

COVID-19

BUSINESS SUPPORT UPDATE

Issue 14, 20 October 2020

*** ** CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS FUND – NOW OPEN *****

As covered in our last Update, the Scottish Government has introduced a new support fund for businesses in Scotland impacted by the [temporary restrictions](#) to stop the spread of COVID-19, which came into effect on Friday 9th October 2020.

The **Business Closure Fund** is available to **hospitality** or other **businesses required by law to close** (except for takeaways).

The **Business Hardship Fund** is to support some businesses that remain open, but are still significantly impacted by the restrictions, including those in the direct supply chains of firms that must close.

Both of these new funds are being delivered by local authorities and are linked to the Rateable Value (RV) of your business property.

Applications to the funds **are now open**, with a **closing date of 5pm on Tuesday 3rd November**.

A link to the South Ayrshire Council application form can be found [HERE](#)

Payments will be made within **3 working days** of being notified on the outcome of your application.

For funds available and eligibility criteria see next page.

For COVID-19 business support enquiries email:
COVID19.BusinessSupport@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
or call: 01292 616 349

FUNDS AVAILABLE

Business Closure Fund:

- £2,000 (for businesses with a RV up to and including £51,000)
- £3,000 (for businesses with a RV of £51,001 and above)
- An upper limit of £15,000 **in total will apply** to any eligible business operating multiple premises.

Business Hardship Fund:

- £1,000 (for businesses with a RV up to and including £51,000)
- £1,500 (for businesses with a RV of £51,001 and above)
- An upper limit of £10,000 **in total will apply** to any eligible business operating multiple premises.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SUPPORT

For the **Business Closure Fund** you must be a hospitality or other business required by law to close (except for takeaway) under the new restrictions.

For the **Business Hardship Fund** applications are open to:

- hospitality businesses and some gyms, required by these new regulations to operate in a restricted way
- producers/wholesale businesses based in Scotland supplying primarily short-life goods or produce to hospitality businesses required by the regulations to close or operate in a restricted way and able to evidence a minimum 25% reduction in turnover during the brake period

Please note, retail and businesses that provide takeaway food as the core and established basis of their operations are not eligible for these closure or hardship funds.

Eligibility:

- Your business must have been open and trading on 9th October 2020.
- You must have a business bank account.
- Your business premises must be registered for Non-Domestic rates.
- Businesses which have breached wider COVID regulations/requirements prior to local restrictions are not eligible to apply.
- Businesses with connections to tax havens, as set out in the [Coronavirus \(Scotland\) \(No.2\) Act 2020](#), are not eligible to apply.

Applications are welcome from Limited Companies, Sole Traders, Trusts and Partnerships provided they meet the other criteria.

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