

Q13 Please give any other comments or observations on how VAT affects your future business outlook:

Answered: 402 Skipped: 742

The Impact of 5% VAT on Hospitality & Tourism Businesses

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	It makes a huge difference. Given me confidence to invest in the business and the security to hire more staff, currently on a temporary basis. This could be made permanent if the VAT rate stays the same, wages can also increase.	12/19/2020 10:20 PM
2	If the 5% VAT remains in place I could expect a significant expansion and upgrading of my business.	12/19/2020 1:14 PM
3	Vat is our most painful bill - any. Continued reduction would make leisure businesses more sustainable and attractive to operators/ investors and allow more investment and fewer business failures	12/19/2020 12:35 PM
4	At 5% Vat put the industry on a competitive footing with the rest of Europe. It would allow wages to increase and investment to flourish.	12/19/2020 11:44 AM
5	This is the best thing for us; we were just hanging on but this cut has meant reinvestment and extra customers	12/19/2020 11:35 AM
6	Vat at 20% is a massive drain. Some quarters I do not have the cash to pay the bill. I had managed to get the finances straight in August after EOTHO. There was excess cash in the bank. Now with further lock down I am using my CIBLS loan and will run out of cash in 3 months. Furlough is a help but there are still massive weekly costs to find which the grant does not cover. If VAT increases in March the business will not survive into 2022	12/19/2020 10:57 AM
7	The VAT MUST remain at 5% for there to be any future or hope for the tourism and hospitality industry. Businesses simply cannot afford to continue if they are expected to find the funds to pay VAT at 20% alongside paying for the extensive Covid-19 safety measures, additional staffing, health and hygiene practices that they all have in place.	12/18/2020 11:14 PM
8	Please note that the Isle of Mann Government reduced VAT for serviced accommodation to 5% some years ago and it has remained at 5% ever since. A permanent reduction to 5% would result in increased trade and more employment opportunities Increased trade would also benefit other local traders in the local economy Having exhibited at "Vakantiebeurs" the major Dutch travel show we are repeatedly told "We do not come to England because your tax (ie VAT) is too high - (Interestingly this has more impact than the rate of exchange) Does it make sense when a Best Western Hotel in Brussels charges 5% VAT whereas a Best Western Hotel in England charges 20% The reduction to 5% is of far greater benefit to the hotels in rural England than to those in the cities as the majority of guests in rural hotels are private individuals on holiday whereas in the large cities the majority of guests are businessmen who can reclaim the VAT charged. Why not insist that ALL serviced accommodation providers (irrespective of their turnover) pay 5% VAT. this could pave the way for better regulation of the black economy sector.	12/18/2020 10:52 PM
9	Pressure from increased utility prices, increased rates and cost of has all but stopped our ability to expanding our premises in the last 10 years. Banks will not lend as our profit to borrowing ratio is way to low. We need to make profits in order to grow our business.	12/18/2020 10:51 PM
10	Absolutely critical cashflow support and major help to save on payments in quiet months and a more even playing field with other tourist destinations	12/18/2020 10:19 PM
11	I cannot think of a better way to assist hospitality businesses bounce back from this awful period. In my opinion it will truly expedite the recovery and this will secure jobs, taxes and future investment of profits into our businesses.	12/18/2020 10:08 PM
12	Most B&Bs are under the VAT threshold so the level of VAT for our sector of the industry is not important.	12/18/2020 9:49 PM
13	we have now joined everyone else in keeping the money. We just felt stupid!	12/18/2020 9:25 PM
14	Agents charges, services	12/18/2020 8:32 PM
15	20% Vat is unsustainable in business terms .	12/18/2020 8:32 PM
16	It will take a long time for the hospitality business to recover from Covid and people are now more conscious of everything around them. We plan well into the future to continue cleaning as extensively as we have been and I believe this will be the case for others. The hospitality sector has suffered greatly and put a lot of investment to into restrictions. We would like to grow our business in the future and the VAT reduction would help with this	12/18/2020 7:28 PM

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17	More investment	12/18/2020 7:16 PM
18	2020 has been very difficult for our business and the 5% VAT has made a positive impact and we believe if kept in place will have a positive impact on the leisure industry going forward.	12/18/2020 7:16 PM
19	It is punitive if it goes back to 20%. My turnover is just over the VAT threshold ergo the reduction of 20% has an enormous impact on profit. The suggestion of all Airbnb bookings having to charge 5% VAT I think is a very good one as it means the whole market is on a level playing field and the government will overall garner more VAT as a total through volume of payments as well as plenty more tourists visiting. Why is there a threshold of £85K anyway? It encourages the black market. If all accommodation had to pay 5% VAT there would yet again be more revenue for the government not only in VAT but also in income tax. A win win for them and a win win for the whole sector itself	12/18/2020 6:23 PM
20	OTA's take up to 20% , add 20% VAT, so 40% of the turnover disappears.	12/18/2020 6:21 PM
21	A reduced vat rate will enable us to compete with foreign competitors. It will encourage staycations which will benefit us and the small local businesses which benefit from our success.	12/18/2020 6:21 PM
22	For a small tourist business such as ours we pay a lot of VAT and lowering it would help us recover from the losses resulting from the pandemic.	12/18/2020 5:54 PM
23	A great many holiday cottages do not charge VAT and they are our direct competitors. It is a great barrier to profitability and growth.	12/18/2020 5:42 PM
24	I am currently not looking to expand my business, so it has no effect on my circumstances but I do support the lobbying for those that will be affected by a higher VAT rate.	12/18/2020 5:38 PM
25	I currently close for business I could take to keep under the VAT limit	12/18/2020 5:12 PM
26	Being unable to pay my VAT bill has always been my biggest fear and I have held back on improvements and staffing in the past because of this	12/18/2020 4:51 PM
27	See 11 above	12/18/2020 4:43 PM
28	Hospitality needs every piece of government support that is available for a long time to come VAT, business rates holiday and a business rates review, training grants, staff retention incentives and reduced interest rate business loans	12/18/2020 4:29 PM
29	Note in reference to question 6. The vat reduction would have made more difference to the business if we hadn't experienced the lockdowns and local Tier restrictions. These enforcements dramatically affected trade in the Hospitality sector. Bookings are 75-80% reduced for the year. The advantage that we should have gained via a vat reduction has obviously not materialized. We could eventually benefit from a Vat reduction in the long term when customers are confident to make holiday bookings. We are certainly NOT getting bookings at the moment. The latest news from Government regarding the extension of Furlough until the end of April casts a large shadow again over the hospitality sector. Potential bookings from guests will no doubt stall on this latest news. No bookings means no deposits or balance payments, means no benefit from a Vat reduction.	12/18/2020 4:23 PM
30	VAT on inputs is a significant factor when there are no means to reclaim this.	12/18/2020 4:20 PM
31	Prices I charge will increase when VAT returns to 20% and less money available for investment - but hoping that this won't have a negative impact on bookings.	12/18/2020 3:53 PM
32	90% of competitors are Zero VAT. 90% of competitors get 100% small business rate relief. In a price sensitive consumer market the ONLY way to compete is to stay small or grow VERY significantly. Charging VAT and business rates for only 10% of operators will always skew this sector. The unfair tax advantages that 90% of self catering businesses enjoy need to be removed or equalized to create the conditions for growth. Simply helping the big operators to have a lower vat bill is pandering to the largest businesses with the strongest voice and is failing to address the core issues that cause self catering sector to continue its current explosion as a tax free haven and hotspot for 100,000's of small scale property speculators.	12/18/2020 3:48 PM
33	The VAT reduction to 5% has made the difference between surviving and complete failure of the business. If it was to continue for the longer term it would allow us to repay loans and rebuild our business that has been heavily affected by the Coronavirus restrictions. Even a	12/18/2020 3:35 PM

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phased return to 20% over a 5 year period would be helpful , I think it will take between 3 - 5 years to recover assuming all can return to "normal"

34	VAT is our largest overhead for a business providing services so a reduction in the rate would have a big impact on profitability of our activities.	12/18/2020 3:31 PM
35	I have found that we could never add the full 20% VAT to the price of our products because people would percive them as too expensive! So we ve always absorbed the extra cost! 5% is more realistic vat rate for such a small profit margin food business	12/18/2020 3:27 PM
36	20% is a heavy levy bearing in mind we do not charge VAT on top of the holiday price. Instead, to remain competitive we have to absorb this cost. Ironically the 5% VAT rate has not been as big a help as might be expected because bookings have been reduced for large properties to almost zero. Without income there is nothing to offset against the 5% rate. So a 5% rate for the next 2-3 years followed by a review might be best . This would be a great help to repay the loss of 2020 rather than a permanent change which might not get government support in the same way.	12/18/2020 3:21 PM
37	A reduction in VAT would help the consumer, as it would lead to a reduction on prices due to competition for the leisure spend, which would generate greater spend over the longer term. This would feed into more investment and jobs.	12/18/2020 3:19 PM
38	The reduction of the Vat would mean that we can put more money back into the caravan park with the constant increase of bills that we pay including electricity. We would be able to put more hard standing pitches onto the park that are needed.	12/18/2020 2:58 PM
39	Confidence presently we are very reliant on overseas visitors	12/18/2020 2:56 PM
40	The VAT cut has been one of the big factors in helping us get through this year. It gives us more to invest in our future.	12/18/2020 2:28 PM
41	If we can hold or reduce admission prices then it improves the value for the visitor who in turn has more disposable income to spend at our events with our traders and caterers which boosts the local economy.	12/18/2020 2:26 PM
42	The VAT savings at 5% in the long term would enable us to employ more people.	12/18/2020 2:23 PM
43	This VAT reduction has made a huge difference, going forward it would really help us reduce prices, invest in new boats and employ more staff.	12/18/2020 2:10 PM
44	20% VAT means we cannot compete with with sites that are not registered for VAT	12/18/2020 2:04 PM
45	It always makes you cautious about spending money when you know you will have a big VAT bill, there is no flexibility you have to pay it by a certain date, sometimes you have unexpected bills which makes it difficult to pay large sums of money in one lump	12/18/2020 1:46 PM
46	The reduction to 5% has been a great lifeline at this time. It will have long term added value to our business investment. Whereas at 20%, we are stifled with growth and investment.	12/18/2020 1:46 PM
47	Running a large, Victorian, self catering holiday let is very expensive. Our breakeven is high. Currently I have to NOT take bookings during low season in order to stay below the VAT threshold, to become VAT registered would wipe out the majority of my profit & make the business untenable. I employ all local people - 3 cleaners, a gardener, local laundry, local shop for the welcome hamper, local window cleaner etc. By not being able to take extra stays due to the VAT threshold I am taking work away from them. And from the larger local economy - restaurants, cafes etc	12/18/2020 1:44 PM
48	Maintaining VAT at 5% vs 20% will be the difference in being profitable or not given the major reduction in trade that we are anticipating next year. Reduction of school and other youth groups that we are expecting along with more unemployment and less money available for non essential spending by the general public	12/18/2020 1:33 PM
49	We know that taxes generally are going to go up as a result of the crass squandering of resources that is currently going on and because fraud will prevent the recouping of billions of pounds worth of bounce back loans etc. Therefore to have some reassurance that at least one tax will not rise, would give us some hope for thefuture.	12/18/2020 1:25 PM
50	It is a very large extra cost and one that many customers are unaware that we have. It artificially inflates our prices.	12/18/2020 1:17 PM

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51	na	12/18/2020 1:10 PM
52	Less VAT means more money to re-invest in developing the business further.	12/18/2020 12:59 PM
53	To have VAT cut to 5% would be a total life saver for us and for all of hospitality. Hospitality as a service has probably been hit the hardest during the pandemic and is continuing to be hit hard. I cannot imagine what damage it will cause if VAT is put back up to 20%! Please don't do it. As I've said for a small business such as ours, paying VAT is a huge bill to pay and kills our cashflow every year.	12/18/2020 12:58 PM
54	The potential of keeping 5% longer means we will have a good shot at getting the business back on its feet in 2021. We have managed to get through to the winter but this week have had the bombshell of reunds for 90% of our Christmas and New Year revenue. The business is now running on personal savings and we realistically have 3 months left. The extra COVID cleaning measures, refunds and continuation of overheads mean that we are now very sadly at the end of the line. We are looking at options to sell under market value, however this will be sad also as our business has brought in a significant amount of investment into the local supply chain. BUT we can't run it on personal funds much longer.	12/18/2020 12:58 PM
55	Allowing our business to be able to use 5% VAT instead of 20% VAT would give us more confident in our future business outlook. WHY were outdoor activity providers excluded from the VAT reduction to 5% We are reliant on tourism and seasonal business	12/18/2020 12:57 PM
56	Our net VAT payments at 20% are three times our profits. Three quarters of our time (more if you add in other taxes) is spent working unpaid for the government.	12/18/2020 12:22 PM
57	We would expect to be more competitive in attracting more European and international guests who would also spend at other local businesses. Should the impact of Covid continue into the 2021 season it would make the different between continuing to trade and closing down with a loss of 12 jobs	12/18/2020 12:21 PM
58	When the State interferes and restricts private enterprise and business the VAT rate will be and is of little consequence. Give freedom to people not tax breaks!	12/18/2020 12:04 PM
59	Huge drain on finances as we cannot claim muchback and pay a disproportionate amount to Government. Most self catering businesses stay below the VAT level so harder for us in a competitive market.	12/18/2020 11:56 AM
60	The VAT remaining at 5% encourages more bookings from our members particularly at a time when prices are needing to increase to cover additional covid and Brexit related implications.	12/18/2020 11:13 AM
61	We could invest more	12/18/2020 11:10 AM
62	The VAT reduction needs to be extended far further than April 2021 in order to combat and ultimately reverse the impacts of Covid-19 in particular for the group accommodation sector who have been closed for the majority of 2020 as the restricted group sizes have never been large enough for us to reopen in a viable way.	12/18/2020 10:43 AM
63	As mentioned above, it would allow us to plan and grow the business with more confidence than ever before.	12/18/2020 10:37 AM
64	Massively, with existing vat bills from 2020, this would be a real positive factor in our businesses longevity.	12/18/2020 10:29 AM
65	If the vat rate stayed at 5%, and we were able to develop our business with refurbishments and landscaping projects, then we could increase our prices and attract more business	12/18/2020 10:19 AM
66	Its massive and we as a business compete against lots of local accommodation providers who do not pay Vat and Europe who pay much less..... it's not a fair playing field at 20%	12/18/2020 10:00 AM
67	It has made a huge difference this difficult year. Having to hand over 20% of what you earn in an industry where profits are unpredictable. Eg Caravan site is weather dependable for customers. 5% seems a much fairer. It should never be more than 10% .	12/18/2020 9:35 AM
68	We'll have to compete harder for European visitors now they will have barriers to travel to UK. Surely we need to at least be competitive on VAT?	12/18/2020 8:28 AM
69	the vat at 5% was a big help to the Business that helped me pay suppliers and wages and rent vat at 20% would of been very difficult to pay these things	12/18/2020 1:40 AM

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70	The VAT cut needs to be applied to all hospitality businesses, not just pubs/restaurants & hotels.	12/18/2020 12:43 AM
71	Net profit already on the low side so definitely need the extra capital to trade with confidence and make the business worthwhile	12/18/2020 12:14 AM
72	We could grow the business and employ more staff	12/17/2020 11:42 PM
73	The prospect of VAT rising to the old 20% rate is worrying. Costs have increased and with the prospect of a no deal brexit a 5% rate of VAT allows us a margin to deal with these pressures.	12/17/2020 11:35 PM
74	Due to CV19 - we are likely to fall below VAT threshold by the time business resumes some sense of prior CV19 figures. VAT reduction long term will encourage us to try to reach the threshold sooner rather than remain below it. Passing through the threshold, for us, means taking well in excess of the £83k as only just going above it effectively costs the business money - we estimate at 20% we need to take over £110k to make it viable moving through the threshold.	12/17/2020 10:49 PM
75	Although covid has temporarily given people a reason to stay in the UK, this won't last forever. When things recover, it essential that we can be competitive with our neighbours, especially as we will be outside the EU. We will need to encourage domestic customers to holiday in the UK, and overseas customers to visit. A reduced rate of VAT will help both.	12/17/2020 10:44 PM
76	Would mean the difference between being profitable or not. In this climate a return to 20% fills me with dread.	12/17/2020 10:28 PM
77	2021 will be incredibly challenging for tourism and hospitality business's in NI and a permanent vat reduction along with further rates relief are crucial to helping business rebuild moving forward.	12/17/2020 10:12 PM
78	With additional costs associated with staying Covid safe. Trading with a loss of 20% is really tough. The 5% gives us a breathing space to hopefully keep our business going and welcome a regular flow of guests. Increasing our prices is not a way forward, everyones cash flow is under a tight squeeze.	12/17/2020 8:23 PM
79	A permanent lowering of VAT would improve my future business outlook.	12/17/2020 7:57 PM
80	with only one property VAT is a tax on income the VAT rate for hospitality would need to be less than 2% before we would consider registration	12/17/2020 7:06 PM
81	Business outlook is uncertain and worrying. This added bill causes great anxiety when it is obvious the recovery will now take until 2022 at the earliest.	12/17/2020 7:04 PM
82	As a sector we have been arguably unfairly singled out, disrupted and restricted throughout the pandemic by the government and the exchequer - it is time now for both to payback our suffering at your request and giving us the opportunity to prove to you that we can raise your take if you give us the landscape to bounce back and grow back - we need help to get out for he hole you have opened up for us. It is the most flexible and appropriate way to help hospitality business based on their size - and also based on their future success in helping us all recover the economy - it is the fairest route to show hospitality the love it needs - it's certainly been lacking during this mess!! Thanks	12/17/2020 6:47 PM
83	We don't want to grow beyond the VAT threshold, even though we think we could within two years, because we are not confident we can grow by the more than 20% then required to make this worthwhile. The government would get more from us and businesses like us if VAT were 5% or staggered, like stamp duty is.	12/17/2020 6:45 PM
84	If the vat remained at 5% we would look at a brighter future for the industry.	12/17/2020 6:15 PM
85	Greater incentive to keep the business in the hospitality sector and not change it to residential letting.	12/17/2020 6:06 PM
86	without a vat rate of 5% we would probably think of closing	12/17/2020 6:05 PM
87	VAT affects the whole supply chain. Although I am not VAT registered, it still impacts on me, visitors often stay in hotels en route to my property, eat out etc. Therefore it disadvantages the whole supply chain whether VAT registered or not. It impacts on competitive of the whole sector in what is now a very competitive sector, whether Scottish, UK or globally. There are enough barriers with Covid and Brexit without making us even less competitive.	12/17/2020 5:48 PM

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88	It is the only opportunity our embattled industry has to enable a fighting chance to survive following the pandemic. Without it many more businesses will collapse.	12/17/2020 5:48 PM
89	Vat at 20% is a huge cost to the business and stops re-investment and taking on extra staff.	12/17/2020 5:40 PM
90	Many small business don't pay vat or rates but earn more than the limit. This should be cracked down on	12/17/2020 5:17 PM
91	All rates have to go up for the vat, it would make products more accessible to guests. Money can be reinvested in the business and reduce the risk of new growth ideas	12/17/2020 5:11 PM
92	The VAT at 5% has helped buffer the insufficient coronavirus business support on offer. The recent lockdown grants have covered barely 10% of the fixed overheads and the owners who have been caught in the "directors' " category receiving no support, cannot support the business indefinitely	12/17/2020 4:35 PM
93	When the vat was reduced we had a rush of bookings. Existing guests/bookings, owners and seasonal pitch holders have been both retained and grown as a result of passing this reduction on.	12/17/2020 4:27 PM
94	When we first opened we were not VAT registered and set our prices according to the market. We could not justify an increase in prices when we had to start charging vat. We attempted to increase gradually but soon saw a decrease in turnover. The reduced tax rate makes a huge difference to our appetite to continue with the business and support local jobs.	12/17/2020 3:43 PM
95	The VAT cut to 5% is what has allowed us to meet our basic payments, without it our future would be much more difficult.	12/17/2020 3:20 PM
96	We operate in a community of other (related) businesses , we are interdependent, what effects one us, does, to varying degrees effects all of us. We are all struggling at the moment and if all/or most of us survive , we will have a more promising future where our 'community' of staycation based and locally based businesses support each other and have a strong presence on the market. Pushing VAT back up to 20% before businesses have a chance to recover will wipe businesses out. We need be be a 'go to' region for staycations, we need our network of similar attractive holiday lets of quality. We need to help enable the region to thrive.	12/17/2020 3:18 PM
97	Vat should be reduced on all hospitality, this includes the drinks industry to make it a even par with the supermarkets, drinking at home or on the streets has an impact on drink dependency, drinking in a registered licenced premises is safer and is more social.	12/17/2020 3:01 PM
98	At present I am concerned about future profitabilty and ability to pay wages in the current climate, however the reduction in VAT will provide headroom to do this for longer and will eventually lead to value for customers and sustainability of the business model.	12/17/2020 2:57 PM
99	A lot of my bookings come via a large national agency so they still charge vat at the higher amount on their fees for commission as they are not eligible for the 5% cut rate. So maybe it doesn't go far enough to impact them on people like myself who are in effect still paying 20% vat. Not that important anyway as have no bookings anyway during covid	12/17/2020 2:40 PM
100	Huge impact on possible recovery and our business viability	12/17/2020 2:39 PM
101	The uncertainty of the current situation has been helped enormously by the VAT cut. It will take time for the business to recover and I would really appreciate help during this time. We have been in business for 20 years and prior to COVID we had a very strong business	12/17/2020 2:34 PM
102	Most countries encourage hospitality with a lower vat rate	12/17/2020 2:24 PM
103	Essential for gov to continue supporting tourism over winter	12/17/2020 2:04 PM
104	Honetly think if we had to pay full rate VAT over the last few months it would have a devastating effect on viability of the business. With the likelihood of prices increasing next year because of Brexit- think keeping the VAT at 5% is tremendously important to help save hospitality	12/17/2020 1:56 PM
105	The VAT rate is a crucial consideration and has one of the most direct affects on us as a business- 5% VAT would be a lifeline and should definitely be extended	12/17/2020 1:48 PM
106	The decrease in VAT was highly welcomed but the reality was that this was needed to keep staff employed and to meet the costs of ensuring our business was covid secure for our guests. Going forward - the investment that we have made in this has decimated any reserves	12/17/2020 1:45 PM

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that we have and this along with furlough is currently the only assistance that the self catering industry in Scotland is receiving - elimination of Covid will not result in our businesses springing back in the first months of 2021 further investment by businesses in marketing a development will be required to ensure that we are still here in 2022

107	With minimal support to our sector from the government. Huge periods of forced closure the VAT support is our life line	12/17/2020 1:34 PM
108	It is really vital to help the hospitality industry back onto their feet following the 2020. It will encourage more investment in businesses and likely that the quality of tourism businesses will improve as businesses embrace paying VAT at 5% rather than avoid paying it at 20%. If they will stay open longer and see themselves as being able to stay open all year round rather than closing as they reach the VAT threshold	12/17/2020 1:14 PM
109	For a company that is growing and wants to carry on doing so, VAT feels like a hindrance while there are higher costs associated with the growth itself, and every bit of VAT that we don't have to pay will just end up being re-invested in the business and making it more profitable in the long term. Therefore, a VAT cut has permanent benefits to the growth of the company.	12/17/2020 12:49 PM
110	It is vital that VAT is reduced in line with other countries.	12/17/2020 12:46 PM
111	Although the travel element of coach tours is zero rated, VAT is charged on the other elements.. VAT reduction to 5% would greatly assist our membership base by allowing some flexibility in pricing to encourage demand to counter the increased cost of socially distanced coach trips.	12/17/2020 12:36 PM
112	As a fresh-food restaurant 90% of our cost of sale ingredients are zero rated on purchase, but yet we traditionally pay 20% VAT on sales. That's a big disconnect and really affects the bottom line.	12/17/2020 12:22 PM
113	The vat reduction this year has helped reduce the trading losses that have been incurred. Keeping it at 5% will help keep the business sustainable in the short term until overall business recovers	12/17/2020 11:00 AM
114	The VAT reduction has made a huge impact on our ability to survive these difficult times, continuation could be the difference that is needed to survive as a business and have the longevity required to get through the next 12 months'	12/17/2020 10:58 AM
115	In a year where we have had virtually zero revenue, which will continue to April 2021, when events will hopefully start again, a temporary reduction in VAT to April 2022 - especially if it included alcohol - would allow our business to rebuild margin and our balance sheet after a devastatingly loss making year (£400k). A permanent reduction would lead to massive growth in the hospitality sector which would repay the Govt in tax receipts	12/17/2020 10:52 AM
116	It would massively help our business to keep the VAT at 5%	12/17/2020 10:33 AM
117	Even before Covid, I found 2019 and the start of 2020 to be seriously impacted upon by my non-VAT registered competitors on Airbnb. If I have an offering at £500 per week inc 20% VAT, they can offer the same option at less than £420 per week. When there were not many airbnb's here in Belfast it didn't matter so much but now there are literally hundreds and at 20% vat it cripples my business. At 5% vat I can compete.	12/17/2020 10:18 AM
118	We are in Flat Rate Scheme normally 10.5% so any reduction will have a big impact.	12/17/2020 9:18 AM
119	As a small business, we are only just over the VAT threshold most years and so having to pay 20% on everything is a huge cost for us and ultimately we would be better to close down once we hit the threshold as otherwise it costs us more than the difference in profit that we make - however this would leave people without jobs for a few months of the year and isn't something we would like to do.	12/17/2020 8:41 AM
120	By targeting support at businesses that are actively trading and allowing them to keep more of the T/O they generate will give the best return on tax payer funds by way of employment and tax	12/17/2020 8:38 AM
121	We operate in sector that 95% of our competitors do not charge VAT, (self-catering) so it is in effect a tax that we pay, rather than the consumer. A long Term reduction enables us to remain competitive and make substantial investments into the product.	12/17/2020 7:30 AM
122	People are and will continue to make safe amenities at their main requirement - expecting high	12/17/2020 6:11 AM

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levels of cleaning to be the norm. Our cleaning this year has cost us six times more than last year - the VAT reduction enabled us to pay for this and still draw enough to live on - we would otherwise have been in serious financial difficulties.

123	5% would be so helpful do you want us to write to our MP to lobby for this today?	12/17/2020 5:52 AM
124	VAT is a crippling tax for small businesses which want to grow but often have to restrict their growth not just from a financial point of view but also due to the extra admin and complexity of rules. It makes sense that businesses that are allowed to grow without being penalised will generate more income tax anyway so revenue is potentially not affected too much for HMRC but may make all the difference to a business remaining viable or not. Not all businesses are able to add the VAT to their charges and therefore in order to remain competitive ie Self-Catering accommodation providers, pay a larger proportion of tax from profit than their competitors This creates an unfair advantage to 2nd home owners as opposed to genuine businesses and limits the investment possibilities, job creation and business expansion	12/17/2020 12:59 AM
125	To keep it at 5% would have a massive impact on my future business model (and life) and expand our value added extras as well as the complex itself. If it were to revert back to 20% in April, where the start of my referred covid bookings (meaning no income) start I would seriously struggle and at this stage consider selling	12/17/2020 12:33 AM
126	A VAT reduction would incentivise us to grow the business further, and recover quicker from Covid	12/17/2020 12:09 AM
127	We have a double hit as my wife and I run our three businesses under one partnership. This pushes us over the VAT threshold but we are not profitable due to the VAT. So we are capping our revenue and deregistering as we can not be competitive or make a profit with VAT to pay. Most of our competitors are small single person self employed businesses and are not VAT registered.	12/17/2020 12:04 AM
128	We pay our staff a proper living wage and 20% Vat on bookings. After ten years in the business and reinvesting every year I wonder where my reward is??	12/16/2020 11:55 PM
129	It is just adminnot a money making scheme	12/16/2020 11:53 PM
130	VAT is one of the biggest single costs to the business and tourism is not competitive internationally when we have higher rates of VAT than other countries. Now is the time to retain the 5% VAT,	12/16/2020 11:31 PM
131	Many competitors are not vat registered or pay business rates so we lose business to them because we have to charge more	12/16/2020 11:19 PM
132	We are at the moment competing with other businesses who are not VAT registered so we would look to reduce our business so that we do not reach the VAT payable level	12/16/2020 11:17 PM
133	We recognise that we "benefit" from being able to reclaim VAT on our expenditure, but that isn't significant. We therefore are at a disadvantage to competitors who are not VAT registered. We are voluntary VAT registered.	12/16/2020 10:54 PM
134	20% strangles the business	12/16/2020 10:35 PM
135	5%vat rate will ensure the future of the business	12/16/2020 10:34 PM
136	We have to stop renting when we get near to the threshold.	12/16/2020 10:22 PM
137	With so many non vat paying and non business rate paying Cottages and accommodation available through Airbnb etc, we need level playing field to survive.	12/16/2020 10:13 PM
138	VAT going back to 20% is now the top of our risk register in preventing a successful recovery of the business	12/16/2020 9:39 PM
139	Like many self employed tradesmen it's a cliff edge not to go over at 20% . At 5% much more would grow business .	12/16/2020 9:21 PM
140	Vat is completely unfair for the tourism sector. It's so high that it dampens wage growth and profitability. Tax profit not turnover.	12/16/2020 8:48 PM
141	VAT at 20% makes it a major cost and greatly reduces out profitability. With greater profit we could employ more staff and offer better service and facilities.	12/16/2020 8:28 PM
142	It looks more prosperous and we would finally take a decent wage rather than living on the	12/16/2020 8:19 PM

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headline.

143	Na	12/16/2020 7:58 PM
144	If VAT goes back to 20% this would have a huge negative impact on our business	12/16/2020 7:57 PM
145	We have to be competitive with other neighbouring hospitality venues in many case they are Not VAT registered. Our rates have to match there's to secure business so in effect being VAT registered reduces our income by 20% against others. We cannot charge more as we would not get the business.	12/16/2020 7:36 PM
146	It is crucial for business survival!!	12/16/2020 7:26 PM
147	A reduction would be a positive message to the industry from the government as we have borne so much financial pain during the pandemic	12/16/2020 7:24 PM
148	In actual fact, the practical side of the VAT cut gave us a huge admin burden as we deposits had been paid with 20% applied and the balance with 5% applied. Add to that cancellations as we really have been unable to operate since mid-Sep so the reality has been that it has done us no good whatsoever. A VAT cut is only good if a business can stay open and operate.	12/16/2020 7:23 PM
149	Puts us on a level playing field with overseas holiday. Investment would be greater and adding quality accommodation	12/16/2020 7:19 PM
150	5% vat makes a huge difference, the business would be able to invest and employ more staff	12/16/2020 7:15 PM
151	It makes the business more viable	12/16/2020 7:10 PM
152	Having this reduction was a life saver. It stopped us from having to borrow eye watering sums. Looking to the future, we need to build back up again - and paying a realistic VAT amount of 5% puts us on a level playing field and makes the industry more long term sustainable.	12/16/2020 7:09 PM
153	If Covid 19 has a similar effect to the 2021 season my answer to Question 9 would move along the scale. The reduction in VAT this year has had a huge effect on keeping the company cash positive going into our closed season (Nov-Feb) after being closed for 4 months at the start of the 2020 season. I long term reduction to a 5% date will allow us to employ more staff, pay a better rate and ultimately provide an better service and experience to our visitors.	12/16/2020 6:52 PM
154	vat is a very complex tax to account for	12/16/2020 6:50 PM
155	There should be no VAT on accommodation We just don't purchase enough goods to make it worth while as can't claim much back, nothing close to the income that we get It's imperative that we stick to 5% either for good or until 2022	12/16/2020 6:50 PM
156	It prevents expansion as we will try and stay beneath the VAT threshold. This means we will focus more on the peak profitable weeks instead of all-year round business which prohibits the creation of year round jobs and contributes to the gig- economy in Cornwall rather than careers.	12/16/2020 6:43 PM
157	Since we registered for Vat a few years ago we have not been able to advance with property improvements. They have all but stopped as we try to compete with the local market and Airbnb.	12/16/2020 6:42 PM
158	It improves profitability and in turn viability of the business motivating us to continue in the industry, providing an income for ourselves, our business partners and employees.	12/16/2020 6:40 PM
159	My business / industry is not really a spending business - ie claiming back of VAT is minimal. However with VAT at 20% plus business rates etc etc ability to produce a reasonable margine is very limited.	12/16/2020 6:33 PM
160	Lower VAT rates will grow my business quicker. I aim to grow anyway but this will accelerate it, resulting in higher employees and help to the local economy - I use laundry company, cleaners, my guests use the local gastro pubs and tourist attractions	12/16/2020 6:32 PM
161	More staff to deal with it therefore less profit	12/16/2020 6:31 PM
162	between VAT , commision & Corporation Tax working for very little	12/16/2020 6:29 PM
163	The rate of VAT added to the loss of business we have sustained due to Covid-19 is making the business unprofitable and change of use will become the alternative.	12/16/2020 6:14 PM
164	The ability for the 1,000's of businesses currently staying below VAT threshold because the	12/16/2020 6:09 PM

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cost / risk is just too high, compared to a hospitality VAT of 5% must be significant, as the reason to NOT grow will have been removed more or less entirely!

165	We would look to exit the sector and change the properties to residential let if we cant get some leeway on VAT.	12/16/2020 6:06 PM
166	Puts us at a disadvantage against non registered VAT sites. 20% is a big difference. It can pay the electric and water bill.	12/16/2020 6:04 PM
167	VAT at 5% will help us more being more competitive such as second homes owners and foreign holidays.	12/16/2020 5:45 PM
168	It is devastating, with increased overheads on providers, staffing costs and business rates it is becoming prohibitive.	12/16/2020 5:43 PM
169	No affect as we are not VAT Registered	12/16/2020 5:28 PM
170	We compete in an uneven marketplace and VAT normalisation would assist in future plans	12/16/2020 5:28 PM
171	I pay corporation tax as it runs as a business, and not sure what percentage tax I pay.	12/16/2020 5:23 PM
172	If the VAT returns to 20% in April it will immediately become a massive struggle to stay afloat and we may not survive. I believe this is true for thousands of small businesses around the country. SW	12/16/2020 5:22 PM
173	We are beginning to grow our trade during Winter months but do not see trade improving by more than 20% to go over threshold and then allow for VAT. If it was at 5% we could market better to improve Winter season on Isle of Wight and going over threshold for 5% cost rather than 20% cost more achievable	12/16/2020 3:34 PM
174	The 5% puts us on the same level as Europe and therefore more people will holiday in the UK.	12/16/2020 3:30 PM
175	Paying less VAT means the money we receive from bookings provides a greater % to reinvest into our business. For us to choose what we do with the money to achieve a more sustainable and secure future.	12/16/2020 3:29 PM
176	As some of our members VAT registered, then keeping it low at 5% would be very welcome	12/16/2020 3:18 PM
177	Hugely important for forecasting recovery and having access to funds to invest	12/16/2020 2:41 PM
178	Mainly as commented above.	12/16/2020 1:54 PM
179	Not much at present	12/16/2020 1:39 PM
180	Lower vat makes us more competitive	12/16/2020 1:23 PM
181	In this challenging period we have been through and still are conscious that the VAT reduction helps to offer a good value in respect of discount and price freeze particularly, as a leisure destination, the UK home market are READY and NEED reassurance of a SAFE destination to enjoy a long overdue re-charge holiday or break from the past years ordeal.	12/16/2020 1:11 PM
182	As mentioned in point 11, reducing the VAT rate would allow us to increase the profitability, to allow the opportunity for further investment to grow the business and result in providing not only job security but additional jobs.	12/16/2020 1:07 PM
183	its been a life saver, and need a reduced rate to ensure we reinvest in the business next year and retain staff	12/16/2020 12:52 PM
184	For a small charity that has suffered due to the Covid related closure in 2019, VAT has a significant impact on our figures, and so it is essential that the rate is kept at 5% for our future business outlook.	12/16/2020 12:47 PM
185	We currently turn away some custom due to breaching the VAT threshold would result in more work for less money. We could easily increase our turnover by 10-20%, but do not due to how the VAT threshold impacts all income and not just that above the threshold.	12/16/2020 12:46 PM
186	The present VAT rate has a very limiting effect on our ability to make any long term plans with confidence and we would love to be able to be able to improve the quality of the product we offer to guests, invest in staff training and to be in position to improve staff remuneration.	12/16/2020 12:39 PM
187	Retaining 5% VAT would positively impact our business viability	12/16/2020 12:29 PM

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188	With a 12.5% surcharge on many food products from Europe and the number of wage increase over the last 3 years makes catering untenable. If the rate of vat increases by 15% to bring it back to 20%. We will have no customers. We will not need catering staff	12/16/2020 12:21 PM
189	Covered in 11 above.	12/16/2020 11:43 AM
190	The vat threshold is very restrictive	12/16/2020 11:40 AM
191	More investment	12/16/2020 11:38 AM
192	VAT is our biggest expense and in out of season marketing we are unable to reduce prices.	12/16/2020 11:08 AM
193	Needs to stay at 5% for 12 months after covid hospitality regulations are eased	12/16/2020 10:57 AM
194	It doesn't	12/16/2020 10:45 AM
195	It makes a low profit business like ours less profitable	12/16/2020 10:42 AM
196	NO COACH TRIPS HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE APRIL 2020 SO NOT ABLE TO SAY WHAT DIFFERENCE THE REDUCED VAT RATE WOULD HAVE MADE.	12/16/2020 10:41 AM
197	A 5% VAT rate on part of our income would create extra work in recording sales, as it would mean having to account for 20%, 5% and 0% VAT sales throughout the business as a whole.	12/16/2020 10:38 AM
198	xxx	12/16/2020 10:33 AM
199	Its stops me growing as I want to stay under the VAT threshold	12/16/2020 10:13 AM
200	The 5% impacton VAT has no real benefit to a venue that is largely wet led. We would rather see a 2 year reduction to 10% across hospitality which would see our business recoup around 40K over the 2 year perios, which go someway to recovering the losses in liquidity we have lost todade.	12/16/2020 9:45 AM
201	The accommodation sector was already in poor fiscal shape due to the FACT that a large proportion of total business comes from the big .com companies (Booking.com, Expedia etc) who drain 20% of turnover - and that 20% was what used to be called profit! In the beginning they were useful - an hotel who joined them sacrificed part (then only 10%) of turnover to get additional occupancy - but now virtually all accommodation down to "Mrs Jones's front room" is registered with them and they just drain their 20% (and at times more) from every establishment. Cutting VAT would restore a degree of profitability and would stop the closure of many businesses that would otherwise be sold for flat conversion or other redevelopment - not a very good outcome for the British tourism industry.	12/16/2020 3:57 AM
202	We can't work with the fear that we won't be able to pay our fees. We need a bit of peace of mind in order to regenerate a business attitude	12/16/2020 12:27 AM
203	The difference between being viable and coming out the other side of the pandemic	12/15/2020 10:33 PM
204	VAT decrease has been a great help to business - reducing the burden in these unknown times. As many other countries already charge at 5%, it seems important to match them in this new world post Brexit and also to help support businesses	12/15/2020 10:13 PM
205	At 15% and above the VAT liability is disproportionate to the benefits of reclaiming VAT on inputs and as a diversified farm based business would likely mean a restructure to separate the accommodation away and keep below the VAT threshold.	12/15/2020 10:00 PM
206	VAT is a huge burden in the busier quarters. We have to run on overdraft 8 months of the year because when we reach a tidy credit the VAT invoice comes in. We simply can't raise our prices higher we will be far too high to be competitive. Our expenses are high due to indoor pool and extra running costs.	12/15/2020 9:04 PM
207	Not a great deal, but this is mainly because I work mainly with small b&bs which are not registered for VAT	12/15/2020 8:36 PM
208	I find that 20% takes a massive cut of the business, with this on top of the booking fees my partner and I find ourselves on minimum wage and claiming tax credits. If VAT returns to 20% we see little change.	12/15/2020 7:56 PM
209	It would help with cash flow, and help pay back loans that have been taken out during the 2020 lockdowns	12/15/2020 7:11 PM

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210	We would welcome the VAT rate remaining at 5% to go some way to recoup a significant drop in income in 2020.	12/15/2020 6:55 PM
211	The cut would not be passed on to the customer	12/15/2020 6:44 PM
212	It has definitely made a noticeable difference in the bottom line.	12/15/2020 6:41 PM
213	The whole travel industry needs an indefinite VAT cut and also a further 12 months business rates holiday, as there are still no guarantees to when we will return to profit due to social distancing, which is making operations loss making for a significantly extended period throughout the year	12/15/2020 6:38 PM
214	Supports cashflow during future years of uncertainty within tourism and hospitality especially where reliant on foreign visitors	12/15/2020 6:38 PM
215	A permanent VAT reduction would guarantee the profitability of this company, and thus safeguard all jobs for the future	12/15/2020 6:26 PM
216	N/a	12/15/2020 6:24 PM
217	As a registered charity, we would like to see vat relief on our purchases.	12/15/2020 6:22 PM
218	If VAT increases to 20% again we'll consider giving up the business or down scaling it and reducing staff hours.	12/15/2020 6:21 PM
219	20% Vat has been draconian since its introduction, a reduced VAT rate would give everyone more scope in pricing structure	12/15/2020 6:03 PM
220	I simply cannot see an easy road to recovery. We are already an expensive destination in relative and real terms. With VAT remaining at 5 % I can see us being able to slowly rebuild. Conversely, I will sell my business, at a loss, if necessary, if VAT was to go up as it is simply not viable. I think 4 and 5-star premises have a slight advantage but the vast majority of Hotels in the UK are small, family-run 2 and 3-star premises that have very little room to maneuver but play a major role in employment.	12/15/2020 5:53 PM
221	Anywhere where our taxable outgoings can be reduced would be a great help. I am very worried about the re-introduction of business rates.	12/15/2020 5:39 PM
222	This would help Hospitality immeasurably of a VAT reduction could be sustained. It would also help us be more competitive and appealing to inward bound tourism. It would be a tremendous boon.	12/15/2020 5:36 PM
223	Reducing the VAT rate to 5% on a permanent basis would provide a vital lifeline for the accommodation sector who are amongst the hardest hit due to Covid. Whilst government support was offered it represented little over 1% of turnover which does not sustain a business. The industry should be allowed to trade, recover and rebuild. Loss of the industry (which cannot be quickly replaced due to the disproportionately large initial capital outlay and planning constraints) will directly reduce tourism spending (and therefore Local Authority income) from areas where this is one if not the largest sector of the economy; moreover, it will deprive the domestic holiday maker from essential leisure time and drive holiday spending abroad. Conversely, support will see a return in the form of corporation tax, associated tourism spending (e.g dining, the local economy, pubs, car parking, laundry, maintenance, construction etc) and much needed Local Authority revenue which could only be replaced by further central government funding or an increase in Council taxes - both of which are ill-afforded.	12/15/2020 5:32 PM
224	Encouraging more staycations.	12/15/2020 5:29 PM
225	Affects ability to compete with overseas tourist destinations.	12/15/2020 4:49 PM
226	This season along with the rates holiday and without the VAT decrease I am not sure how we would have survived the winter?	12/15/2020 4:48 PM
227	VAT holds us back from growing. With a lower rate we could grow to new locations, have more staff, increase revenue and pay more corporation tax	12/15/2020 4:37 PM
228	With VAT from before lockdown still to be paid this has allowed me the means to accumulate the repayment. Cashflow is crucial. We expect to have to increase prices in advance of the VAT returning to 20% .	12/15/2020 4:29 PM
229	Next year will be a crucial one for many businesses - I realise this survey is about longer term	12/15/2020 4:26 PM

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changes to VAT but in the shorter term, if it can be afforded, I do think that tourism and hospitality businesses will need and massively appreciate a continuing reduction to 5% VAT through 2021 to allow some room for recovery.

230	VAT is a significant cost in running my business, and a continued reducing would help immensely.	12/15/2020 4:17 PM
231	VAT at 5% is a much lower burden, it makes us more competitive with non-VAT businesses in the same sector. I alcualte with VAT at 20%, whne this is added to PAYE , NI, RATES and Income tax, (not to mention green taxes, petril taxes, ins tax, etc etc) nearly 40% of what we charge a customer goes in tax	12/15/2020 4:05 PM
232	VAT is a punitive tax within the hospitality industry and is perceived to have a negative effect on business. It therefore causes decisions on pricing to be carefully considered	12/15/2020 4:03 PM
233	The vat cut would also enable us to help pay the enormous increase in insurance costs to operate Britains seaside piers, who are all under threat due to climate change . Without insurance we would be unprotected and unable to survive. For decades we have been paying millions in insurance to protect our property and livelihoods , only to find out that we will not be paid out any BI due to covid 19.	12/15/2020 3:53 PM
234	With continued rising costs which cannot be covered by an increase in entry prices (which will make entry too dear) we are not looking at a positive future. As a tourist attraction the entry income is not offset by invoices so 20% is a huge deduction from our income which could be used to improve the attraction and ensure that customers return to us because their experience here will be improved.	12/15/2020 3:41 PM
235	For us individually we were on the cusp of a large expansion before Covid, we believe that a lot more Brits will holiday in the UK and we want to expand and be ready for them, will the help of a government led campaign for Brits to spend here would also boost the overall economy as billions are spent each year abroad, a VAT reduction on UK holidays would encourage that.	12/15/2020 3:32 PM
236	vat reduced to 5% with outbreak of covid, was positive for us , we would have confidence to carry on if stayed at 5%, keep costs down to our customers,give them incentive to come to our parks, boost caravan industry.	12/15/2020 3:17 PM
237	It massively affects our business because those 'pop up' sites are not vat registered therefore fees are kept low. Those that are VAT registered have more overheads and have to charge more to cover vat	12/15/2020 2:51 PM
238	In short the future of our business now relies on the VAT cut remaining at 5% indefinitely. With almost nothing to offset the VAT we charge customers the liability at a rate of 20% is out of proportion to all other liabilities in our business. I am unable to increase sale prices to compensate as the increase would have to be so dramatic I would lose customers and sales. I consider our business to be a strong and profitable business prior to COVID 19 so it is not that the rate will be helping an already struggling business. The cut must be maintained in order to help strong businesses in the hospitality sector to survive.	12/15/2020 2:46 PM
239	As the area has limited industry tourism is fundamental to the local economy and is price sensitive to foreign competition.	12/15/2020 2:42 PM
240	We complete and will do in the future with locations in Europe and most of our competitors pay far less than 20% in Vat, as we come out of Europe and tray and repair the ravages of Covid (our turn over halved this year) I think reducing Vat will be crucial, and it will create stability, jobs and investment.... when will the Treasury realise less is more?	12/15/2020 2:40 PM
241	Weddings should be viewed as multiple supplies in order to benefit from the vat reduction. This is not the case at present, and I feel it should be changed. Our weddings are packaged for marketing and our couples convenience; they include separate supplies of food, accommodation, venue hire, and beverage which should all be recognised as separate supplies from a VAT perspective. Without this recognition from HMRC that wedding packages are separate supplies bundled for customer service purposes only, the reduced rate has zero impact on our business and any others offering weddings. Thank You	12/15/2020 2:24 PM
242	Having a reduction on the vat has helped us survive the huge loss of income if it is kept in place it will help us get through another year after all we are a seasonal business and was hit just as we opened.	12/15/2020 2:02 PM
243	VAT @ percent will enable us to keep most of our staff otherwise ????	12/15/2020 1:54 PM

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244	The current charge of 5% VAT ultimately affects the end-user, who may then consider investing in our business. This will also allow further business opportunities within our company.	12/15/2020 1:54 PM
245	Vat @ 20% is really difficult to keep head above water every 1/4 , and would be impossible in this continued Covid enviroment at the moment.	12/15/2020 1:48 PM
246	The reduction to 5% has had a huge impact on our business as it as enabled us to continue trading and keep staff employed. If it goes back up to 20% before trading levels go back to where they were before Covid then we have little chance of survival. 20% on all sales is very difficult to maintain when much of purchases are 0% rated (i.e. food) - and accommodation OTA charges being so high but a necessary evil.	12/15/2020 1:44 PM
247	Don't earn enough so would close me down	12/15/2020 1:42 PM
248	A lower VAT rate will allow us to put more back into our business to create a better experience for our customers	12/15/2020 1:39 PM
249	It has had a very positive affect on our business and has helped tremendously in a very tricky and worrying year!	12/15/2020 1:37 PM
250	As a business we have only received the rates cancelled for 2020 and no grants so the VAT cut was helpful to enable us to survive the three winters syndrome of being closed>	12/15/2020 1:36 PM
251	VAT at 5% will be the difference between surviving and failing for many hospitality businesses and possibly my own.	12/15/2020 1:36 PM
252	It's been a life line and has kept us from falling off a cliff. However, our profit for this year is still hugely affected and we have to try to claw that back. Thank you	12/15/2020 1:33 PM
253	If the Government gave our industry this vote of confidence I would definitely invest in more staff and more accommodation.	12/15/2020 1:07 PM
254	VAT desp required, but broaden "tourism" definition, at present it is v misleading	12/15/2020 1:00 PM
255	it would obviously make it a much fairer system for food businesses	12/15/2020 12:55 PM
256	We do not know how many of our suppliers will pass on any VAT reduction to us; only two hotels have done so to date. I do not yet know how Brexit will affect our TOMS calculations.	12/15/2020 12:53 PM
257	By keeping the vat rate low it attracts customers to stay in the uk	12/15/2020 12:38 PM
258	Any future invest needs funds Keeping employees need funds Day to day running of a business needs funds The more the government take the less we can invest	12/15/2020 12:38 PM
259	5%VAT HAS SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCED CASHFLOW AND PROFITABILITY OF THE BUSINESS, IT WILL ENCOURAGE FURTHER INVESTMENT WHICH WILL CREATE EMPLOYMENT, ULTIMATELY THE GOVERNMENT WILL RECOUP THE MONEY VIA CORPORATION TAX	12/15/2020 12:36 PM
260	It's 20 percent of our takings gone, without the corporation tax after it, if it wasn't there we would expand quicker too and be more competitive like our European neighbours. Our country is backwards	12/15/2020 12:35 PM
261	I have little doubt that a reduced VAT rate especially in coastal and rural locations would be a strong support measure for better employment prospects	12/15/2020 12:30 PM
262	The 5% VAT rate should be made permanent in order to provide a fairer system compared with visitor attractions which are able to operate under the cultural exemption legislation and those museums and galleries which offer free entry and receive full VAT refunds on their costs.	12/15/2020 12:29 PM
263	We are a family run business and have probably been working way under the minimum wage for years to reinvest in the business. If we improve then we will receive more customers which will then increase the profits which leads to giving the Government more tax income.	12/15/2020 12:23 PM
264	Stay at 5% guarantees margin increase and therefore future investment for increasing capacity and jobs	12/15/2020 12:13 PM
265	Probably the best benefit given to us by HMG to get through Covid - given, of course, that we are allowed to trade.	12/15/2020 12:02 PM

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266	If the government want investment in SMEs and to make tourism a key to recovery by bringing money into rural areas from the UK and abroad this would be the easiest way to do this.	12/15/2020 12:01 PM
267	Vat @ 20% takes a huge amount of profit away from the company causing us to consider shutting the business for good, as we can't just keep putting our prices up. @ 5% we have been able to re invest in our business, employee more staff, open for longer throughout the year. It really has saved our business this year.	12/15/2020 12:01 PM
268	The reduction in vat has enabled us to remain viable during the year, and has helped us implement extra measures for fighting COVID, and helped us to come back hopefully stronger in the coming year.	12/15/2020 11:57 AM
269	Having vat levels reduced would benefit tourism in a massive and positive way. Being on a par with our European colleagues would be advantageous to everyone in tourism hospitality and leisure both home and abroad.	12/15/2020 11:55 AM
270	The VAT has helped us to survive so far by retaining customers and encouraging new buyers. A return to 20% after the traumas of this year would give us serious doubts about our survival and our 50 strong work force.	12/15/2020 11:52 AM
271	The current VAT rate means it's nigh on impossible to compete with accommodation abroad, especially in Cornwall it is seen as drastically expensive, however with the current reduction we can be more competitive with places abroad and be a more viable year round business.	12/15/2020 11:48 AM
272	The future looks very bleak if the VAT on tourism and hospitality does not remain at 5% indefinitely!!	12/15/2020 11:48 AM
273	Continuing Vat reduction crucial to business outlook	12/15/2020 11:45 AM
274	It will enable us to keep employing the people we have got and invest in the future of this building. Also it will enable us to set money aside for essential repairs and maintenance of this Grade I listed building	12/15/2020 11:38 AM
275	Without the reduction and the business rate review we would almost certainly have had to close. Only the understanding of our landlord has enabled us to weather the storm where takings are down around 60%.	12/15/2020 11:29 AM
276	A permanent reduction in VAT for tourism would massively increase confidence for the next twelve months and encourage investment for future.	12/15/2020 11:28 AM
277	This would keep our cost under control enabling us to continue employing the current number of staff with the possibility of taking more on.	12/15/2020 11:20 AM
278	VAT holds us back as a small accommodation business not just because it stops us developing our business but also takes up valuable time that should be spent engaging with holiday makers and staff to provide a better targeted product.	12/15/2020 11:09 AM
279	The 5% VAT reduction was a game changer when it came to us re-opening this summer, without it we would have not been viable. Continued reduction will allow us to re-coop loses and invest in a better visitor experience,	12/15/2020 10:56 AM
280	I would fully support the continued application of 5% VAT for the UK hospitality sector.	12/15/2020 10:54 AM
281	A permanent reduction in the rate of VAT for hospitality would acknowledge the disproportionate hit hospitality has suffered as a result of the pandemic and make this vital sector stronger so it can recover.	12/15/2020 10:45 AM
282	Although maintaining tourism VAT at 5% may increase tourist footfall in the UK it would leave a big gap in the treasury's income that would need to be filled by an other tax route	12/15/2020 10:43 AM
283	We need incentives to trade and increase our margins if we are to recommence investing in our business. This in turn supports local tradesmen and other small businesses. retaining a VAT level of 5% and some enhanced capital allowances or the return to hotel building allowances would help our industry and lead to increased revenues for local small businesses and also, in turn, to the government in taxes etc	12/15/2020 10:24 AM
284	We will be able to carry on improving the site facilities more and more	12/15/2020 10:20 AM
285	The 5% rate introduced in July has been immensely helpful this year psychologically and financially - thus far it has added approaching £90,000 to our bottom line and hence will reduce	12/15/2020 10:04 AM

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losses incurred in our current financially year commensurately.

286	Even with the 5% VAT, there are still elements of our business where the VAT reduction does not apply. We would like to see the VAT reduction scope to be extended to cover more of our business	12/15/2020 9:50 AM
287	The VAT cut is vital and a life line. As a business owner and GM it is my recommendation that this remains at 5% in order to restore this industry back to glory. A minimum of a further 12 months would suffice	12/15/2020 9:46 AM
288	This is all based on the assumption that the VAT reduction does not apply to alcoholic drinks - which is probable.	12/15/2020 9:40 AM
289	trade would increase leading to further investment	12/15/2020 8:57 AM
290	Once VAT rate is 'set and established ' it has little effect - as known cost . However, increases or decreases can drive or subdue business confidence / expenditure. The industry needs stimulus at present	12/15/2020 8:23 AM
291	We are looking at major price hikes when VAT goes to 20%, and if that results in a call in sales, we will have to make closures.	12/15/2020 8:21 AM
292	This survey doesn't address the impact on flat rate vat payers. The reduction in vat has not benefitted us at all as we continue to charge 20% vat. If 5% vat became permanent then we would come off the flat rate vat scheme and likely try to increase our turnover which has been restrained to the flat rate vat limit.	12/15/2020 7:53 AM
293	gives the flexibility for both wages and investment	12/15/2020 7:40 AM
294	VAT cut on alcohol needs to be implemented as soon as possible to enable historic businesses to survive and give them the opportunity to bounce back	12/15/2020 7:04 AM
295	margin for profit increased, meaning long term stability/investment/growth in product-jobs	12/15/2020 1:09 AM
296	Without an extension of the 5% VAT rate the hospitality sector will face a collapse in confidence and investment. Viable businesses will be focused purely on debt reduction. All others will face restructuring or failure it will decimate what is left of the high street.	12/15/2020 12:20 AM
297	This would really help our viability.	12/14/2020 11:47 PM
298	It is important to our margins	12/14/2020 11:43 PM
299	A VAT cut on all drinks (including alcohol) sold would make a significant difference, boosting investment and creating jobs in our pubs.	12/14/2020 10:45 PM
300	Going forward it is likely that families will have less disposable income and as a result are likely to cut back on such things as holidays. This would result in a reduction in revenue to the state from VAT where as by maintaining the reduced rate more people will be enabled to take holidays maintaining / enhancing potential revenue through VAT. IT would also enhance a feeling of the efforts that the population has put in during this pandemic being appreciated.	12/14/2020 10:38 PM
301	Under TOMS we have not had our vat rate reduced. Neither have any of our supplies been reduced in price. The vat rate cut has propped up other industries but has not helped coach tours at all. It should return to 20% or be abolished altogether and replaced with a different tax regime.	12/14/2020 10:29 PM
302	We have been slowly closing down the tourism elements of our business as we struggle to make a profit by charging £5 inc 20% VAT entry and therefore are not able to invest in our facilities. In 2021 we are opening for free to please our loyal fans then probably we have maybe 3-5 years max. But 5% VAT staying permanently would change our view and we would take the opportunity to invest	12/14/2020 10:23 PM
303	a 5% vat would enable us to compete with European destinations more effectively and would encourage us to invest and hire more workers	12/14/2020 10:12 PM
304	20% VAT gives us little scope or desire for expansion	12/14/2020 9:32 PM
305	This would have a massive positive impact on the future confidence that I would have for my business, my employees and the industry	12/14/2020 9:21 PM
306	It is essential that VAT is reduced when we are able to trade again otherwise it will be hard to	12/14/2020 9:00 PM

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recover from the losses we have suffered.

307	As we can claim very little VAT back for us it simply represents an extra tax	12/14/2020 8:29 PM
308	The difference between 5% and 20% vat is significant for our business. Paying less vat means we have more capital to survive as a viable business and actually think about investing in our business to grow.	12/14/2020 8:23 PM
309	We needed the reduction to survive. Now in Tier 2 we can trade but our turnover has reduced by 75%.	12/14/2020 8:12 PM
310	With the minimum wage continuing to rise, along with rents, produce, etc. The industry needs structural support. A permanent VAT cut provides that.	12/14/2020 8:03 PM
311	5% VAT should be a permanent fixture in order for the industry to have long term sustainability and to adequately incentivise entrepreneurs to invest and employ. Without the potential rewards to business owners, they will simply not open businesses.	12/14/2020 7:59 PM
312	Increased turnover increases employment opportunities and business investment. A more competitive product gives the business a more certain future. Compared to overseas holidays and other non vat rated private accommodation (Beds on Board, Airbnb, holiday cottages etc) the business would create more jobs and income for the UK.	12/14/2020 7:57 PM
313	Could be the difference between closure and scraping through	12/14/2020 7:53 PM
314	A continuing 5% VAT rate would be a massive assistance to longer term viability post Covid and enable us to be much more resilient in case of future outbreaks	12/14/2020 7:44 PM
315	In general reduction in VAT to 5% for the hospitality and tourism in Brighton and Hove would benefit all businesses vat reg or not as well the residents of Brighton.	12/14/2020 7:43 PM
316	Having a reduced level of VAT for hospitality levels the playing field between supermarkets and on licensed premises, and increased investment will drive future sales.	12/14/2020 7:39 PM
317	It has been a life saver and would be hugely beneficial going forward.	12/14/2020 7:29 PM
318	We are not able to remain competitive by paying VAT @ 20%. It is unfair as other property owners who let out their properties are able to escape this tax.	12/14/2020 7:18 PM
319	I would be happy for government to enforce more investment in business if needed to ensure a lower vat rate!	12/14/2020 7:12 PM
320	As a VAT business I feel at a big disadvantage to the many small businesses trading under the VAT threshold offering the same services. Maybe there should be a sliding scale of VAT - the higher the turnover the higher the VAT rate. eg 5% for 50k-£100k 10% for £100k-500K and 20% £500K+	12/14/2020 7:12 PM
321	VAT is part of a bigger pincer movement - planning policy for hotels, lack of a local authority to curate what is best for the town and control Airbnb, green policy conflict with " mass tourism" , increased overheads due to brexit, and less tourists travelling due to new travel restrictions. We live on the edge of a whirlpool that could any minute suck the life out of our profitable business. It is frightening.	12/14/2020 7:10 PM
322	The 5% VAT rate does not help my business. As I rent my properties through an agent, they are still charging me 20% for the service. I have questioned this and they assure me that I have to be charged the full amount.	12/14/2020 7:04 PM
323	The arguments for a lowering of VAT on Accommodation pre-date the Pandemic and the arguments made then are even more valid now with the UK hospitality industry needing to become more competitive within Europe. The Pandemic has shown how unsustainable the margins are within the industry and many will not survive without a permanent re-think on taxation. Our hotel has shed 30+ jobs and unless there is the consumer confidence that the demand seen in the summer of 2020 will remain when foreign destinations re-open their doors we and other business will be not be adding further risk into our business models by recruiting. It is worth noting that our industry has the ability to lead a quick recovery with short lead times in up-scaling volumes and recruiting to satisfy demand.	12/14/2020 7:01 PM
324	We have lost £100k of our personal money to keep our businesses going and things are still bad. We really need help and this would be massive to reinvigorate our sector	12/14/2020 6:58 PM

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325	It is a life saver at the moment	12/14/2020 6:58 PM
326	Key to long term success and competitiveness of uk tourism and hospitality . More jobs created	12/14/2020 6:53 PM
327	The more we have to pay out then the less we have to reinvest in the business; since March 2020 income revenue has been reduced by approximately 60% (maybe more), any reduction in vat would be very welcome.	12/14/2020 6:49 PM
328	I feel that a reduction in VAT will go a very long way into helping us financially especially after all the losses we have had in income this year. That additional 15% will make a huge difference to our business and will ensure we won't need to reduce staff or make any drastic changes especially in the low season.	12/14/2020 6:46 PM
329	A VAT cut will drive the recovery of the Hospitality industry, it is crucial to future jobs and prosperity for millions of UK taxpayers. Without it, we will see a rapid increase in closures.	12/14/2020 6:45 PM
330	The VAT reduction has been a critical lifeline in this challenging year and its continuation would be a very positive signal of support for the recovery of our sector	12/14/2020 6:44 PM
331	Encouraging Staycation trade will benefit a whole raft of businesses if not specifically my own.	12/14/2020 6:40 PM
332	Most zoos that become charities do so because of the saving on VAT (no VAT charged on admissions). They then potentially contribute less to the UK economy. A VAT rate of 5% would mean that those who are still businesses would be less likely to become charities, and not be encumbered with greater administration and be able to contribute more to conservation.	12/14/2020 6:37 PM
333	please extend to liquor	12/14/2020 6:36 PM
334	The 5% VAT gives us a chance to compete with Supermarket offers. I believe O VAT on food in restaurants and pubs should apply.	12/14/2020 6:24 PM
335	Its very important to have level playing field with other countries.	12/14/2020 6:09 PM
336	The lower rate has turned `disaster' in March into `okay' in December. 5% would be transformational.	12/14/2020 6:08 PM
337	Please also take a similar approach to Business rates and a further holiday beyond April	12/14/2020 5:42 PM
338	It is a vital tool to help recover from COVID	12/14/2020 5:41 PM
339	Only for the fact it helps local restaurants, tea rooms etc., in our village and surrounding area's.	12/14/2020 5:36 PM
340	VAT break extension is essential to our survival as a second generation hotel. Without it we will never be able to recover the business or the cost of Covid-19 on our company. The challenges to our industry do not end with a vaccine. It will take years to recover the costs this has had on us.	12/14/2020 5:33 PM
341	It is a great help especially as we have only received 2 very small grants this year	12/14/2020 5:20 PM
342	I believe it essential that initially the VAT rate is held at 5% to maximise recovery of the industry. Long term we should look to become more competitive with our European competitors who enjoy a more favourable VAT position than we do. If it were not possible to maintain 5% long term then if we were to compromise somewhere around 7.5% to 10% then it would enable us to achieve closer parity and continue to build this industry so important to UK economy	12/14/2020 5:20 PM
343	Why can't you crack down on tax havens and the global corporations and the super wealthy who stockpile money? Wouldn't that make more sense? We spread around all the money we get, like muck. Our whole community benefits unlike others who avoid tax and sit on piles of money doing nothing.	12/14/2020 5:11 PM
344	VAT hits smaller hotels in an unfair way. Nowadays, the marketplace is very accessible and rooms are sold on cost. Smaller B&Bs do not have the same level of VAT, if any to add to their room costs, larger chains can spread the cost and have economies of scale to back them up. Small independents have to pay full VAT without either of these benefits.	12/14/2020 5:08 PM
345	We found questions 7&8 hard to answer as we would have had to spend additional funds on wages and covid-proofing regardless of the VAT cut - so what the the VAT cut actually did was allowed us to open more sites, more viably, more quickly.	12/14/2020 5:04 PM

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346	It has an enormous effect and is a deterrent to our market to stay particularly from abroad because Europe has lower VAT.	12/14/2020 4:48 PM
347	The best thing for my business would be to extend the VAT cut to alcoholic drinks consumed on the premises	12/14/2020 4:48 PM
348	vat increase to 20% is bleak	12/14/2020 4:38 PM
349	High levels of vat stops us investing in our business. Where as a low level is wonderful. We can afford to buy new equipment and employ more staff	12/14/2020 4:38 PM
350	VAT is our second biggest expense at 20%, reducing this would mean we can spend that same money on goods and services to grow the business.	12/14/2020 4:18 PM
351	Crucial to the survival of business that was employing 40 staff but now operating on 2-3 staff	12/14/2020 4:14 PM
352	With everything increasing eg NMW, utilities, council tax etc the VAT cut helps to alleviate some of the costs and puts the business into a positive instead of negative situation.	12/14/2020 4:08 PM
353	it would make a huge difference especially during this pandemic aftermath and it would be a fuel towards the road of recovery	12/14/2020 4:02 PM
354	The reduction in VAT increase profitability hugely and would be beneficial	12/14/2020 3:58 PM
355	Our business operates around the VAT threshold and 20% VAT has always been THE stumbling block; without it we can make a living just about but as soon as we reach the threshold we lose 20% as in our business you cannot suddenly add that percentage to the rental charged to our guests. We compete in a market where the VAT position of our competitors is highly varied but that will not be a persuasive argument to prospective guests: they just look at the amount payable.	12/14/2020 3:54 PM
356	AS AN INDUSTRY WE NEED TO RAISE THE PROFILE OF WORKING IN OUR INDUSTRY - BEING TAXED AT 20% CONSTANTLY KEEPS US SUPPRESSED, BECAUSE OUR MARGINS ARE SO SMALL, PREVENTING US FROM IMPROVING THE AVERAGE WAGE	12/14/2020 3:46 PM
357	As a low ticket but high volume business where hot drink sales[coffee is our speciality] account for at least 50% of our turnover a 5% VAT rate would enable us to expand and create more jobs	12/14/2020 3:44 PM
358	I estimate that it will take 5 years for our business to recover financially. A return to 20% vat jeopardises our future.	12/14/2020 3:40 PM
359	We will struggle next year if VAT increases before everything is at least back to how it was before the Pandemic	12/14/2020 3:34 PM
360	Tourism and Hospitality has been decimated in 2020 with -80% turnover & job losses , getting 5% vat would enable the sector to re employ staff and invest in the UK again	12/14/2020 3:33 PM
361	Should the Gov change from 5 -20% overnight on the 31st March next year this will have a detrimental effect on the pricing of the business with prices having to be amended beyond 20%. I feel this would see 20% cost rises across the hotel in accommodation and Food - if we don't, or cannot increase the pricing i fear that the revenue's and profitability will crash thus putting pressure on staffing, GP's, supply's	12/14/2020 3:30 PM
362	Maintaining VAT @ 5% permanently makes the difference between planning our survival and planning to grow.	12/14/2020 3:27 PM
363	5% makes everything more viable, wages could be higher, more investment and we are able to be cheaper so more attractive to local custom in what is mainly a seasonal tourism area	12/14/2020 3:26 PM
364	Any help to make up for the enormous difficulties faced this year would be great. I estimate it will take me 5 years to make up for the losses faced this year.	12/14/2020 3:24 PM
365	Vat at 5% would enable to deliver quality Luxury service and invest in the team.	12/14/2020 3:19 PM
366	VAT makes our product more expensive in the eyes of the consumer. VAT rates in Europe are lower than ours which can make the UK un competitive when trying to encourage foreign visitors to the UK	12/14/2020 3:12 PM
367	When the 5% VAT cut kicked in during the summer, our business was transformed from one that was clinging on, to one where a world of opportunities opened up. Suddenly it felt like we	12/14/2020 3:11 PM

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could undertake the projects for reinvestment we'd wanted to do for a long time. It would make our business sustainable and allow us to build the business we want to run - one that continually invests in its future and its people.

368	It is so important in a business with high staff costs and marginal profits	12/14/2020 3:09 PM
369	Ultimately VAT should not be seen as a pricing issue as the price of accommodation is set by market forces. The reduction in VAT is about making us competitive and about long term viability.	12/14/2020 3:09 PM
370	Believe as a luxury tax VAT should be levied on supermarket ready meals, especially their "Gastropub" and "Dine In" ranges, specifically targeted at competing with eating out occasions.	12/14/2020 3:09 PM
371	It would enthuse us to grow our business as proportionately we will have more to reinvest, giving security, confidence and encouragement to grow. We could also look at rewarding exceptional staff performance, hire more apprentices to meet future growth. based on our turnover it would significantly 'move the needle'.	12/14/2020 3:08 PM
372	We would be able to secure a much more secure financial position for the business and could have more flexibility to offer discounts	12/14/2020 3:05 PM
373	If it remained at 5%, it would significantly increase our potential to rebuild the business after the catastrophic impact of Covid	12/14/2020 3:03 PM
374	profit margins are low and this gives a much need boost to propel the business into 2021 with more confidence	12/14/2020 3:02 PM
375	The VAT rate can help small community wet-led pubs become more sustainable and compete on a level playing field with supermarkets.	12/14/2020 3:00 PM
376	We were unable to pass any saving in VAT to homeowners through reduced fees. I am surprised that agencies are excluded from the reduction in VAT. We were therefore unable to pass on any saving in VAT to holiday homeowners through a reduction in fees.	12/14/2020 2:53 PM
377	We do not subscribe to the general view that Brexit and the pandemic will see a long term switch to domestic holidays because of the unpredictability of the UK weather. A price advantage is vital to the future of the industry.	12/14/2020 2:39 PM
378	All Accommodation providers have customers who also spend with other hospitality businesses whilst on holiday pubs, cafes etc and a cut in VAT would help the whole industry to be more competitive and improve the overall customer experience	12/14/2020 2:33 PM
379	The reduction in VAT for hospitality on a permanent basis is the lifeline many businesses need in the short term; but in the long term it will also provide the means to invest in sustainability and facilities to meet the ever increasing demands of our market.	12/14/2020 2:27 PM
380	20% vat is a big incentive to discontinue operating the business when many competing cottages for let are not vat registered and can charge lower rentals or make higher returns.	12/14/2020 2:16 PM
381	Our operation is periodical rather than intensive. If we reached the VAT threshold we would cut back bookings.	12/14/2020 1:55 PM
382	VAT has made us uncompetitive with the larger community of non-VAT registered cottage providers. As a result we have been actively looking at selling the business and buying something smaller (non VAT registered) but this has been frustrated by Brexit and Covid.	12/14/2020 1:53 PM
383	Only help I have received from UK Gov in the covid crisis	12/14/2020 1:49 PM
384	The lower VAT has enabled us to stay in business and have more staff working instead of furloughing or making them redundant.	12/14/2020 1:37 PM
385	If VAT reverts to %20 I can see us really struggling especially as we have been on lockdown for 4 months and are now in tier 3 I can't see us recovering in any way by April!	12/14/2020 1:35 PM
386	Does not	12/14/2020 1:21 PM
387	It has always seemed grossly unfair that VAT is levied on a cliff edge basis rather than on a graded scale. The moment our turnover hits £85K we are hit by a £16K tax whereas the bulk of our competitors can stay just short of £85K and save that penalty. 5% for everyone seems much fairer than 0% for most but 20% for the few and the loss of revenue to the Treasury might be negligible.	12/14/2020 1:21 PM

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388	VAT and Business Rates are a huge taxes for our business, and make us uncompetitive. VAT continuing at 20% would probably mean we would have to providing holiday accommodation, we simply can not justify the amount of work for the reward we get, and we can not invest in our business at anywhere near the same degree as those who do not pay VAT, and the situation is exasperated by business rates which kicks in at around the same turnover as VAT threshold.	12/14/2020 1:18 PM
389	We have specifically kept the glass ceiling at the VAT threshold because it just was not worth going over it by just a small amount each year. Hence this allows us to grow to the level of our maximum occupancy rather than having to track and cap our turnover at the current VAT threshold. It will make such a difference each year when we have some level of 'normality'.	12/14/2020 1:03 PM
390	To increase our charges by 20% would be a scary proposition as our small business is our only form of income and we don't want to jeopardise it.	12/14/2020 1:02 PM
391	We are a very successful high end one property. we would invest in additional properties but this would take us over the VAT threshold	12/14/2020 12:56 PM
392	too much admin for not enough benefit at my level	12/14/2020 12:50 PM
393	Its a significant jump to invest in another holiday property its currently difficult to justify doing it because of incurring VAT. We have planning permission to do so but its the VAT element that puts us off as we instantly lose 20% of what we currently earn.	12/14/2020 12:50 PM
394	We would love to grow our business above the VAT threshold but could not consider doing it while the VAT rate is set at 20% as we have lost so much money this year through forced closure.	12/14/2020 12:44 PM
395	A reduction will help create a more level playing field and would give us confidence that our business will continue to prosper	12/14/2020 12:44 PM
396	VAT distorts my market as many providers of accommodation don't pay VAT. Growth of unregulated AirB&B and similar has put professionally run and regulated suppliers like us at a disadvantage.	12/14/2020 12:43 PM
397	A cut in VAT to 5% indefinitely would encourage growth, investment and provide security.	12/14/2020 12:40 PM
398	We could grow our business and employ another person	12/14/2020 12:39 PM
399	The lower rate has really helped our business to survive in the current climate	12/14/2020 12:38 PM
400	If we grow significantly we will have to register for VAT but at the moment a lot of the small suppliers we use are not VAT registered, so I would see having to be registered for VAT as a disadvantage..	12/14/2020 12:32 PM
401	Accommodation businesses have high fixed costs. A VAT reduction enables us to get past break even significantly earlier in the year which given a lot more confidence to make further investments	12/14/2020 12:31 PM
402	One of the primary obstacles in the lack of level playing field between VAT registered businesses and non-VAT registered businesses. This is exacerbated by the differential between professional, VAT rated businesses, and casual or even fraudulent professional operators on platforms like AirBnB, who not only do not pay VAT, but frequently don't comply with basic health and safety regulations (there are 40,000 businesses on AirBnB which do not have smoke alarms...). They are able to underprice their offering, while not contributing to the economy, and potentially putting guests at risk. Lowering of VAT would encourage more investment in the sector.	12/14/2020 12:16 PM