

HMRC's running away from you

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HMRC [published its annual report yesterday](#).

One of its claims, styled as an achievement, was that it now has only 170 offices compared with 539 in 2005.

That sounds like HMRC is running as far away as possible as it can from you and in a democracy where tax is the consideration in the social contract between the electorate and those who govern them I call that a massive democratic failure.

But I am sure that the big business dominated HMRC Board, who still insist on calling taxpayers customers despite their reluctance to go anywhere near them, hold a very different view. Of the merits of democracy, that is, as well as on office location and its importance.