

Land Remediation Tax Bulletin — February 2011

£527 million tax relief secured for homebuilding industry!

As the profile of land remediation tax relief in the homebuilding industry increases, so too does its visibility at HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

HMRC has recently carried out an industry-wide review to identify businesses that are making claims at, or above a benchmark level, with a subsequent review into the land remediation relief claims of these organisations.

Davis Langdon, an AECOM company, currently acts for the majority of the U.K.'s large homebuilding organisations and, as such, has been extensively involved in this review process since it began. We are delighted to report that these claims have been settled favourably in our clients' interest, whilst retaining a "low risk" tax status.

As part of this settlement, we have had agreement from HMRC on a number of claimable items, some of which were previously viewed as contentious, or generally unclaimed by others.

It is worth highlighting the fact that if you were not part of this review, then you may not be maximising your claims for this valuable tax relief.

Since the introduction of the land remediation relief legislation, we have established the only dedicated team that has a proven track record of maximising entitlements for our national-based clients.

We have developed processes and procedures that allow us to carry out retrospective reviews for up to four prior accounting periods, identifying where previously submitted claims may be too low (or too high), without causing disruption to our clients' day-to-day business. On average, our forensic approach has doubled the value of claims above those previously submitted.

Our approach to preparation and agreement of land remediation relief claims has triggered repayments of overpaid tax from HMRC for our clients, along with respective interest that has brought welcome cash injections back into businesses during these difficult economic times.

The time has come to act now to secure this much needed cash for your business. The clock is ticking, and with every day that goes by, the opportunity to submit your claim within the four year window draws closer.

If you would like to discuss this valuable tax relief further and secure your entitlement, please contact:
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