

Local Government Finance Act 1992

1992 CHAPTER 14

PART I

COUNCIL TAX: ENGLAND AND WALES

CHAPTER VI

MISCELLANEOUS AND SUPPLEMENTAL

65 Duty to consult ratepayers

- (1) A relevant authority shall consult under this section persons or bodies appearing to it to be representative of persons subject to non-domestic rates under sections 43 and 45 of the 1988 Act as regards hereditaments situated in the authority's area.
- (2) Consultations must be made as to each financial year, and must be about the authority's proposals for expenditure (including capital expenditure) in that financial year; and the Secretary of State may by regulations prescribe matters which are to be treated as expenditure for this purpose.
- (3) In this section "relevant authority" means a billing authority or a major precepting authority other than the Receiver for the Metropolitan Police District.
- (4) The duty to consult as to a financial year shall be performed—
 - (a) where the authority is a billing authority, before it makes calculations (otherwise than by way of substitute) in relation to the financial year under section 32 above;
 - (b) where the authority is a precepting authority, before it issues the first precept to be issued by it for the financial year.
- (5) In performing the duty to consult, an authority shall have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State concerning—
 - (a) persons or bodies to be regarded for the purposes of this section as representative of persons subject to non-domestic rates under sections 43 and

45 of the 1988 Act as regards hereditaments situated in the authority's area; and

- (b) the timing and manner of consultations under this section.
- (6) An authority shall make available to persons or bodies it proposes to consult under this section such information as may be prescribed and is in its possession or control; and it shall do so in such form and manner, and at such time, as may be prescribed.