

19th 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.

Call for Views: Advisory Group on Economic Recovery

The Advisory Group on Economic Recovery, established by the Scottish Government, has launched a [call for views](#) on how best to support Scotland's economic recovery from the impact of Covid-19. This consultation will shape the Advisory Group's recommendations to the Scottish Government on how it should approach supporting Scotland's economic recovery. The survey is open until Sunday the 31st of May; the tight timescale is to enable recommendations to be produced before the end of June. You can submit your views [here](#).

Apply for the Coronavirus Future Fund

Applications open tomorrow (20th May) for the [Future Fund](#), which will provide UK Government loans to UK-based companies ranging from £125,000 to £5 million, subject to at least equal match funding from private investors. These convertible loans may be a suitable option for businesses that typically rely on equity investment and are unable to access other government business support programmes because they are either pre-revenue or pre-profit. The Future Fund was developed by the UK Government and is being delivered by the [British Business Bank](#).

Coronavirus Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme

From Tuesday 26 May 2020, employers will be able to apply to recover the costs of paying coronavirus-related Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) payments they have made to their employees. Employers are eligible to use the scheme if:

- They are claiming for an employee who is eligible for sick pay due to coronavirus
- They had a PAYE payroll scheme in operation before 28 February 2020
- They had fewer than 250 employees across all PAYE schemes on 28 February 2020

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The repayment will cover up to two weeks of the applicable rate of SSP, and is payable if a current or former employee was unable to work on or after 13 March 2020 and entitled to SSP, because they either have coronavirus; are self-isolating and unable to work from home or are shielding because they've been advised that they're at high risk of severe illness from coronavirus. Employers will be able to claim via a new online service. Click [here](#) to find out more.

Coronavirus Large Business Loan Interruption Scheme

The UK Government has today (19th May) extended the maximum loan size available through the Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme from £50 million to £200 million.

- loans under the expanded scheme will be made available to large businesses affected by coronavirus from next week
- changes also mean companies receiving help through CLBILS and the Bank of England's Coronavirus Corporate Financing Fund will be asked to agree to not pay dividends and to exercise restraint on senior pay

You can find more information [here](#).

Expansion of COVID-19 Testing

Everyone in Scotland aged 5 and over can now access a COVID-19 test if showing symptoms of Coronavirus. This means anyone who is displaying any of the three symptoms of COVID-19 - continuous cough, high temperature, or loss of sense of taste or smell - will be able to book a test at the drive-through or mobile test centres. Tests can be booked online: www.nhs.uk/coronavirus
Full details [here](#).

HSE advice: Legionella risks during the coronavirus outbreak

Employers, the self-employed and people in control of premises, such as landlords, have a duty to identify and control risks associated with legionella. Find further information [here](#).

Construction Leadership Council: Site Operating Procedures V4

Updated CLC Site Operating Procedures have been published today (19th May) and can be read on the CECA National website [here](#). Please note these apply in England only. The changes are to ensure they fully align with recently published UK Government guidance on [Working Safely during Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - Construction & Other Outdoor Work](#). Revised Scottish Site Operating Procedures are currently being finalised and will be shared with CECA Scotland members as soon as they are published.

The Scottish Government's latest COVID-19 advice for businesses can be read [here](#)

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

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