

Ruddle Merz Review

The authoritative voice on business rates

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With You All the Way New Client Care services introduced

New services which aim to provide additional support to clients throughout the five year life-span of business rating periods have been launched by Ruddle Merz.

The services, which will include a password protected client reporting website, will make it far simpler for companies to keep up to date with the status of their appeals and the latest industry news which may affect their business.

In addition, a new email prompt service will highlight circumstances and business changes which could save existing clients significant additional sums again and again during the life of their business agreement with Ruddle Merz.

Awareness of these factors, and expert experience of negotiating with the government's Valuation Office and local authorities, has recently led to Ruddle Merz saving three companies an extra £450,000 in business rates whilst their premises were empty, being renovated or simply under used.

The new services, which will also include regular six-monthly contact from Ruddle Merz staff, form the basis of a new Five Year Client Care Plan which aims to ensure all clients reap the maximum savings they can in the rating period up to 2010.

Ruddle Merz Marketing and Development Manager, Allan Milton, said: "These new services aim to highlight additional significant savings that our clients can make during the 2005-2010 rating period.

"They will also help reinforce the fact that Ruddle Merz, as their appointed rating agents, is ready to act on their behalf at any time."

The Ruddle Merz website - www.ruddlemerz.co.uk



Recent rateable value savings total more than £300k

"Ruddle Merz worked hard to secure us a significant reduction in our rateable value at our Enfield site and were successful in reducing it from £240,000 to £150,000. This is a substantial saving for any company. We are delighted with this fantastic result."

Bob Chambers, Director of Operations, Barhale Construction plc



"Ruddle Merz have achieved rates savings of over £75,000 for Paul Smith. The knock-on effect of this will be further savings of more than £50,000 in the rating period up to 2010. We are delighted we appointed them as our rating agents."

Anita Rana, Assistant Manager, Commercial Department, Paul Smith Ltd

"Our rates have been reduced by almost £100,000 thanks to the work and expertise of Ruddle Merz. Their knowledge and skills are second to none and continue to deliver us significant benefits."

David Allen, Accounts Manager, Kilworth House Hotel



**Contact Ruddle Merz today for free confidential advice on:
01572 757777 / enquiries@ruddlemerz.co.uk**

The Ruddle Merz Team



Paula Field

The Ruddle Merz team has gone from strength to strength recently with the appointment of key new staff.

Paula Field joins the company as a surveyor having spent more than 10 years working in the property and business rates industry. During this time she qualified as a Chartered Surveyor, gained Institute of Revenues Rating and Valuation (IRRV) qualifications and membership, and progressed to become the manager of a national team of surveyors.

In addition, Paula saved one client more than £1 million in rates surcharges dating back almost 10 years by successfully presenting key evidence in court.

Andy Balmford, Ruddle Merz new IT manager, is also no stranger to local taxation as earlier in his career he worked for the company.



Andy Balmford

Subsequently Andy has greatly enhanced his IT skills working for leading technology companies, all of which he will put to good use in his new role at Ruddle Merz.

He will take on responsibility for projects including the development of software which will enable clients to access live status reports on their appeals.

Furthermore, he will be taking forward the technology aspects of Ruddle Merz new Client Care Plan, including implementing the email prompt service and developing web services, and will be involved in a new Care Homes project.



Dharm Daudia

The team at Ruddle Merz has also been further strengthened recently with the promotion of Dharm Daudia. In his new role, Dharm - who has worked for Ruddle Merz for the past five years - will undertake case settlement work.

Sales coordinator Vicky Atkins has also recently joined the Ruddle Merz team.

More savings for Craegmoor

Craegmoor Healthcare - the UK's leading independent provider of long term specialist care for adults and children with a range of complex needs - has reaped significant further rates savings thanks to Ruddle Merz.

Within a year of appointing Ruddle Merz as their expert rating agents in 2004, the company - which runs 270 care and nursing homes, independent hospitals and supported living properties across the UK - had some of their business rates and council tax liabilities reduced by more than £207,000 to date.

Ruddle Merz hope to continue this success for their other properties.



One of Craegmoor Healthcare's medium secure mental health units

Craegmoor Healthcare Project Consultant Stephen Rice said: "Ruddle Merz successfully manage our property portfolio with outstanding results.

"Their expertise and proactive approach has already made a significant impact on our bottom line and will continue to do so in the years to come.

"We would recommend Ruddle Merz to any company interested in saving money on their business rates."

Rent Reviews

Do you have a rent review coming up in the next three to six months?

If so consider contacting Ruddle Merz, your appointed rating agents, who will be happy to undertake rent negotiations on your behalf.

Thanks to expert knowledge of business rates and commercial property valuations, the team at Ruddle Merz can secure you the best rental rate possible.

You have absolutely nothing to lose and possibly thousands of pounds to gain.

To get things underway simply telephone, fax or email the date of your next rent review to Ruddle Merz.

Ruddle Merz

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