

25th 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](mailto:grahame@cecascotland.co.uk).

### Job Retention Scheme Updates

The UK Government have updated their Job Retention Scheme guidance:

- Clarification on eligibility [here](#). The update provides additional clarification on which employees you can put on furlough and claim for through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, clarifying eligibility based on employment on or after certain dates.
- Updated guidance on how to calculate 80% of your employee's wages, National Insurance contributions (NICs) and pension contributions if you have furloughed staff due to coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found [here](#).
- Amended guidance on how to claim for 80% of your employee's wages, explaining that employers will be asked to give the amounts separately for the NICs, pension and wages they are claiming for. Find this [here](#).

### Changes in the pipeline

It is highly likely that the UK Government will be announcing further changes to the scheme this week, including a possible employer contribution of at least one-fifth of furloughed employees wages and possibly also national insurance contributions. See press speculation [here](#). We will provide an update on this when an announcement is made.

### Legal Briefing on Job Retention Scheme

MacRoberts LLP have produced a legal update on changes to the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, following [guidance](#) issued by the UK Treasury, which you can read [here](#).

### Johnson Carmichael Weekly Coronavirus Update

CECA Scotland Auditors, Johnson Carmichael, have produced a helpful Weekly Update which you can read [here](#).

### New public health measures for all UK arrivals at the UK border

New measures, at the UK border to guard against a second wave of coronavirus infections have been announced by the UK Home Secretary on Friday 22 May. You can view the full press notice [here](#). **These measures are due to come into effect on 8 June 2020.** They include 14 days self-isolation for anyone entering the UK, bar a short list of exemptions

The full list is available on [GOV.UK](#) and includes:

- road haulage and freight workers, to ensure the supply of goods is not impacted;
- medical professionals who are travelling to help with the fight against coronavirus;
- Anyone moving from within the Common Travel Area, covering Ireland, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man;
- Seasonal Agricultural Workers who will self-isolate on the property where they are working.

The changes will be subject to review every three weeks, to ensure they are in line with the latest scientific evidence and remain effective and necessary.

### UK Government webinar: COVID-19 Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme

As part of UK Government's commitment to supporting employers through the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Chancellor has announced a Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) rebate to support small and medium-sized employers with additional SSP costs due to COVID-19. For more information, [join the following live webinar](#).

This webinar provides an overview of the scheme, including who can claim; when to start paying SSP; employees you can claim for; making a claim; keeping records, and more.

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](mailto:grahame@cecascotland.co.uk)