 a week · £10,500	Employers	Unchanged		
6 Apr 2027	**NI Lower Earnings Limit (a week)**	£129	£133	Payroll	Announced		
6 Apr 2027	**Mileage rate above 10,000 business miles (car or van)**	25p	35p	Employers, self-employed	Announced		
6 Apr 2027	**Van benefit · car fuel multiplier · van fuel benefit**	2026/27 rates	£4,310 · £30,200 · £825	Employers with vans or fuel	Announced		
6 Apr 2027	**Payrolling of company cars, vans, fuel and medical benefits**	P11D	Through payroll (RTI)	Employers	In Finance Bill		
6 Apr 2027	**Trading allowance and Self Assessment reporting threshold**	£1,000	£3,000	Side traders, sole traders	In Finance Bill		
6 Apr 2027	**Business Asset Disposal Relief lifetime limit**	£1 million	£500,000	Owners selling a business	In Finance Bill		
6 Apr 2027	**MTD for Income Tax: penalty points for April 2027 joiners (over £30,000)**	Points for late quarterly updates	No late-submission points for 2027-28 quarterly updates	Sole traders, landlords	Announced		
April 2027	**VAT registration · deregistration threshold**	£90,000 · £88,000	£90,000 · £88,000	VAT-registered businesses	Unchanged		
1 Jul 2027	**Fuel duty, petrol and diesel (per litre); 5p cut ends 30 Jun 2027**	52.95p	60.59p (red diesel 6.48p to 11.65p)	Every business buying road fuel	Announced		
Oct 2027	**Online marketplaces collect VAT on UK sellers' sales**	Overseas sellers only	UK VAT-registered sellers and UK businesses above a per-platform threshold; not personal, second-hand or B2B sales	Sellers on marketplaces	In Finance Bill		
6 Apr 2028	**Payrolling of most other benefits in kind**	P11D	Through payroll (not loans or living accommodation)	Employers	In Finance Bill		
6 Apr 2028	**Benchmark scale rates for travel subsistence**	£5 · £10 · £25	£20 over 5 h · £60 over 10 h · £75 over 24 h	Employers paying meal allowances	Announced		
6 Apr 2028	**£2,500 Self Assessment limit for employment expenses**	£2,500	Removed: claims through PAYE	Employees	Announced		
1 Apr 2029	**VAT e-invoicing**	Paper or PDF allowed	VAT invoices in a specified electronic format; enabling powers in the Bill, detail by regulations	VAT-registered businesses	In Finance Bill		
Apr 2029	**Direct Debit for VAT and PAYE return liabilities**	Any method	Direct Debit instruction required	VAT and PAYE payers	Announced		
6 Apr 2029	**Salary-sacrificed pension contributions above £2,000 a year**	No NI	Class 1 NI on the excess	Employers, employees	Enacted		

Status	Measures
Unchanged	5
Announced	14
In Finance Bill	10
Made	1
Enacted	1
Actions written but not marked done	0

Announced measures and Finance Bill clauses are not law until enacted or made, and can change. Scotland sets its own income tax bands and business rates; Wales and Northern Ireland set their own business rates. Minimum wage rates take effect by regulations before April 2027. Check the page for the source of each line.

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