

Summary of Covid-19 Grant Schemes

January 2021

1. Local Restrictions Support Grant Closed for National Lockdown (5 Nov – 1 Dec 2020)

Businesses that were required to close due to the November 2020 national restrictions are eligible for grants as follows:

- **£1,334 per 28 days, for properties with a rateable value of exactly £15,000 or under**
- **£2,000 per 28 days, for properties with a rateable value of over £15,000 and less than £51,000**
- **£3,000 per 28 days, for properties with a rateable value of exactly £51,000 or above**

To apply businesses will need: a 9 digit business rates account number and one monthly statement from a business bank account. Where a business usually has visiting members of the public to the premises but has been able to operate, to some extent, via click and collect or takeaway services, your business may be eligible. **Businesses can still apply for this funding on the Council's [Local Restrictions Support Grant web page](#).**

2. Local Restrictions Support Grant Closed for Tier 3 restrictions (2 Dec – 19 Dec 2020)

Further rounds of the Local Restriction Support Grant Closed are available for businesses that had to remain closed during Tier 3 restrictions. Eligible businesses that have already applied for the LRSO Closed for the period 5 November to 1 December (above) should have received a direct email from the Council providing details of how to apply for the Tier 3 grant. Businesses are not able to apply for the Tier 3 grant before having applied for the National Restrictions LRSO (above). The funding for Tier 3 restrictions under the LRSO Closed is distributed on the following basis:

- **£667 per 14 days for properties with a rateable value of exactly £15,000 or under**
- **£1,000 per 14 days for properties with a rateable value of over £15,000 and less than £51,000**
- **£1,050 per 14 days for properties with a rateable value of exactly £51,000 or above.**

3. Local Restrictions Support Grant Closed Tier 4 restrictions (20 Dec 2020 – 4 Jan 2021)

Further Local Restriction Support Grants will be paid to businesses that were required to close because of Tier 4 restrictions (20 Dec – 4 Jan). Businesses that have already applied for the LRSO Closed for the period of national restrictions (5 Nov – 1 Dec 2020) should have received a direct email from the Council providing details of how to apply for the Tier 4 grant.

Again, businesses will not be able to apply for the Tier 4 grants before having applied for the National Lockdown LRSG Closed (above). The award levels are based on rateable values as for Tier 3 above.

Please note that businesses are able to submit an application retrospectively for periods that have already passed but please check your inbox for the relevant emails from TWBC for details. Further information is available on the TWBC website at the link above.

4. Christmas Support Payment (for Dec 2020)

On 1 December 2020, the Government introduced additional support for wet-led pubs in areas under Tier 2 or 3 restrictions, called the Christmas Support Payment (CSP). A wet-led pub is defined as a pub (or bar) that is:

- **open to the general public, allows free entry other than when occasional entertainment is provided, allows drinking without requiring food to be consumed and permits drinks to be purchased at a bar; and**
- **derives less than 50% of income from food sales.**

Eligible businesses that have applied for the LRSG Closed for the November national lockdown period should have received a direct email providing details of how to apply for this payment. Please note that the CSP grant application process closes on 31 January 2021.

5. National Restrictions LRSG Closed and Closed Business Lockdown Payment (from 5 Jan – 15 Feb 2021)

LRSG Closed grants will continue to be paid to those businesses that have been required to close (or remain closed) between 5 Jan – 15 Feb 2021. Businesses that applied for the LRSG Closed under the November 2020 national lockdown will be contacted directly by email and invited to make their application for a payment covering a 6 week (or 42 day period).

In addition, on 5 January 2021 the Government announced that businesses occupying property with a rateable value in the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure sectors would receive a one-off grant called the Closed Business Lockdown Payment (CBLP). These grants will be awarded on the following basis:

- **£4000 for properties with a rateable value of exactly £15,000 or under**
- **£6000 for properties with a rateable value of over £15,000 and less than £51,000**
- **£9000 for properties with a rateable value of exactly £51,000 or above**

The Closed Business Lockdown Payments will be made along with the LRSG Closed 6-week payment. The application for this funding will be launched by close of play on 15 January 2021.

6. Additional Restrictions Grant

ARG Round 1 (5 Nov – 1 Dec 2020)

The Council focused the initial discretionary Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG Round 1) scheme on suppliers to the retail, leisure, hospitality, arts, entertainment, events and personal care services as well as businesses in shared space or that are home-based. The initial round of the ARG funding closed for applications at midnight on Thursday 31 December 2020 and the payments should all be made by the week starting 11 January 2021.

The Council is now setting up two further ARG funded schemes, as follows:

ARG Hospitality One-off Payment

This will be a one-off payment for businesses in the hospitality sector in premises with a rateable value. The amount awarded will depend on that rateable value. This grant is in recognition that Hospitality businesses suffered particularly through the key Christmas period. We will launch this scheme in the week commencing 18 January 2021 and the deadline for applications will be midnight on Monday 1 February 2021. Further details of eligibility (including the definition we will use for identifying hospitality businesses) will be available on the TWBC website once the scheme is launched. Suppliers to the hospitality sector will not be eligible but can apply for the ARG 2 scheme below.

ARG Round 2 (for 2 Dec 2020 – 17 Jan 2021)

This second round of the ARG covers the period from 2 December 2020 – 17 January 2021 and will have the following eligibility criteria:

- **Businesses in any sector (except Hospitality businesses which are covered by the above scheme)**
- **Businesses that have had to close as a result of restrictions or those that have been able to remain open or partially open**
- **Businesses in either rated premises or non-rated premises (or those not liable for rate payments). This includes those in shared spaces, home based businesses, B&Bs and holiday lets**

In their application, businesses must be able to provide clear evidence of:

- **A severe impact of Covid restrictions on their income, with a reduction of 30% for the period from 2 December to 17 January**
- **Fixed business costs (not including staffing)**
- **The business trading in the borough on 2 December 2020**

We will launch this scheme in the week beginning 18 January 2021 and the deadline for applications is midnight on Monday 1 February 2021. Please read the full eligibility criteria and application process details carefully on our website before making an application.

Please note that the very limited LRSG (Open) funding that the Council has received will be administered within the ARG Round 2 scheme so that we can help more businesses as quickly as possible.

Please continue to check the TWBC website and social media channels for further information on grants. There are still businesses that have not applied for LRSG Closed funding that they are eligible for, so please apply online or email businesscovid19@tunbridgewells.gov.uk with any questions about the information above.