

## Get help for your business

Guidance for businesses affected by Coronavirus

Find out more:  
[gov.uk/business-support](https://www.gov.uk/business-support)

**GET HELP ▶ PROTECT YOUR BUSINESS ▶ SAVE JOBS**

### Coronavirus (COVID-19) Businesses and Employers Bulletin - 14 October 2020

This bulletin is issued by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and provides the latest information for employers and businesses on coronavirus (COVID-19). All coronavirus business support information can be found at [gov.uk/business-support](https://www.gov.uk/business-support)

- [Details on new local COVID Alert Levels set out by the Prime Minister](#)
- [Kickstart Scheme - funding to create new job placements](#)
- [New and Updated Guidance](#)
- [Updates to local restrictions and travel corridors in England](#)

### Details on new local COVID Alert Levels set out by the Prime Minister

On the 12 October the Prime Minister [announced](#) how the government will further simplify and standardise local rules by introducing a [three tiered system](#) of local COVID Alert Levels in England. There are different restrictions in [Scotland](#), [Wales](#) and [Northern Ireland](#).

See the list of [local COVID alert levels by area](#). A [postcode checker](#) is also available.

More information on local COVID alert levels in England is [available](#), alongside guidance on the restrictions in place which includes information for businesses and venues, and going to work:

- [Local COVID alert level: very high](#)
- [Local COVID alert level: high](#)
- [Local COVID alert level: medium](#)

### Kickstart Scheme - funding to create new job placements

- **Apply for a Kickstart Scheme grant: 30 or more job placements:** If you are an employer looking to create 30 or more jobs placements for young people, [apply for funding](#) as part of the Kickstart Scheme.
- **Apply for a Kickstart Scheme grant: 29 or less job placements:** If you are an employer looking to create 29 or less jobs placements for young people, [apply for funding](#) as part of the Kickstart Scheme.
- **Help employers apply for a Kickstart Scheme grant:** New [guidance](#) for organisations who want to be a Kickstart gateway and help employers apply for the Kickstart Scheme is available.

## New and Updated Guidance

### NEW Guidance

**Test and Trace Support Payment scheme: claiming financial support:** If you have been contacted by NHS Test and Trace and told to self-isolate on or after 28 September 2020, you're under a legal obligation to do so, and could be eligible for a £500 Test and Trace Support Payment. [This guidance](#) sets out who can claim support and explains how to apply.

**New hotline launched to report COVID fraudsters:** A [new hotline](#) has been launched to stop fraudsters illegally targeting COVID stimulus schemes. In an initiative between government and the independent charity Crimestoppers, the public can now call a new COVID Fraud Hotline (0800 587 5030) anonymously and free of charge to report suspected fraudulent activity.

**Updates to the Covid Corporate Financing Facility (CCFF):** The CCFF provides temporary direct support to investment grade firms with short-term cash-flow problems and is designed to ensure that firms accessing government backed CCFF financing are able to repay. To ensure the CCFF continues to meet its objectives, the Treasury has introduced a new access review process. More [here](#).

### UPDATED Guidance

**Defer your Self Assessment payment on account due to coronavirus:** You had the option to defer your second payment on account if you were: registered in the UK for Self Assessment and finding it difficult to make that payment by 31 July 2020 due to the impact of coronavirus. [Check what you need to do](#) if, after 31 July 2020, you chose to defer your second payment on account for the 2019 to 2020 tax year.

**Maintaining records of staff, customers and visitors to support NHS Test and Trace:** [Guidance](#) has been updated to add further clarification on the [venues in scope](#) of the policy. Guidance has also been added for hospitality venues on how to verify whether an individual has checked in on the NHS COVID-19 app.

## Updates to local restrictions and travel corridors in England

**Liverpool City Region. Local COVID Alert Level: very high**

From 14 October, Liverpool City Region will be placed onto the 'Very High' Local Covid Alert Level. In addition to the [baseline guidance for very high areas](#), the following businesses are not allowed to open in Liverpool City Region:

- casinos
- betting shops
- adult gaming centres
- indoor gyms
- fitness and dance studios
- sports facilities – with an exemption for organised indoor team sports for disabled people and U18s activities

More information can be found [here](#).

A list of areas with additional local restrictions is available [here](#).

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## Other useful links

Some aspects of business support are devolved. Specific information for businesses and employers in [Northern Ireland](#), [Scotland](#) and [Wales](#) is available. In England, [Growth Hubs](#) can advise on local and UK Government business support. You can also find helpful business case studies and other useful information on the [Coronavirus Business Support Blog](#).

### [Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy](#)

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