



Business Rates

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Would you like £1000 back on your **Business rates**?

Have you taken advantage of the recently introduced **£1k** that your business is able to claim back? This year the Government introduced a **NEW** business rate relief for all **retail** businesses with an R.V of **under 50k**. All you need to do to claim is visit www.bromley.gov.uk and download the claim form from the business rate section, or contact info@orpington1st.co.uk and we can send you either an electronic copy or a paper copy.



MAYOR OF LONDON



LIFE IN THE FAST LANE

High Speed Broadband

Are you as well connected as you need to be?

Right now your business could be benefiting from funding to allow you to access **High Speed Broadband**. In a scheme rolled out by the Mayor of London as part of a country wide Government initiative, grants of up to **£3k** are available for SMEs to introduce connections of 30MB or more. It is funded by the department for Culture, Media and Sport as part of the **Superconnected Cities Programme**.

For further information visit www.london.gov.uk/broadband where you will be given further details of the benefits to your business and how to apply.



Meercat
ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Collective Purchasing

Orpington 1st is committed to finding new ways of supporting its levy payers. So I am therefore delighted to introduce you to our new partnership with **Meercat**

Associates. Specialists in utilities, telecoms, testing and pest control, Meercat's expert team will provide you with all the support you need to ensure you get the best prices and that contracts are sorted out well in advance. This exciting new project is designed to support you by taking away some of the stress and strain of running a business as well as improving your profitability. Hundreds of BID businesses across the country have already seen their **costs reduced** and now Orpington 1st businesses will also have the opportunity. Through the partnership with Orpington 1st this service is absolutely **FREE to all levy payers**, so take full advantage of the benefits it will bring to you and your business. The project is due to go live in **June 2014** and you will receive full details of how to get involved.



PARKING

Parking Review

Thank you to all of you who participated in the recent parking review survey. We have identified the major issues and are waiting on the response from LBB on our recommendations which include:

- Loading Bays to be available for customer parking 6:30pm – 6.30am.
- BID Levy payers to be provided with the facility to register private car registration numbers as business vehicles that can then load and unload as necessary in loading bays without the fear of being ticketed.
- Revised parking leaflet to be issued.
- A 'free first ten minute ticket' to be available throughout the high street.

Date to remember - Sunday June 15th Father's Day - Orpington 1st are delighted to be sponsoring this year's Armed Forces Day event at Priory Gardens. See www.orpington1st.co.uk for details.