**Summary of Covid-19 Business Support and easement measures**

**From 02 December 2020**

1. **Grants**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Open (ü) or closed (X)** | **Policy measure** | **Description** | **Timing and duration** | **Link** |
| **ü** | Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) **for Tier 3**  | One-off payment to Local Authorities (LA) equivalent to £20 per head in each eligible Local Authority when Tier 3 or national restrictions are imposed.  | 16th October 2020 - March 2021 | [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-restrictions-support-grants-lrsg-and-additional-restrictions-grant-arg](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-restrictions-support-grants-lrsg-and-additional-restrictions-grant-arg-guidance-for-local-authorities)-guidance-for-local-authorities  |
| **ü** | Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRSG) for open businesses in **Tiers 2 and 3** | Grant for LAs to administer fully discretionary business support to premises impacted by social distancing or other local restriction measures.  Up to £2,100 per business property every 4 weeks.  | 9 September 2020 – 5 Nov 2020.2 Dec - 31 March 2021  | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-support-grant-guidance-for-local-authorities>  |
| **ü** | LRSG for closed businesses in **Tiers 2 and 3** | Grants for businesses required to close during periods of local restrictions. Up to £3,000 per 28-day period. | 9 September 2020 – 5 Nov 2020.2 Dec - 31 March 2021  | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-support-grant-guidance-for-local-authorities> |
| **ü** | LRSG for Closed Sectors | Grants up to £3,000 per 28-day period for businesses in sectors required to close in March and never re-opened (e.g. nightclubs). | 1 Nov 2020 – 5 Nov 2020 2 Dec - 31 March 2021 | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-support-grant-guidance-for-local-authorities> |
| **ü** | £1,000 Christmas grant for 'wet-led pubs' in **Tiers 2 and 3** | One-off December payment. Paid on top on the existing £3,000 monthly cash grants for businesses.  |  | <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-announces-1000-christmas-grant-for-wet-led-pubs>  |

1. **Loans**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Open or closed** | **Policy measure** | **Description** | **Timing and duration** | **Link** |
| **ü** | CLBILS/CBILS/BBLS | CBILS offers SMEs 80% government-backed loans up to £5m. CLBILS offers larger businesses 80% government-backed loans up to £200m (initially £50m). BBLS offers 100% government-backed loans up to £50,000. Prior BBLS loans borrowed below entitlement can be topped up to the maximum amount.  | 25 March 2020 – end of March 2021  | CLBILS: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-coronavirus-large-business-interruption-loan-scheme> CBILS: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-coronavirus-business-interruption-loan-scheme> BBLS: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-a-coronavirus-bounce-back-loan>  |
| **ü** | CCFF(HMT) | CCFF is for large investment-grade businesses. The Bank of England buys short-term debt from large companies. The scheme will operate for at least 12 months (HMT lead). | 20 March 2020 – March 2021 | <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-covid-19-corporate-financing-facility>  |
| **ü** | Future Fund | Provides convertible loans to UK-based companies from £125,000 to £5 million, subject to at least equal match funding from private investors. e.g. pre-revenue or pre-profit businesses relying on equity investment and unable to access other support programmes | 20 May 2020 –end of March 2021  | <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/future-fund>  |
| **ü** | Start Up Loans Programme | Loans (£500 to £25,000, at 6% interest, with 1-5y repayment term) and 12 months of free mentoring to individuals who are starting a new business or who have been trading for less than two years.  |  | <https://www.british-business-bank.co.uk/ourpartners/start-up-loans/>  |
| **ü** | Trade Credit Reinsurance Scheme | Trade Credit Reinsurance Scheme provides supply chain confidence by ensuring trade credit insurance (TCI) coverage and credit limits are maintained. Scheme offers guarantees up to £10 billion to TCI schemes for business-to-business transactions, protecting against defaults and payment delays. Available on a temporary basis for 9 months, backdated to 1 April 2020. | 1 April 2020 – Jan 2021 | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/trade-credit-reinsurance-scheme>  |
| **ü** | Mortgage holidays agreed with main lenders (via the financial conduct authority) | Borrowers impacted by Covid-19 can claim a six-month mortgage payment holiday. Those who have not yet had a mortgage payment holiday will be entitled to a six-month holiday. Those that have started a mortgage payment holiday will be able to top up to six months without this being recorded on their credit file. | 25 April 2020 – 31 March 2021 | <https://www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/en/articles/mortgage-payment-holidays>  |

1. **Job retention**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Open or closed** | **Policy measure** | **Description** | **Timing and duration** | **Link** |
| **ü** | Self-employed income support scheme (SEISS) | Amended Scheme: 2 Nov-April 2021 Extension will last for six months from November 2020 to April 2021. Grants will be paid in two lump sum instalments each covering a three-month period. Third grant will cover three-month period from 1 Nov. 2020 until 31 Jan 2021. Taxable grant calculated at 80% of 3 months average monthly trading profits, paid out in a single instalment and capped at £7,500 in total. This is an increase from previously announced amount of 55%. There will be a fourth grant covering February 2021 to April 2021. | 25 March 2020 –April 2021. The online service has closed for the first and second grants. Applications for the third grant open from 30 November. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/self-employment-income-support-scheme-grant-extension/self-employment-income-support-scheme-grant-extension> [Withdrawn 25 Nov]<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-a-grant-through-the-coronavirus-covid-19-self-employment-income-support-scheme>  |
| **ü** | Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (furlough) | Employees receive 80% of current salary for hours not worked, up to £2500/month maximum.  | 25 March 2020 – end of April 2021  | <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme>  |
| **ü** | Kickstart scheme (DWP) | Funding to employers to create job placements for 16-24 year olds on Universal Credit. Funds 100% of National Minimum Wage (or National Living Wage depending on age) for 25 hours per week for a total of 6 months. Also covers associated employer National Insurance contributions and minimum automatic enrolment contribution. Employers can spread the start date of the job placements up until the end of December 2021.  | 2 September 2020 – Dec 2021 | <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/kickstart-scheme>  |
| **?** | Restart Scheme | SR2020 announced new £2.9 billion Restart programme to provide intensive and tailored support to over 1 million unemployed people and help them find work. Approximately £0.4 billion in 2021-22. | More information coming soon | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/restart-scheme/how-the-restart-scheme-will-work>  |

1. **Regulatory easements**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Open or closed** | **Policy measure** | **Description** | **Timing and duration** | **Link** |
| **ü** | VAT reduction | 15% VAT reduction for hospitality, holiday accommodation, and attractions.  | 15 July – 31 March 2021 | <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/vat-reduced-rate-for-hospitality-holiday-accommodation-and-attractions>  |
| **ü** | HMRC Time To Pay service  | Allows businesses and the self-employed to defer tax payments over an agreed period of time. Businesses will have the option of splitting it into smaller, interest free payments over the course of 11 months. Self-assessed income taxpayers can also extend their outstanding tax bill over 12 months from January. | 25 March - Closed to new entrants from 24 September. | <https://www.gov.uk/difficulties-paying-hmrc>  |
| **ü** | Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) (DWP) | SSP costs for businesses with fewer than 250 employees will be covered for up to 14 days per employee. Employees can request a ‘shielding note’ or a letter from their doctor/health authority advising them to shield. | 25 March - [no defined end date] | <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-back-statutory-sick-pay-paid-to-employees-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19>  |
| **ü** | Business Rates Relief  | Business rates relief for all businesses in the retail, hospitality or leisure sectors in England, for one year. Eligible pubs are also entitled to discount of £5,000. Many childcare providers will not pay rates for 2020-21.  | 25 March - Extended to Spring 2021 (end of tax year) | Retail, hospitality and leisure: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-your-retail-hospitality-or-leisure-business-is-eligible-for-business-rates-relief-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19> Nurseries: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-your-nursery-is-eligible-for-business-rates-relief-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19>  |
| **ü** | Commercial Lease Forfeiture Moratorium Extension | Provisions to prohibit forfeiture of a lease for non-payment of rent for 3 months to 30 June 2020 (since extended). From 29 August, landlords are not able to start possession proceedings unless they have given tenants six months’ notice (with exception for the most serious cases). On 9 December, the ban on business evictions was extended until the end of March 2021. | 25 March - 31 March 2021 | <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-extends-support-to-stop-business-evictions-this-year> <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/business-evictions-ban-extended-until-march>  |
| **ü** | PPE ‘Safe product supply’ | Ensures coordination between regulators on technical issues relating to PPE and provides businesses with support relating to PPE easements. | Operational and ongoing | <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/opss-coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-business-and-local-authorities>  |
| **ü** | Business and Planning Act 2020 | Enables greater flexibility in some planning proceedings, business use of outdoor space & alcohol licensing. | 22 July 2020 – 1 April 2021 | <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/16/contents/enacted>  |
| **ü** | AGM flexibilities | CIG Act 2020 gives all companies temporary flexibility to override constraints in their constitutions and to hold virtual (effectively closed) meetings.  | Extended to 30 December 2020 | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/corporate-insolvency-and-governance-bill-2020-factsheets/annual-general-meetings-and-other-general-meetings>  |
| **ü** | Temporary insolvency measures | Restrictions on statutory demands and winding up petitions. Prohibition on termination clauses and associated small supplier exemption; and temporary modifications to moratorium procedure. | Extended to 31 March 2021 | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/corporate-insolvency-and-governance-act-2020>  |