

# **Tax on Property**

General Editor Lakshmi Narain

STRATEGIC PARTNER





## **Tax on Property**





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### About the general editor

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## **Preface**

Anyone who has ever had to deal with the taxation of property will know from experience that this is an extremely complex area. Finding your way through the maze of tax laws whilst avoiding the many pitfalls is a daunting task that is made ever more difficult by the regular flow of changes.

Recent years have seen major changes in property taxation law, including the replacement of stamp duty by stamp duty land tax, a new Construction Industry Scheme and the introduction of a special regime for Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs). The wide-ranging amendments to the VAT option for taxation, made in 2008, are slowly being assimilated as is the major overhaul of the capital allowances regime as regards Industrial Buildings and plant and machinery.

The drive to restrict perceived abuse continues with the introduction of the transfer of income streams legislation has been followed in 2010 by the extension of the SDLT anti-avoidance rules, changes to the DOTAS (Disclosure of Tax Avoidance Schemes) rules and a proposed review of furnished holiday lettings relief.

However, 2010 has been particularly notable for the publication of three Finance Bills (one rushed through prior to the General Election, the second following the Emergency Budget and the third, published on the 30 September 2010. to give effect to various proposals that have been the subject of extensive consultation). The outcome has been the further changes to CGT and SDLT and proposed changes to capital allowances and the rate of corporation tax from 2012.

Despite the completion of the tax law rewrite project the continuing lack of clarity in the drafting of legislation makes official guidance invaluable (although not necessarily desirable). HMRC have published guidance on a range of issues and reference is made in this text where appropriate.

Tax on Property deals comprehensively with the taxation of transactions involving property by including residential property and inheritance tax as well as industrial and commercial property. This sixth, 2010–11, edition states the law as at 1 August 2010 but includes reference to proposed changes that are expected to follow. It includes numerous examples to illustrate the workings of the tax rules.

Please note that the male gender has been used for simplicity and without discrimination to denote both genders throughout this publication.

#### Lakshmi Narain October 2010

## What's new?

The main changes and developments which have occurred since the last edition of *Tax on Property* are summarised below.

- Contents updated throughout reflecting changes made by the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) and Taxation (International and Other Provisions) Act 2010 (TIOPA 2010)
- Changes made in Finance Act 2010 and, following the Emergency Budget, the Finance (No. 2) Act 2010. Of particular note is the change to capital allowances (Chapter 5), the new CGT rate of tax (Chaptere 8) and the temporary lifting of the zero rate threshold for SDLT on purchases by first time buyers (Chapter 11)
- Reference to the new disclosure rules for SDLT planning arrangements and the amendment to the anti-avoidance rules in section 75A to 75C (Chapter 11)
- Case law changes are reflected: specifically as regards Capital Allowances (Chapter 5) and the Construction Industry Scheme (Chapter 7)
- Updated throughout for changes in practice announced and proposed by HMRC
- Developments in the interest and penalty regime for failure to submit returns and pay tax on time (Chapter 14)
- References to Valuation Office (Chapter 10) and RICS guidance on valuations (Chapter 8)
- Changes to aspects of the VAT partial exemption rules (Chapter 12)

## **Abbreviations**

The following abbreviations are commonly used throughout this publication.

AC Appeal Cases, Law Reports, from 1891–(current)

ACT advance corporation tax
ADP acceptable distribution policy
AEA Administration of Estates Act 1925

A-G Attorney-General

AIM Alternative Investment Market
AIS accrued income scheme

All ER All England Law Reports, from 1936–(current)
All ER Rep All England Law Reports Reprint 1558–1935

App. appendix

APR annual percentage rate

APRT advance petroleum revenue tax
AQE available qualifying expenditure
art. article(s)
AVC additional voluntary contribution

BB Customs and Excise Business Briefs
BEN business economic note

BES business economic note
business expansion scheme
BIM Business Income Manual

BN Budget Notes

BPR business property relief

BPRA business premises renovation allowance

BSA 1986 Building Societies Act 1986
B(S)A 1985 Bankruptcy (Scotland) Act 1985
BTC British Tax Cases, 1982–current (CCH)

CA Capital Allowances Manual CA 1985 Companies Act 1985

CAA 1968
CAA 1990
CAA 2001
CAA 2001
COmpanies Act 1968
Capital Allowances Act 1968
Capital Allowances Act 2001

CDFI Community Development Finance Institution

CED(GR)A 1979 Customs and Excise Duties (General Reliefs) Act 1979

CEMA 1979 Customs and Excise Management Act 1979

CFC controlled foreign company
CG Capital Gains Tax Manual
CGT capital gains tax

CGTA 1979 Capital Gains Tax Act 1979

Ch Chancery Division, Law Reports, from 1891–(current)
ChD Chancery Division, Law Reports, from 1875–1890

Ch. Chapter(s) (of a statute/SI etc.)
CIC close investment-holding company
CIS construction industry scheme

cl. clause(s)
Co Company
col. column(s)

Commr; Commrs commissioner; commissioners

Conv. convention

CPA 1947 Crown Proceedings Act 1947 CPA 2004 Civil Partnership Act 2004

CRCA 2005 Commissioners for Revenue and Customs Act 2005

CRT composite rate tax

CSOP company share option plan

CT corporation tax & Company Taxation Manual

CTA Corporation Tax Act
CTC child tax credit

CTD certificates of tax deposits
CTF Child Trust Fund
CTFA 2004 Child Trust Funds Act 2004
CTSA corporation tax self-assessment

CTT capital transfer tax

CTTA 1984 Capital Transfer Tax Act 1984

C & E Commrs Commissioners of Customs and Excise

CVS corporate venturing scheme

Dir. EC directives

DLO Direct Labour Organisation
DLT development land tax

DLTA 1976
DPTC disabled person's tax credit
DSO Direct Service Organisation
DSS Department of Social Security
DTI Department of Trade and Industry
DWP Department for Work and Pensions

EA 2002 Employment Act 2002

EC European Community/Communities

edn. edition

EEC European Economic Community
EEIG European Economic Interest Grouping

e.g. (exempli gratia) for example EIS enterprise investment scheme EMI enterprise management incentive

EMPA 2003 Electricity (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2003

ERA Employment Rights Act 1996
ESC extra-statutory concession
ESOP employee stock ownership plan
ESOT employee share ownership trust

etc. (et cetera) and so on

et seq. (et sequens) and the following

EU European Union FA Finance Act

FCA flat conversion allowance

FI Films Act 1985

FII franked investment income F(No. 2)A Finance (No. 2) Act

FSAVCs free standing additional voluntary contribution plans FURBS funded unapproved retirement benefit schemes

FYA first-year allowance

GAAP generally accepted accounting practice

GPS gross payment status
Grp. Group (VAT legislation)
GRV gross rateable values
GWR gifts with reservation
HA 1988 Housing Act 1988

HM Her Majesty

HMIT Her Majesty's Inspector of Taxes
HMRC Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
HMSO Her Majesty's Stationery Office

HRA 1998 Human Rights Act 1998 IA initial allowance IA 1986 Insolvency Act 1986

IBA industrial buildings allowance

ICAEW Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

ICAS Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland ICTA 1970 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 ICTA 1988 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988

i.e. (id est) that is IHT inheritance tax

IHTA 1984 Inheritance Tax Act 1984
IM Inspector's Manual
INA 1978 Interpretation Act 1978
IoT Institute of Taxation

IR Commrs Commissioners of Inland Revenue

IRDec. Inland Revenue decision
IRInt. Inland Revenue interpretation

IRRA 1890 Inland Revenue Regulation Act 1890

IT income tax

ITA 2007 Income Tax Act 2007

ITEPA 2003 Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 ITTOIA 2005 Income Tax (Trading and Other Income) Act 2005 KB King's Bench Division, Law Reports, 1900–1952

LAPR life assurance premium relief

LAUTRO Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation

LEL lower earnings limit

LFT landfill tax

LIFFE London International Financial Futures and Options

Exchange

LLP limited liability partnership

LLPA 2000 Limited Liability Partnership Act 2000

LPA 1925 Law of Property Act 1925 LSG Law Society Gazette

Ltd Limited

MAPA members' agents pooling arrangement

MCT mainstream corporation tax
MIRAS mortgage interest relief at source

Misc. miscellaneous items (denoted by number)
MLRO money laundering reporting officer

NB (nota bene) note well

NCIS National Crime Intelligence Service

NHA 1980 National Heritage Act 1980

NI Northern Ireland

NIC National Insurance contributions

NICA 2002 National Insurance Contributions Act 2002

NICA 2004 National Insurance Contributions and Statutory Payments

Act 2004

NICO National Insurance Contributions Office NR Customs and Excise News Releases

O. Order(s)

OEICs open-ended investment companies

OJ Official Journal of the European Communities

OJ 'L' series Official Journal of the European Communities, Legislation

Series (cited by year, issue number and page, for example OJ 1989 L1/1 is the first page of the first issue of the legislation series of the Official Journal for 1989)

OPB Occupational Pensions Board

Ors others

OTA 1975 Oil Taxation Act 1975 OTA 1983 Oil Taxation Act 1983

P Probate Division Reports 1891–1971

p.; pp. page; pages

p.a. per annum (each year)

PACE 1984 Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984

para. paragraph(s) PAYE pay as you earn

PCA 2002 Proceeds of Crime Act 2002

PCTA 1968 Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968

PEP personal equity plan
PET potentially exempt transfer
PIBS permanent interest bearing shares
PILON payments in lieu of notice

PLDA 1808 Probate and Legacy Duties Act 1808

PMI private medical insurance

PN HM Revenue and Customs Notices

PPF pension protection fund PPP personal pension plan PPS personal pension scheme

PR press release(s)
PRP profit-related pay
PRT petroleum revenue tax

PRTA 1980 Petroleum Revenue Tax Act 1980
PSA PAYE settlement agreement
PSA 1993 Pension Schemes Act 1993
PSO Pensions Schemes Office

Pt. Part(s)

QB Queen's Bench Division, Law Reports, 1891–1901;

1952-(current)

QBD Queen's Bench Division, Law Reports, 1875–1890

QCB qualifying corporate bond

QUESTs qualifying employee share ownership trusts

R Rex or Regina

r. rule(s)

RA 1898 Revenue Act 1898 and similarly coded for appropriate

subsequent years

RAPs retirement annuity premiums R&D research and development

reg. regulations
Regulations EC Regulations

REITs real estate investment trusts

RPI retail prices index

RSC Rules of the Supreme Court 1965

RSL registered social landlord

s. section(s)
SA 1891 Stamp Act 1891
SAYE save as you earn

xxii

SCA 1981 Supreme Court Act 1981

Sch. Schedule(s)

SCO Special Compliance Office

SDMA 1891 Stamp Duty Management Act 1891

SDLT stamp duty land tax & Stamp Duty Land Tax Manual

SDLTCN Stamp Duty Land Tax Customer Newsletter

SDRT stamp duty reserve tax

SD(TP)A 1992 Stamp Duty (Temporary Provisions) Act 1992

SERPS state earnings-related pension scheme

SFO Superannuation Funds Office SHI starter homes initiative SI statutory instrument

SME small and medium-sized enterprise

SMP statutory maternity pay

SOCN Stamp Office Customer Newsletter SP Inland Revenue statement of practice SPCA 2002 State Pension Credit Act 2002 SRO self-regulating organisation SR & O statutory rules and orders SSA 1975 Social Security Act 1975 SSA 1980 Social Security Act 1980 SSA 1986 Social Security Act 1986 SSA 1989 Social Security Act 1989

SSAA 1992 Social Security Administration Act 1992 SSAP Statement of Standard Accounting Practice

SSAS small self-administered scheme

SSCBA 1992 Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 SS(CP)A 1992 Social Security (Consequential Provisions) Act 1992 SSC(TF)A 1999 Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, Et

Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, Etc.) Act 1999

SSE substantial shareholdings exemption SSHBA 1982 Social Security Housing Benefits Act 1982

SS(MP)A 1977 Social Security (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1977

SSP statutory sick pay

SSPA 1975
SSPA 1994
STA 1963
STB
Social Security Pensions Act 1975
Statutory Sick Pay Act 1994
Stock Transfer Act 1963
Stamp Taxes Bulletin

subcl. subclause(s)
subpara. subparagraph(s)
subs. subsection(s)
t/a trading as

TAURUS Transfer and Automated Registration of Uncertified Stock

TB Tax Bulletin article
TBSE Tax Bulletin special edition

TC Tax Cases

TCA 2002 Tax Credits Act 2002

TCGA 1992 Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 TESSA tax-exempt special savings account

TIOPA 2010 Taxation (International and Other Provisions) Act 2010

TMA 1970 Taxes Management Act 1970

TR technical release

TSBA 1985 Trustee Savings Bank Act 1985

TULR(C)A 1992 Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act

1992

TWDV tax written-down value UEL upper earnings limit

UCITS Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable

Securities

UK United Kingdom

USM Unlisted Securities Market

versus

VAT value added tax

VATA 1983 Value Added Tax Act 1983 VATA 1994 Value Added Tax Act 1994 VCT Venture Capital Trust

vol. volume(s)

VP vulnerable person
VRR vaccine research relief
WDA writing down allowance
WDV written-down value

WFT windfall tax

WFTC working families' tax credit

WLR Weekly Law Reports, from 1953–(current) WRPA 1999 Welfare Reform Pensions Act 1999

WTC working tax credit scheme

¶ CCH paragraph

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