

## 12th May 2020

# **Briefing Note**

# CECA Scotland Member Briefing: COVID-19 - CECA SCOTLAND UPDATE

#### Introduction

CECA Scotland will be producing regular updates to keep member companies updated on new developments relating to the Covid-19 coronavirus and its impact on the Scottish civils sector. This briefing will be delivered daily and posted on our website. If you would like further information or to share your experiences about how COVID-19 is impacting on your business, contact our Chief Executive, Grahame Barn: 07976 199615 or grahame@cecascotland.co.uk.

#### Furlough scheme extended until October 2020

The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme will remain open until the end of October, the Chancellor <u>announced today</u>. The scheme will continue to apply across all nations, regions and sectors in the UK economy. Furloughed workers across the UK will continue to receive 80% of their current salary, up to £2,500. The scheme will continue in its current form until the end of July, with changes to allow more flexibility coming in from the start of August.

#### Changes to the scheme

From the start of August, furloughed workers will be able to return to work part-time with employers being asked to pay a percentage towards the salaries of their furloughed staff. The employer payments will substitute the contribution the government is currently making, ensuring that staff continue to receive 80% of their salary, up to £2,500 a month. Details about how this will be implemented will be made available by the end of May.

#### Step by Step Guide (updated)

The Step by Step guide to the Job Retention Scheme has been updated (11<sup>th</sup> May) to make it clearer and include recent changes to the process

#### Rescheduled: "Ken Yer Bairns" webinar

Our CECA Scotland "Ken Yer Bairns" webinar has been rescheduled for Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May, at 11am. The aim of these webinars is to reach out to those who have children or manage/work alongside young people (especially those classed as Generation Z) and to provide a bit of guidance on how to deal with them around the house, but more importantly, to understand the motivations and drivers

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of the youngest element of our work force and how to tap into their enthusiasm and passion for the benefit of the company and wider construction industry.

Delivered by Bob Cummins of <u>SODAK</u>, you can sign up <u>here</u>

### **COVID-19 and Insurance**

CECA has joined a Construction Leadership Council working group to specifically address issues with insurance arising from the pandemic in relation to Professional Indemnity Insurance, bonds and trade credit. A briefing is attached giving details of this work <u>here</u>.

#### COVID-19: Back to Work Guidance (England only)

The UK Government has published *Working safely during Covid-19 in construction and other outdoor work*, which is available to download in full <u>here</u> and guidance for people using transport or working in the transport sector <u>here</u>. CECA National have produced a briefing which is included for your information (click <u>here</u>) but please note this guidance applies to England only.

#### First Minister's Statement today: Return to Work Plans

In Nicola Sturgeon's Daily Statement today (12<sup>th</sup> May) she urged all employers in Scotland to follow the Scottish guidance and highlighted partnership working underway to restart Scotland's economy when the lockdown is eased, included 14 working groups covering every sector. Read more <u>here</u>.

#### **Scottish Government Advice**

The Scottish Government's latest COVID-19 advice for businesses can be read here: <u>https://findbusinesssupport.gov.scot/coronavirus-advice</u>. For issues not dealt with on the website, call the Scottish Government <u>Helpline</u> on 0300 303 0660.

HMRC Tax Helpline: 0800 024 1222, open 8am-4pm, Monday to Friday.

#### **UK Government Advice**

UK wide guidance, detailing all Scottish and UK Government support for businesses operating here in Scotland can be read <u>here</u>.

For more information please contact Grahame Barn on grahame@cecascotland.co.uk

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