# Information and Support on COVID-19: As at 03 April 2020

# What help can I get for my business?





#### **All Businesses**

COVID-19 Job Retention Scheme - HMRC will reimburse 80% of furloughed workers wage costs, up to a cap of £2,500 per month. HMRC are working urgently to set up a system for reimbursement. Existing systems are not set up to facilitate payments to employers. To access the scheme you will need to designate affected employees as 'furloughed workers,' and notify your employees of this change - changing the status of employees remains subject to existing employment law and, depending on the employment contract, may be subject to negotiation. Employers to submit information to HMRC about the employees that have been furloughed and their earnings through a new online portal (HMRC will set out further details on the information required).

Deferred VAT - The deferral will apply from 20 March 2020. All UK businesses are eligible. This is an automatic offer with no applications required. Businesses will not need to make a VAT payment during this period. Taxpayers will be given until the end of the 2020 to 2021 tax year to pay any liabilities that have accumulated during the deferral period. VAT refunds and reclaims will be paid by the government as normal.

Tax Support- If you are concerned about being able to pay your tax due to COVID-19, call HMRC's dedicated helpline on 0800 0159 559.

Business rates - 1.6% rates relief for all properties across Scotland, effectively reversing the planned below inflation uplift in the poundage from 1 April 2020. You do not need to apply for this relief and it will be applied to your bill by your local authority.

Statutory Sick Pay - Statutory Sick Pay - Statutory Sick Pay will be paid from day 1 instead of day 4 for those affected by coronavirus. If you have COVID-19 or are advised to stay at home, you can get an 'isolation note' by visiting NHS 111 online, rather than visiting a doctor.



Glasgow City Council business grant - £10,000 grants for small businesses in receipt of the Small Business Bonus Scheme or Rural Relief. You can also get this grant if you applied for Nursery Relief or Disabled Relief but are eligible for the Small Business Bonus Scheme.

Statutory Sick Pay – Employer - Refund will cover up to 2 weeks' SSP per eligible employee who has been off work because of COVID-19. Employers with fewer than 250 employees will be eligible.

# **British Business Bank Business interruption loan**

To access the scheme approach you bank directly. List of eligible banks here Scheme will support SMEs with access to loans, overdrafts, invoice finance and asset finance of up to £5 million and for up to 6 years. The government will make a Business Interruption Payment to cover the first 12 months of interest payments and any lender-levied fees.. The government will provide lenders with a guarantee of 80% on each loan and no personal guarantees requested for loans under £250,000



## Self-employed

Self-Employment Income Support Scheme - (SEISS) will support self-employed individuals (including members of partnerships) whose income has been negatively impacted by COVID-19. The scheme will provide a grant to self-employed individuals or partnerships, worth 80% of their profits up to a cap of £2,500 per month. Eligibility criteria is set out here. HMRC will use existing information to check potential eligibility and invite applications once the scheme is operational.

**UK Government Self assessment - For Income Tax Self-**Assessment, payments due on the 31 July 2020 will be deferred until the 31 January 2021. This is an automatic offer with no applications required.

UK Government Universal Credit - If you are not eligible for SSP – for example if you are self-employed or earning below the Lower Earnings Limit of £118 per week - and you have COVID-19 or are advised to stay at home, you can now more easily make a claim for Universal Credit



# Retail, hospitality, leisure

### Glasgow City Council business grant

Providing further £25,000 grants to retail, hospitality and leisure businesses operating from smaller premises, with a rateable value over £15,000 and below £51,000. Full listing of businesses classed as retail, leisure and hospitality here.

### **Business rates**

A full year's 100% non-domestic rates relief for retail, hospitality and tourism.

The Scottish Government are working with Scotland's 32 Councils to make sure this relief is administered in the most effective way.



### **Large Businesses**

COVID 19 Corporate financing facility (CCFF) - Under the new Covid-19 Corporate Financing Facility, the Bank of England will buy short term debt from larger companies. This will support your company if it has been affected by a short-term funding squeeze and allow you to finance your short-term liabilities. Eligibility criteria

### Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CLBILS)

Will provide a government guarantee of 80% to enable banks to make loans of up to £25 million to firms with an annual turnover of between £45 million and £500 million. Loans backed by a guarantee under CLBILS will be offered at commercial rates of interest and further details of the scheme will be announced later this month.



### Third sector

#### Third Sector Resilience Fund

The Third Sector Resilience Fund (TSRF) is a £20m emergency fund for charities, community groups, social enterprises and voluntary organisations working in Scotland. The fund will support organisations that already deliver services and products but find themselves in financial difficulties directly as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.