

# Summary of Covid-19 Business Support and easement measures

From 02 December 2020

## 1. Grants

Open (✓) or closed (X)	Policy measure	Description	Timing and duration	Link
✓	Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) for Tier 3	One-off payment to Local Authorities (LA) equivalent to £20 per head in each eligible Local Authority when Tier 3 or national restrictions are imposed.	16 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 - March 2021	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-restrictions-support-grants-lrsg-and-additional-restrictions-grant-arg-guidance-for-local-authorities">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-restrictions-support-grants-lrsg-and-additional-restrictions-grant-arg-guidance-for-local-authorities</a>
✓	Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRSNG) for open businesses in Tiers 2 and 3	Grant for LAs to administer fully discretionary business support to premises impacted by social distancing or other local restriction measures.  Up to £2,100 per business property every 4 weeks.	9 September 2020 – 5 Nov 2020.  2 Dec - 31 March 2021	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-support-grant-guidance-for-local-authorities">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-support-grant-guidance-for-local-authorities</a>
✓	LRSNG for closed businesses in Tiers 2 and 3	Grants for businesses required to close during periods of local restrictions.  Up to £3,000 per 28-day period.	9 September 2020 – 5 Nov 2020.  2 Dec - 31 March 2021	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-support-grant-guidance-for-local-authorities">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-support-grant-guidance-for-local-authorities</a>
✓	LRSNG for Closed Sectors	Grants up to £3,000 per 28-day period for businesses in sectors required to close in March and never re-opened (e.g. nightclubs).	1 Nov 2020 – 5 Nov 2020  2 Dec - 31 March 2021	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-support-grant-guidance-for-local-authorities">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-support-grant-guidance-for-local-authorities</a>
✓	£1,000 Christmas grant for 'wet-led pubs' in Tiers 2 and 3	One-off December payment. Paid on top on the existing £3,000 monthly cash grants for businesses.		<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-announces-1000-christmas-grant-for-wet-led-pubs">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-announces-1000-christmas-grant-for-wet-led-pubs</a>

## 2. Loans

Open or closed	Policy measure	Description	Timing and duration	Link
✓	CLBILS/CBILS /BBLS	CBILS offers SMEs 80% government-backed loans up to £5m.	25 March 2020 – end of March 2021	CLBILS: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-coronavirus">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-coronavirus</a>

		<p>CLBILS offers larger businesses 80% government-backed loans up to £200m (initially £50m).</p> <p>BBLs offers 100% government-backed loans up to £50,000. Prior BBLs loans borrowed below entitlement can be topped up to the maximum amount.</p>		<p><a href="#">large-business-interruption-loan-scheme</a></p> <p>CBILS: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-coronavirus-business-interruption-loan-scheme">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-coronavirus-business-interruption-loan-scheme</a></p> <p>BBLs: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-a-coronavirus-bounce-back-loan">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-a-coronavirus-bounce-back-loan</a></p>
✓	CCFF (HMT)	CCFF is for large investment-grade businesses. The Bank of England buys short-term debt from large companies. The scheme will operate for at least 12 months (HMT lead).	20 March 2020 – March 2021	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-covid-19-corporate-financing-facility">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-covid-19-corporate-financing-facility</a>
✓	Future Fund	Provides convertible loans to UK-based companies from £125,000 to £5 million, subject to at least equal match funding from private investors. e.g. pre-revenue or pre-profit businesses relying on equity investment and unable to access other support programmes	20 May 2020 – end of March 2021	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/future-fund">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/future-fund</a>
✓	Start Up Loans Programme	Loans (£500 to £25,000, at 6% interest, with 1-5y repayment term) and 12 months of free mentoring to individuals who are starting a new business or who have been trading for less than two years.		<a href="https://www.british-business-bank.co.uk/ourpartners/start-up-loans/">https://www.british-business-bank.co.uk/ourpartners/start-up-loans/</a>
✓	Trade Credit Reinsurance Scheme	<p>Trade Credit Reinsurance Scheme provides supply chain confidence by ensuring trade credit insurance (TCI) coverage and credit limits are maintained.</p> <p>Scheme offers guarantees up to £10 billion to TCI schemes for business-to-business transactions, protecting against defaults and payment delays.</p> <p>Available on a temporary basis for 9 months, backdated to 1 April 2020.</p>	1 April 2020 – Jan 2021	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/trade-credit-reinsurance-scheme">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/trade-credit-reinsurance-scheme</a>
✓	Mortgage holidays agreed with main lenders (via the financial conduct authority)	<p>Borrowers impacted by Covid-19 can claim a six-month mortgage payment holiday.</p> <p>Those who have not yet had a mortgage payment holiday will be entitled to a six-month holiday. Those that have started a mortgage payment holiday will be able to top up to six months without this being recorded on their credit file.</p>	25 April 2020 – 31 March 2021	<a href="https://www.moneyadvicewise.org.uk/en/articles/mortgage-payment-holidays">https://www.moneyadvicewise.org.uk/en/articles/mortgage-payment-holidays</a>

### 3. Job retention

Open or closed	Policy measure	Description	Timing and duration	Link
✓	Self-employed income support scheme (SEISS)	<p><u>Amended Scheme: 2 Nov-April 2021</u> Extension will last for six months from November 2020 to April 2021. Grants will be paid in two lump sum instalments each covering a three-month period.</p> <p>Third grant will cover three-month period from 1 Nov. 2020 until 31 Jan 2021.</p> <p>Taxable grant calculated at 80% of 3 months average monthly trading profits, paid out in a single instalment and capped at £7,500 in total. This is an increase from previously announced amount of 55%.</p> <p>There will be a fourth grant covering February 2021 to April 2021.</p>	<p>25 March 2020 – April 2021.</p> <p>The online service has closed for the first and second grants.</p> <p>Applications for the third grant open from 30 November.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/self-employment-income-support-scheme-grant-extension/self-employment-income-support-scheme-grant-extension">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/self-employment-income-support-scheme-grant-extension/self-employment-income-support-scheme-grant-extension</a> [Withdrawn 25 Nov]</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-a-grant-through-the-coronavirus-covid-19-self-employment-income-support-scheme">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-a-grant-through-the-coronavirus-covid-19-self-employment-income-support-scheme</a></p>
✓	Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (furlough)	<p>Employees receive 80% of current salary for hours not worked, up to £2500/month maximum.</p>	<p>25 March 2020 – end of April 2021</p>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme</a></p>
✓	Kickstart scheme (DWP)	<p>Funding to employers to create job placements for 16-24 year olds on Universal Credit.</p> <p>Funds 100% of National Minimum Wage (or National Living Wage depending on age) for 25 hours per week for a total of 6 months.</p> <p>Also covers associated employer National Insurance contributions and minimum automatic enrolment contribution.</p> <p>Employers can spread the start date of the job placements up until the end of December 2021.</p>	<p>2 September 2020 – Dec 2021</p>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/kickstart-scheme">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/kickstart-scheme</a></p>
?	Restart Scheme	<p>SR2020 announced new £2.9 billion Restart programme to provide intensive and tailored support to over 1 million unemployed people and help them find work. Approximately £0.4 billion in 2021-22.</p>	<p>More information coming soon</p>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/restart-scheme/how-the-restart-scheme-will-work">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/restart-scheme/how-the-restart-scheme-will-work</a></p>

## 4. Regulatory easements

Open or closed	Policy measure	Description	Timing and duration	Link
✓	VAT reduction	15% VAT reduction for hospitality, holiday accommodation, and attractions.	15 July – 31 March 2021	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/vat-reduced-rate-for-hospitality-holiday-accommodation-and-attractions">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/vat-reduced-rate-for-hospitality-holiday-accommodation-and-attractions</a>
✓	HMRC Time To Pay service	<p>Allows businesses and the self-employed to defer tax payments over an agreed period of time.</p> <p>Businesses will have the option of splitting it into smaller, interest free payments over the course of 11 months. Self-assessed income taxpayers can also extend their outstanding tax bill over 12 months from January.</p>	25 March - Closed to new entrants from 24 September.	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/difficulties-paying-hmrc">https://www.gov.uk/difficulties-paying-hmrc</a>
✓	Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) (DWP)	<p>SSP costs for businesses with fewer than 250 employees will be covered for up to 14 days per employee.</p> <p>Employees can request a 'shielding note' or a letter from their doctor/health authority advising them to shield.</p>	25 March - [no defined end date]	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-back-statutory-sick-pay-paid-to-employees-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-back-statutory-sick-pay-paid-to-employees-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19</a>
✓	Business Rates Relief	Business rates relief for all businesses in the retail, hospitality or leisure sectors in England, for one year. Eligible pubs are also entitled to discount of £5,000. Many childcare providers will not pay rates for 2020-21.	25 March - Extended to Spring 2021 (end of tax year)	<p>Retail, hospitality and leisure: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-your-retail-hospitality-or-leisure-business-is-eligible-for-business-rates-relief-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-your-retail-hospitality-or-leisure-business-is-eligible-for-business-rates-relief-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19</a></p> <p>Nurseries: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-your-nursery-is-eligible-for-business-rates-relief-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-your-nursery-is-eligible-for-business-rates-relief-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19</a></p>
✓	Commercial Lease Forfeiture Moratorium Extension	<p>Provisions to prohibit forfeiture of a lease for non-payment of rent for 3 months to 30 June 2020 (since extended).</p> <p>From 29 August, landlords are not able to start possession proceedings unless they have given tenants six months' notice (with exception for the most serious cases).</p> <p>On 9 December, the ban on business evictions was extended until the end of March 2021.</p>	25 March - 31 March 2021	<p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-extends-support-to-stop-business-evictions-this-year">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-extends-support-to-stop-business-evictions-this-year</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/business-evictions-ban-extended-until-march">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/business-evictions-ban-extended-until-march</a></p>
✓	PPE 'Safe product supply'	Ensures coordination between regulators on technical issues relating to PPE and provides	Operational and ongoing	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/opss-coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-business-and-local-authorities">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/opss-coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-business-and-local-authorities</a>

		businesses with support relating to PPE easements.		
✓	Business and Planning Act 2020	Enables greater flexibility in some planning proceedings, business use of outdoor space & alcohol licensing.	22 July 2020 – 1 April 2021	<a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/16/contents/enacted">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/16/contents/enacted</a>
✓	AGM flexibilities	CIG Act 2020 gives all companies temporary flexibility to override constraints in their constitutions and to hold virtual (effectively closed) meetings.	Extended to 30 December 2020	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/corporate-insolvency-and-governance-bill-2020-factsheets/annual-general-meetings-and-other-general-meetings">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/corporate-insolvency-and-governance-bill-2020-factsheets/annual-general-meetings-and-other-general-meetings</a>
✓	Temporary insolvency measures	Restrictions on statutory demands and winding up petitions.  Prohibition on termination clauses and associated small supplier exemption; and temporary modifications to moratorium procedure.	Extended to 31 March 2021	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/corporate-insolvency-and-governance-act-2020">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/corporate-insolvency-and-governance-act-2020</a>