



*Return by post or drop in to*  
**Rates Department**  
Dundalk Town Council  
Crowe Street  
Dundalk  
Co. Louth

**Opening Times**  
Monday - Friday  
9.00am - 5.00pm



# Useful contacts

## Steve Burke Rate Collector

Dundalk Town Council    **t** 042 9392956  
Crowe Street            **m** 087 2301315  
Dundalk                    **e** steve.burke@dundalktown.ie

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## Ciarán Rafferty Rate Collector

Dundalk Town Council    **t** 042 9392955  
Crowe Street            **m** 087 6604343  
Dundalk                    **e** ciaran.rafferty@dundalktown.ie

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## Commissioner of Valuation

Valuation Office            **t** 01 817 1000  
Irish Life Centre           **f** 01 817 1180  
Abbey Street Lower       **e** info@valoff.ie  
Dublin 1                      **w** www.valoff.ie

# What is BIDS?

BIDS, or Business Improvement District Scheme is a partnership between Dundalk Town Council and the Ratepayers of Dundalk and one of their main projects last year was the creation of the **Town Centre Commercial Manager's** Office which they directly finance using the rates collected from the Town. Dundalk is the **first town in Ireland** that has this unique structure that allows monies to be directly invested in the commercial development of the town.

The TCCM is an independent office and it has a steering group which consists of representatives from all sectors, **Retailers, Dundalk Town Council Councillors & Executives, Chamber of Commerce as well as nominees from the Retail Parks and Business Parks.** The simple but challenging task of the office is to improve Dundalk Trading environment and give the town that extra edge by increasing footfall into the town and attracting the right type and mix of investment.

If you, the ratepayer, have any suggestions on town incentives, we would be delighted to hear from you.



**t** 042 9352842  
**e** info@dundalktccm.ie  
**w** www.dundalktccm.ie

*For further information contact*

**Dundalk Town Council**  
Crowe Street  
Dundalk  
Co. Louth

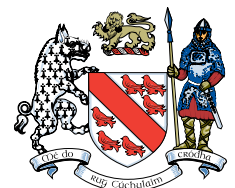
**t** 042 9332276  
**f** 042 9392910  
**e** rates@dundalktown.ie  
**w** www.dundalktown.ie





# Commercial Rates

## A Brief Guide





## Dundalk Rates

There are significant pressures facing Dundalk Town Council in 2010. Dundalk Town Council are acutely aware of the difficulties facing the business sector in the current economic climate including cross border trading. While funding from other sources has decreased, it is not the intention to “bridge the gap” through our commercial ratepayers. This will be done through **increased efficiencies** and **obtaining better value for money wherever possible**. The agreed rates budget has been constructed so as to limit inflationary pressures in the Dundalk economy in so far as it can and consider the long-term interests of Dundalk Town.

Taking all factors into account including the national economy, our location in the context of the border and the provision of maintaining services, Dundalk Town Council wish to announce a **3% reduction in commercial rates in 2010**.

This initiative shows a further commitment from Dundalk Town Council towards the business communities and will stimulate growth and sustain employment in Dundalk and reflects a desire to support Dundalk’s competitiveness as an attractive location in which to do business.

## What are Rates?

Rates are a property based tax levied by Local Authorities on the occupiers of commercial / Industrial properties in their administrative area.

## How are rates paid?

Rates are payable in 2 equal instalments. The first instalment is due on receipt of the rates invoice and the second is due on 1st July. You can use any of the methods of payment in the tear off section inside.

## Who has to pay?

The occupier on the date on which the rate is made is primarily liable for the full year’s rates. Upon default of payment a subsequent occupier may be held liable for arrears of rates for up to 2 years from the making of the rate. It is up to the new occupier to ensure that all rates, including the current year’s rates, and all other liabilities ( e.g. water/waste water charges, development levies) are paid before the closing of a sale or the assignment of a lease of any rateable property.

## How are my rates assessed?

A rates assessment on properties involves 2 factors; **Rateable Valuation** and **Annual Rate on Valuation**. The **Rateable Valuation** is determined by the Commissioner in the **Valuation Office**. This is a **State Property Valuation Agency**. Their core business is the valuation of property for commercial rates. The Valuation Office is **completely independent of local authorities**.

The **Annual Rate on Valuation** is a multiplier and is determined by the council at the Annual Budget Meeting. A rates assessment is determined by simply multiplying both figures.

ie **Rateable Valuation X Annual Rate on Valuation**



There is a **3% Reduction** in Rates

There has been **no** increase in rates



## What are my rates spent on?

- Town Hall Theatre
- Shop Front Improvement Scheme
- Urban Renewal
- Planning Services including Pre-planning Meetings, Planning Applications and Enforcement
- Local Authority Housing
- Road Network
- Street Lighting
- Water Supply and Conservation
- Street Cleaning and Litter Control
- Open Spaces (4 Parks, Playing Pitches, Playgrounds & Sport Facilities)
- Car Parks and Pay Parking Zones

### Dundalk has had some wonderful achievements this year

- National Tidy Towns Competition
- Entente Florale Competition
- Review of Pay Parking
- Funding for Market Square
- Smart Transport
- BIDS

### Local Services

- Dundalk Fire Service
- Dundalk Sports Centre
- An Táin Theatre
- Arts Office
- County Museum

### Looking forward to 2010

- Refurbishment of Market Square
- Upgrading Pay Parking Machines
- Progressing the Smarter Travel initiatives
- Creation of the new Creative Enterprise Hub
- Working with the IDA to improve the quality of Industrial estates in the town

## What about **Vacant** Property?

If a property is vacant on the day the rate is made and is available for letting or undergoing refurbishment, you may be entitled to a rates refund provided the full year's rates have been paid. You will need to complete an application form and provide relevant documentation so that we can consider your application for a refund. The application form is available from the Rates Department, Dundalk Town Council, Crowe Street, Dundalk.



es this year, **2010**

**increase** in rates for **3 consecutive years**

# How do I pay?

## For Office Use Only

Property Number .....

Monthly Payment .....

### Your Details

First Name ..... Surname ..... Customer ID .....

Trading As .....

Address .....

.....

Telephone ..... Mobile .....

Email Address .....

Please Appropriate Box I wish to pay  in monthly instalments  in two instalments

(please note if you opt to pay in two instalments Dundalk Town Council will deduct the rates on 1<sup>st</sup> April and 1<sup>st</sup> September)

### Please choose your payment method

#### 1 Direct Debit

Please complete parts **A,B,C** and **D** to instruct your bank to make payments directly from your account. Then return the form to:  
**Dundalk Town Council, Crowe Street, Dundalk**

**A** Please write the name and full address of your Bank & Branch

Bank  Branch address

**B** Name of Account Holder

**C** Branch Sort Code   Account Number

Dundalk Town Council Reference Number  3 0 4 4 0 5

**Direct Debit Guarantee** This is a guarantee provided by your own Bank as a member of the Direct Debit Scheme, in which all Banks and Originators of Direct Debits participate. If you authorise payment by Direct Debit then - Your Direct Debit Originator will notify you in advance of the amounts to be debited to your account, your bank will accept and pay such debits, provided that your account has sufficient available funds. If it is established that an unauthorised Direct Debit was charged to your account, you are guaranteed a prompt refund by your bank of the amount so charged. You can cancel the Direct Debit in good time by writing to your bank.

**D** Your instruction to your bank, and your signature

I instruct you to pay Direct Debits from my account at the request of Dundalk Town Council. I confirm that the amounts to be debited are variable and may be debited on various dates. I shall duly notify the bank in writing if I wish to cancel this instruction. I shall also notify Dundalk Town Council of such cancellation.

Signature  Date

#### 2 Credit Transfer EFT

**3 Post** - Cheques, Money Order and Postal Orders made payable to Dundalk Town Council.

**4 Rate Collector** - See details in far panel.

**5 In Person** - Accounts Office, Dundalk Town Council, Crowe Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth. Open Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm.

**6 Standing Order** - Please contact the Accounts Office in Dundalk Town Council at 042 9392276 for further information.

**7 Credit Card / Debit Card** - Please contact the Accounts Office in Dundalk Town Council at 042 9392276 for further information.