

COVID-19: Devolved Administrations

The Chancellor has clarified that as part of additional measures to tackle the coronavirus outbreak, devolved administrations will receive at least £3.5bn in funding to support businesses in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. All UK businesses can access the [Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme](#), reclaiming Statutory Sick Pay, the [Business Interruption Loan Scheme](#), VAT deferrals and the HMRC Time to Pay service. More information on these is available [here](#). Devolved administrations have also announced the following measures to support businesses:

Wales



Business Rates Holiday

In Wales, retail, leisure and hospitality businesses with a rateable value of £500,000 or less will receive 100% rates relief in 2020-21. This will be administered through the business rates system. You do not need to do anything. Your local authority will contact you.

Cash Grants

Businesses in Wales that receive Small Business Rates Relief will receive a cash grant of £10,000. Retail, leisure and hospitality businesses with a rateable value between £12,001 and £51,000 will receive a cash grant of £25,000. Businesses will need to apply for the grant. More information is available on Business Wales [here](#).

Economic Resilience Fund

As part of a £500m fund, grants of £10,000 will be available for micro-businesses employing up to 9 people, with qualifying businesses able to apply by mid-April. Grants of up to £100,000 will be available for small and medium sized firms with between 10 and 249 employees. Qualifying businesses will be able to apply from w/c 6th April. The fund will also include support for larger companies of social or economic importance. This element will be open within the next 2 weeks. A new £100m Development Bank of Wales fund will also be available for companies experiencing cash flow problems as a result of Covid-19. This will provide loans of between £5,000 and £250,000 at favourable interest rates. More information is available [here](#).

For more information about support offered by the Welsh Government, click [here](#).

Scotland



Business Rates Holiday

Retail, leisure and hospitality businesses will receive 100% rates relief for 12 months.

Business Rates Relief

There will be 1.6% rates relief for all properties across Scotland, effectively reversing the planned below inflation uplift in the poundage from 1st April 2020. Businesses do not need to apply for this relief as it will be applied to their bill by the local council.

Cash Grants

Businesses which benefit from the Small Business Bonus Scheme or Rural Relief will be entitled to a one-off £10,000 cash grant. £25,000 cash grants will be offered to retail, leisure and hospitality businesses with a rateable value between £18,001 and £50,999. Businesses will need to apply for the grant and will be able to find the application form on their local council website. For more information on the grants and to look up your local council, click [here](#).

Critical Workers

The Scottish Government has given [guidance](#) to local authorities about defining 'key workers' to enable them to continue sending their children to school in order to work. This includes workers 'supporting our Critical National Infrastructure' and 'all workers without whom there could be a significant impact on Scotland'. Local authorities will make their own definitions so please check your council website.

For more information about support offered by the Scottish Government, click [here](#).

Northern Ireland



Business Rates Holiday

All businesses will pay zero rates for the next three months (May, June, July). For more information, click [here](#).

Cash Grants

A cash grant of £10,000 will be made available to all small businesses who are eligible for the Small Business Rate Relief Scheme and a grant of £25,000 to be made available to businesses in the hospitality, tourism and retail sectors with a rateable value from £15,000 up to £51,000. If you pay business rates by Direct Debit, you do not need to do anything. If you don't pay business rates by Direct Debit, you will need to provide your bank details to register for the grant. More information is available [here](#).