



Covid-19 Matrix Update: An update for employers, employees and the self-employed

Please find a further updated version of the matrix outlining the government support available.

	Individuals / Employees	Self-Employed Individuals*	Businesses / Employers**
Coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline –	<p>Webchat - for problems paying taxes due to coronavirus (COVID-19), such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • self-assessment. <p>Phone number – 0800 024 1222.</p>	<p>Webchat - for problems paying taxes due to coronavirus (COVID-19), such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • self-assessment; • VAT; • employers’ PAYE. <p>Phone number – 0800 024 1222.</p>	<p>Webchat - for problems paying taxes due to coronavirus (COVID-19), such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • self-assessment; • VAT; • employers’ PAYE; • corporation tax. <p>Phone number – 0800 024 1222.</p>
Coronavirus business support finder tool–	<p>New ‘support finder’ tool to help businesses and self-employed people to determine what financial support is available.</p>	<p>New ‘support finder’ tool to help businesses and self-employed people to determine what financial support is available.</p>	<p>New ‘support finder’ tool to help businesses and self-employed people to determine what financial support is available.</p>
<p>Employment income –</p> <p>TPR guidance re CJRS</p> <p>Death in service benefit for frontline health and care staff in England</p> <p>and</p> <p>Self-employed income –</p>	<p>Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS): will reimburse an employer with up to 80% of the pay of an employee who is not working but kept on the payroll (“furloughed”). Up to a maximum of £2,500 per month, plus, up to 31 July, the associated employer national insurance contributions and pension contributions (up to the level of the minimum automatic enrolment employer pension contribution) on that subsidised furlough pay.</p> <p>Shareholding directors (“owner managers”) can furlough themselves in respect of their director’s duties, but only in respect of their salaries (not any dividends) and directors can only carry out their statutory duties.</p> <p>Eligibility date extended to 19</p>	<p>Through the Self Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) the self-employed (including partners), the majority of who’s income is derived from self-employment, can secure a taxable direct grant of 80% of their average profit for the three tax years ending with the 2018/19 tax year or a shorter period (even just the 2018/19 tax year) if three years’ accounts are not available. This is subject to a maximum payment of £2500 per month for three months, i.e. £7,500. The first grant could be applied for up until 13 July. Applications for a second grant opened in August, worth 70% of average monthly trading profits, covering three months’ worth of profits, and capped at £6,570 in total.</p> <p>To qualify, the 2018/19 profit or average profit for up to</p>	<p>Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS): will reimburse an employer with up to 80% of the pay of an employee who is not working but kept on the payroll (“furloughed”). Up to a maximum of £2,500 per month, plus, up to 31 July, the associated employer national insurance contributions and pension contributions (up to the level of the minimum automatic enrolment employer pension contribution) on that subsidised furlough pay.</p> <p>Shareholding directors (“owner managers”) can furlough themselves in respect of their director’s duties, but only in respect of their salaries (not any dividends) and directors can only carry out their statutory duties.</p> <p>Eligibility date extended to 19 March 2020 and scheme</p>

	<p>March 2020 and scheme extended to 31 October 2020, but, from 30 June, employers will only be able to furlough employees that they have furloughed for a full three-week period prior to 30 June. From 1 July, employers will be able to bring furloughed employees back part time, while still being able to claim CJRS grant for their normal hours not worked. From 1 August to 31 October, employers will be asked to pay a percentage towards the salaries of their furloughed staff, which will substitute the Government contribution, so that staff continue to receive 80% of their salary, up to £2,500 a month. Employers will pay employer national insurance and pension contributions from 1 August, and will also contribute 10% of wages from 1 September, and 20% of wages from 1 October.</p> <p>CJRS extended to cover 1 November 2020 to 30 April 2021, for employees on an employer's payroll by 23:59 on 30 October. Employees who were made redundant or stopped working after 23 September can also qualify for the scheme if the employer re-employs them. For claim periods to 31 January 2021, the Government will pay 80% of usual wages for hours not worked up to a cap of £2,500, and employers will pay employer NICs and pension contributions. In January, the Government will decide if economic circumstances are improving enough to ask employers to contribute more.</p> <p>The Job Support Scheme (JSS) will replace the CJRS for six months after the CJRS ends.</p> <p>JSS Open - where businesses are open and employees are working shorter hours due to reduced demand, employees should receive at least two thirds of their usual pay for hours not worked. Employers will pay employees for hours worked; Government will contribute 61.67% of usual pay for hours not worked (maximum £1,541.75 per month); and employers will have to pay 5% (maximum £125 per month), but can top this up if they choose. Employees must work at least 20% of their usual hours, otherwise the caps are reduced proportionately.</p>	<p>three years ending with 2018/19 must not exceed £50,000, and the self-employed individual/partner must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have traded in 2019/20; • be trading when they apply, or would be except for coronavirus; • intend to continue to trade in 2020/21; and • have lost trading profits due to coronavirus. <p>Claimants can continue to work and generate profit.</p> <p>The SEISS will be extended for six months from 1 November, with two grants available to self-employed individuals, including members of partnerships, who temporarily cannot trade as well as those traders who were previously eligible for the SEISS and are actively continuing to trade, but are facing reduced demand. The first grant, will be based on 80% of average monthly trading profits for the three-month period from 1 November 2020 to 31 January 2021, paid out in a single instalment, and capped at £7,500 in total. The second grant, the amount of which has not been set yet, will cover a three-month period from 1 February 2021 until 30 April 2021.</p>	<p>extended to 31 October 2020, but, from 30 June, employers will only be able to furlough employees that they have furloughed for a full three-week period prior to 30 June. From 1 July, employers will be able to bring furloughed employees back part time, while still being able to claim CJRS grant for their normal hours not worked. From 1 August to 31 October, employers will be asked to pay a percentage towards the salaries of their furloughed staff, which will substitute the Government contribution, so that staff continue to receive 80% of their salary, up to £2,500 a month. Employers will pay employer national insurance and pension contributions from 1 August, and will also contribute 10% of wages from 1 September, and 20% of wages from 1 October.</p> <p>CJRS extended to cover 1 November 2020 to 30 April 2021, for employees on an employer's payroll by 23:59 on 30 October. Employees who were made redundant or stopped working after 23 September can also qualify for the scheme if the employer re-employs them. For claim periods to 31 January 2021, the Government will pay 80% of usual wages for hours not worked up to a cap of £2,500, and employers will pay employer NICs and pension contributions. In January, the Government will decide if economic circumstances are improving enough to ask employers to contribute more.</p> <p>The Job Retention Bonus, originally due to be paid in February 2021, has been withdrawn and will be replaced by an alternative retention incentive "at the appropriate time."</p> <p>The Job Support Scheme (JSS) will replace the CJRS for six months after the CJRS ends.</p> <p>JSS Open - where businesses are open and employees are working shorter hours due to reduced demand, employees should receive at least two thirds of their usual pay for hours not worked. Employers will pay employees for hours worked; Government will contribute 61.67% of usual pay for hours not worked (maximum £1,541.75 per month); and employers will have to pay 5%</p>
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	<p>JSS Closed – where businesses’ premises are legally required to close, including where restricted to delivery or collection-only or providing food and/or drinks outdoors, the Government will fund two thirds of employees’ usual wages for time not worked (maximum £2,083.33 per month). Employers will not be required to contribute, but can top this up if they choose. In both cases, employers need to cover all employer national insurance and pension contributions.</p> <p>Families of eligible workers in frontline health and adult and children’s social care who die from coronavirus in the course of their frontline essential work will receive a £60,000 payment under a new life assurance scheme funded by the Government. Funding will also be provided to support similar schemes in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.</p>		<p>(maximum £125 per month), but can top this up if they choose. Employees must work at least 20% of their usual hours, otherwise the caps are reduced proportionately.</p> <p>JSS Closed – where businesses’ premises are legally required to close, including where restricted to delivery or collection-only or providing food and/or drinks outdoors, the Government will fund two thirds of employees’ usual wages for time not worked (maximum £2,083.33 per month). Employers will not be required to contribute, but can top this up if they choose.</p> <p>In both cases, employers need to cover all employer national insurance and pension contributions. All Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) will be eligible; large businesses (with 250 or more employees on 23 September 2020) will be required to demonstrate that their business has been adversely affected by COVID-19, and will not be expected to make capital distributions (e.g. dividends), while using the scheme.</p>
<p>Sick Pay</p>	<p>Currently £95.85 for 2020/21, would be available to employees from day one instead of day four, including for those advised to self-isolate. However, there was no change in the minimum earnings threshold for SSP (£120 a week in 2020/21).</p>	<p>See Benefits below.</p>	<p>Businesses with fewer than 250 employees can be refunded for the cost of SSP for up to 14 days. The size of an employer will be determined by the number of people they employed as of 28 February 2020.</p>
<p>Benefits</p>	<p>From 6 April 2020, for 12 months, the standard allowance in Universal Credit (UC) and the basic element in Working Tax Credit (WTC) will be increased by £20 a week over and above the planned annual uprating. This will apply to all new and existing UC claimants and to existing WTC claimants</p>	<p>For those not entitled to SSP (e.g. the self-employed and gig economy workers), Contributory Employment and Support Allowance (ESA – a basic £74.35 a week for those 25 and over) will be claimable from day one instead of day eight. To ensure that time off work due to sickness is reflected in benefits, the minimum income floor** in Universal Credit (UC) is temporarily removed if an individual gets coronavirus or has to stay at home because of it. The minimum income floor won’t apply to anyone after 6 April 2020. The stated aim is to ensure every self-employed person can now access, in full, UC at a rate equivalent to SSP for employees. The minimum income floor is due to be reinstated on 30 April 2021.</p>	

<p>Grants</p>		<p>£10,000 grant for all small businesses that qualify for Small Business Rates Relief (SBRR) or Rural Rates Relief. For SBRR, the rateable value of the property used by the business needs to be valued at £15,000 or less.</p> <p>£25,000 grant for businesses in hospitality, leisure and retail whose rateable value is between £15,000 - £51,000.</p> <p>Discretionary Grants of up to £25,000 available, from May, for small and micro businesses who are not eligible for the Small Business Grant Fund or the Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Fund.</p> <p>From 9 September, businesses in England required to close due to local or national lockdowns or targeted restrictions will be able to receive grants worth up to £3,000 per month for the largest businesses.</p> <p>Businesses in Tier 2 areas which are not legally closed, but which are severely impacted by restrictions on socialising, will be able to receive grants worth up to £2,100 per month, backdated until the point at which these restrictions began.</p> <p>Pubs that predominantly serve alcohol rather than provide food and have been severely impacted over the festive season due to temporary local restrictions may be entitled to a one-off cash grant of £1,000.</p> <p>Local Authorities are responsible for delivering the funding to eligible businesses. They will then be reimbursed by the Government. Devolved nations will be given the equivalent funding for other nations, under the “so-called” Barnett Formula.</p>	<p>£10,000 grant for all small businesses that qualify for Small Business Rates Relief (SBRR) or Rural Rates Relief. For SBRR, the rateable value of the property used by the business needs to be valued at £15,000 or less.</p> <p>£25,000 grant for businesses in hospitality, leisure and retail whose rateable value is between £15,000 - £51,000.</p> <p>Discretionary Grants of up to £25,000 available, from May, for small and micro businesses who are not eligible for the Small Business Grant Fund or the Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Fund.</p> <p>From 9 September, businesses in England required to close due to local or national lockdowns or targeted restrictions will be able to receive grants worth up to £3,000 per month for the largest businesses.</p> <p>Businesses in Tier 2 areas which are not legally closed, but which are severely impacted by restrictions on socialising, will be able to receive grants worth up to £2,100 per month, backdated until the point at which these restrictions began.</p> <p>Pubs that predominantly serve alcohol rather than provide food and have been severely impacted over the festive season due to temporary local restrictions may be entitled to a one-off cash grant of £1,000.</p> <p>Local Authorities are responsible for delivering the funding to eligible businesses. They will then be reimbursed by the Government. Devolved nations will be given the equivalent funding for other nations, under the “so-called” Barnett Formula.</p>
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Business Loans -

100% guaranteed 'Bounce Back loan' available for 25% of their turnover from 4 May to small and medium businesses (that have not claimed the Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme), for between £2,000 and £50,000 for up to six years, interest free for 12 months. Under **Pay as you Grow options, announced 24 September**, borrowers will have the option to repay their loan over a period of up to ten years (instead of six) - reducing their average monthly repayments by almost half. They will also have the option to move temporarily to interest-only payments for periods of up to six months (an option which they can use up to three times), or to pause their repayments entirely for up to six months (an option they can use once and only after having made six payments). **From 9 November 2020**, those businesses who have borrowed less than their maximum (i.e. the lower of £50,000 or less than 25% of their turnover) will have one opportunity to top-up their existing Bounce Back loan.

Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CIBLS), as overdrafts for up to three years, term loans for up to six years, etc., are available to small and medium businesses from 23 March for up to £5 million, interest free for 12 months. This scheme will help any viable business with a turnover of up to £45m.

No Personal Guarantees required for loans up to £250,000; otherwise Personal Guarantees limited to 20% of any amount outstanding on the CBILS lending after any other recoveries from business assets. Even businesses that would qualify for an ordinary commercial loan could apply. Applications must be supported by the usual documentation e.g. accounts/business plan/proposed repayment schedule. Loans made at Lender's discretion. **On 24 September**, the Government announced that lenders will be permitted to allow borrowers to extend the term of a loan up to ten years. Also, businesses that were 'undertakings in difficulty' on 31 December 2019 but are no longer 'undertakings in difficulty' will now be (in principle) eligible for the scheme.

On 2 November, the Government announced that the following temporary loan schemes would be extended to 31 January 2021 for new applications: Bounce Back loan; CBILS; CLBILS; and the Future Fund.

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		<p>On 17 December, the Government also confirmed the Bounce Back loan, CBILS, and CLBILS will be further extended until 31 March 2021.</p>	<p>Under the Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CLBILS), businesses with turnover between £45m and £250m, that are unable to secure regular commercial financing, can apply for loans of up to £25m, and up to £50m for businesses with turnover of more than £250m, 80% of which will be guaranteed by the Government. Commercial rates of interest will be charged. Loan size increased from £50m to £200m from 26 May for large firms that do not qualify for the CCFF – see below.</p> <p>From 23 March, the Bank of England’s Covid Corporate Financing Facility (CCFF) will provide a quick and cost-effective way to raise working capital for those large firms who need it, by buying short term debt from larger companies. Those borrowing more than £50m through the CLBILS, and those borrowing under the CCFF beyond 12 months from 19 May, will be subject to restrictions on certain dividend payments, etc.</p> <p>From May 2020, a new Future Fund will provide convertible loans, in partnership with the British Business Bank, to UK-based innovative companies, of between £125,000 to £5m, subject to at least equal matched funding from private investors.</p> <p>On 2 November, the Government announced that the following temporary loan schemes would be extended to 31 January 2021 for new applications: Bounce Back loan; CBILS; CLBILS; and the Future Fund.</p> <p>On 17 December, the Government also confirmed the Bounce Back loan, CBILS, and CLBILS will be further extended until 31 March 2021.</p> <p>£200m of accelerated, and £550m of new, targeted support for the most R&D intensive small and medium size firms will be available by mid-May through the Innovate UK’s grants and loan scheme.</p>
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<p>Mortgages</p> <p>Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT)</p>	<p>For those in difficulty due to coronavirus, mortgage lenders will offer at least a three-month mortgage holiday. Those who have already had a payment holiday can have a further three-month deferral; and those who have not yet had a payment holiday will be able to request two payment deferrals, of up to six months in total. Those who have resumed repayments after an initial payment deferral will be eligible for another payment deferral of up to three months. Those resuming payments will be given options on how best to do so. Borrowers have until 31 January 2021 to request a payment deferral. The FCA expects lenders to provide tailored support to those who are not eligible for further payment deferrals. A ban on repossessions will continue to 31 January 2021.</p> <p>The nil rate band threshold for residential SDLT has increased from £125,000 to £500,000 with immediate effect until 31 March 2021 - a maximum saving of £15,000. For second homes, the 3% additional rate continues to apply.</p>		
<p>Renters</p> <p>Landlords and tenants</p> <p>Businesses</p>	<p>Emergency legislation to suspend new evictions from social or private rented accommodation expired on 20 September 2020 and landlords will now be able to progress their possession claim through the courts.</p> <p>From 29 August 2020, with the exception of the most serious cases, landlords are not able to start possession proceedings unless they have given their tenants six months' notice.</p> <p>The three-month mortgage payment holiday also applies to Buy to Let mortgages.</p>	<p>Commercial tenants who cannot pay their rent because of coronavirus will be protected from eviction until 31 December 2020.</p>	<p>Commercial tenants who cannot pay their rent because of coronavirus will be protected from eviction until 31 December 2020.</p>
<p>Business Rates –</p>		<p>Business Rates holiday for businesses in hospitality, leisure and retail, plus estate agents, lettings agencies and bingo halls, for 12 months.</p>	<p>Business Rates holiday for businesses in hospitality, leisure and retail, plus estate agents, lettings agencies and bingo halls, for 12 months.</p>

Self-Assessment payments	Self-Assessment payments due 31 July 2020 were already deferred until 31 January 2021 - interest and penalty free. On 24 September , the Government announced that taxpayers with up to £30,000 of Self-Assessment liabilities due will be able to use HMRC's self-service Time to Pay facility to secure a plan to pay over an additional 12 months, meaning liabilities due 31 July 2020 will not need to be paid in full until 31 January 2022.	Self-Assessment payments due 31 July 2020 were already deferred until 31 January 2021 - interest and penalty free. On 24 September , the Government announced that taxpayers with up to £30,000 of Self-Assessment liabilities due will be able to use HMRC's self-service Time to Pay facility to secure a plan to pay over an additional 12 months, meaning liabilities due 31 July 2020 will not need to be paid in full until 31 January 2022.	Self-Assessment payments due 31 July 2020 were already deferred until 31 January 2021 - interest and penalty free. On 24 September , the Government announced that taxpayers with up to £30,000 of Self-Assessment liabilities due will be able to use HMRC's self-service Time to Pay facility to secure a plan to pay over an additional 12 months, meaning liabilities due 31 July 2020 will not need to be paid in full until 31 January 2022.
VAT		For the period between 20 March 2020 and 30 June 2020, businesses did not need to make a VAT payment until the end of March 2021. On 24 September , the Government announced that those businesses will have the option of splitting the payment into smaller, interest free, payments over the course of 11 months, until the end of March 2022. They will need to opt-in to the scheme. VAT refunds and reclaims will be paid by the Government as normal. From 15 July 2020 to 31 March 2021 a 5% rate of VAT (instead of 20%) applies to supplies of food and non-alcoholic drinks from UK restaurants, pubs, etc; and to accommodation and admission to attractions across the UK.	For the period between 20 March 2020 and 30 June 2020, businesses did not need to make a VAT payment until the end of March 2021. On 24 September , the Government announced that those businesses will have the option of splitting the payment into smaller, interest free, payments over the course of 11 months, until the end of March 2022. They will need to opt-in to the scheme. VAT refunds and reclaims will be paid by the Government as normal. From 15 July 2020 to 31 March 2021 a 5% rate of VAT (instead of 20%) applies to supplies of food and non-alcoholic drinks from UK restaurants, pubs, etc; and to accommodation and admission to attractions across the UK.
Time to Pay scheme	Potential to agree payment of tax (e.g. income tax) in interest free instalments. Those who cannot pay because of coronavirus (COVID-19) should contact the HMRC Coronavirus Helpline.	Potential to agree payment of tax (e.g. income tax) in interest free instalments. Those who cannot pay because of coronavirus (COVID-19) should contact the HMRC Coronavirus Helpline.	Potential to agree payment of tax (e.g. income tax /corporation tax) in interest free instalments. Those who cannot pay because of coronavirus (COVID-19) should contact the HMRC Coronavirus Helpline.

*Note that, because some elements of business support are devolved, the measures a business can access may differ if it is in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland:

**The minimum income floor is usually what someone of the same age would earn if they worked at the National Minimum Wage for the number of hours that the self-employed individual is expected to work or look for work. Normally, if the self-employed individual earns less than the minimum income floor, UC will not make up the difference.

Source of data - Technical Connection.

Further guidance for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-individuals-and-businesses-in-scotland>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-individuals-and-businesses-in-wales#business-support-helplines>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-guidance-information-for-ni-businesses-employers#businesses>

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