News story: HMRC late payment interest rates to be revised after Bank of England rate rise

The Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee voted unanimously to increase the Bank of England base rate to 0.75% today (2 August 2018).

HMRC interest rates are linked to the Bank of England base rate and, as a consequence of the change, HMRC interest rates for late payment will be increased.

These changes will come into effect on:

- 13 August 2018 for quarterly instalment payments
- 21 August 2018 for non-quarterly instalment payments

Repayment interest rates remain unchanged.

We will update <u>information on the interest rates for late payments</u> shortly.

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News story: 50 employers awarded gold for supporting the armed forces

The 'Gold Awards' awards announced by the MOD today are for businesses and organisations who have shown outstanding support for the military community and the Armed Forces Covenant.

Employers have won awards for initiatives such as employing veterans, supporting individuals transitioning out of the armed forces into a new career, and providing flexibility for reservists.

Now in its fifth year, the MOD's Employer Recognition Scheme Gold Awards represent the highest badge of honour available to those that employ and support those who serve, veterans, and their families.

The 50 winners have been recognised for their long-term commitment to the armed forces, with organisations from the public and private sector achieving the top grade. Each has signed the Armed Forces Covenant, and where possible, engages with the MOD's Career Transition Partnership (CTP) to promote the recruitment of service leavers, as well as honouring individual pledges of support.

Minister for Defence People and Veterans Tobias Ellwood said:

The breadth and diversity of this year's winners shows how business support for the armed forces continues to flourish. Their commitment is a testament to the fantastic contribution our serving personnel, veterans and their families can make to any organisation.

We all have a role to play in ensuring that the armed forces community is not disadvantaged by service, and each of these employers is a setting an example as meaningful advocates for those protecting the nation.

The 2018 Employer Recognition Scheme Gold award winners are:

- 1. Alexander Mann Solutions
- 2. Amey
- 3. Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

- 4. BNY Mellon
- 5. C S Hodges
- 6. Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
- 7. City of London Corporation
- 8. City of Wolverhampton Council
- 9. Compass Group UK and Ireland
- 10. Defence Medical Welfare Service
- 11. Dumfries and Galloway Council
- 12. Durham County Council
- 13. East of England Ambulance Service
- 14. Ernst & Young (EY)
- 15. Forward Assist Veterans Charity
- 16. Future Sales Factory
- 17. Handy Heroes
- 18. ITI Network Services Ltd
- 19. James McVicar Printing Works
- 20. Kent County Council
- 21. Landmarc Support Services Ltd
- 22. Leeds Teaching Hospital NHS Trust

23. Leonardo 24. Lloyd's of London 25. London Borough of Wandsworth (Wandsworth Council) 26. London Southbank University 27. MBDA UK 28. Newcastle City Council 29. Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust 30. NHS Hastings and Rother CCG and NHS Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford CCG 31. NHS Orkney 32. Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust 33. Northumberland County Council 34. Portsmouth City Council 35. Raytheon Systems Limited 36. The Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust 37. Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS Trust 38. Sage 39. SaluteMyJob 40. SGN 41. SkillForce

- 42. South Tyneside Council
- 43. Sovini
- 44. Standard Life Aberdeen Plc
- 45. Stoll
- 46. Swansea Council
- 47. University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust
- 48. University of Lincoln
- 49. University of South Wales
- 50. WYG

Press release: Parole Board CEO speech at "Parole: Law Policy and Practice in 2018"

Martin Jones, CEO of the Parole Board, gave a speech at "Parole: Law, Policy and Practice in 2018", an event hosted by Cambridge University on 2 July 2018.

PDF, 363KB, 5 pages

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His speech, "Improving independence, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness", focussed on how the Parole Board has changed since it started in 1968, where the Parole Board is today, and where it should be aiming to be

in the future.

He recognised that statistics are not enough on their own to give the public confidence in the Parole Board, despite another record breaking year in 2017/18:

"Looking forward we want to be more transparent than ever before; about our decision making; our performance and areas where we need to improve."

His speech was part of an event co-hosted by the Centre for Criminal Justice and Centre for Public Law to discuss the <u>Ministry of Justice public</u> consultation into the law, policy and procedure relating to parole.

News story: Government Legal Department donates thousands of legal books to charity

Books from GLD's library have made their way across the globe to Kenya, after being donated to the charity Book Aid International.

Over the last 9 months, 3,500 volumes of legal materials have been sent to the charity. The donated books are no longer needed by Government Lawyers as they have been superseded by new online versions via subscription services.

Commenting on the donation, Treasury Solicitor Jonathan Jones said:

I am very pleased that our legal books have been sent in to such a worthwhile charity, and they have been put to good use thousands of miles away.

We've also sent other books and journals to the Supreme Court, Royal Courts of Justice and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office library. I am glad that we are able to share our knowledge base with law students and those who just want to know more about law, around the world.

Giorgia Cerruti the Book Provision Manager for Book Aid International said:

We so often get requests for law books, and do not receive enough donations to cater for the high demand, so GLD's donations are really vital for so many of our partners.

The books are amazing! The Kenya National Library Service is

opening a new central library branch, and these books will be great to help start a legal section there. So as you see, we'll put them to very good use!

Book Aid International work with partners around the world, to ensure that books reach the communities who have the greatest difficulty accessing reading material. In 2017, the charity sent books to 20 countries — including South Sudan, Sierre Leone, and Syrian refugees in Lebanon among others. GLD have worked with Book Aid International since 2005.