



## **This is the twelfth in our weekly COVID 19 Business Support Information**

### **Eligibility checker relaunched for phase two of Welsh Government's Economic Resilience Fund (ERF)**

Unveiled in March and paused in April, ERF is designed to support businesses, social enterprises and charities, which are not eligible for other Welsh Government and UK Government support schemes. The availability of the next phase of the fund, announced 9<sup>th</sup> June, will enable some businesses excluded in the first round to access a further £100m of financial support. The fund will reopen for applications at the end June.

Business can now start to prepare to make applications for support from this second phase of the fund via the [eligibility checker](#)

Subject to specific eligibility criteria, the following types of businesses which have yet to receive financial assistance from the ERF will be able to apply.

- **Micro businesses:** eligible up to £10,000 (*Sole traders still have to be VAT registered and employing staff on PAYE; limited companies that are not VAT registered qualify as long as their turnover exceeds £50,000 and they employ staff on PAYE*)
- **SME's:** eligible up to £100,000
- **Larger businesses:** eligible up to £690,000

### **Two weeks left to apply!**

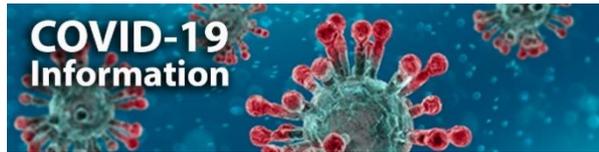
### **Covid-19 non-domestic rates (NDR) grant schemes will close to new applications on 30th June 2020 at 5pm**

The Business Rates Grant isn't something that will happen automatically if you pay business rates, you still need to apply to receive from £10k - £25k and this grant closes on 30<sup>th</sup> June so apply now if you have not already done so!

Please complete the [Business Rates Grant \(COVID-19\)](#) form to allow Torfaen council to collate all requests and to consider if it is appropriate to award the grant.

*Pass this information on to any business associates, suppliers or business clients to ensure they receive their government entitlement from this scheme!*

**Applications received after 5pm on 30th June 2020 will not be considered.**



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## **HSE Guidance for hand sanitiser products and surface disinfectants**

**Use, manufacture and supply** - Guidance has been issued by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) for employers who are providing hand sanitiser in their workplaces, as well as for existing and new manufacturers of hand sanitisers and surface disinfectants. The guidance includes how HSE regulates these biocidal products, and on

- choosing the right hand sanitisers and surface disinfectants (includes database of authorised products)
- manufacturing and supplying hand sanitisers (includes requirements, regulations etc.)
- manufacturing and supplying surface disinfectants (includes legal requirements etc.)

Further guidance and information can be found at the [HSE website](#)

## **Test, trace and protect to keep Wales safe**

There are seven main principles to this and the aim of contact tracing is to reduce the number of people being exposed to the virus.

### What do you need to do if you develop a symptom?

*If you've been within 1m of someone for 1 minute or longer or within 2m of someone for 15 minutes or longer, you'll need to tell us about them. You'll also need to tell us about anyone you've travelled in a vehicle with, or people who've sat near you on public transport.*

## **Taking all reasonable measures to maintain physical distancing in the workplace**

Before businesses open steps are required to be put in place to maintain physical distancing in the workplace.

It is aimed at any person who required by the Coronavirus Regulations to take all reasonable measures to ensure that a distance of 2 meters is maintained on particular premises.

[Here are the Welsh Government's full guidance](#)



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**Are you a business in Torfaen that has a story** on how you have helped in the fight against Covid 19, please get in touch so we can help you promote your business' efforts and encourage other local businesses to do the same?

E-mail: [info@southwalesbusiness.co.uk](mailto:info@southwalesbusiness.co.uk)

### **Economy & Enterprise Team – Business Support**

If you need to get in touch with an enquiry complete your [details here](#) and we will contact you as soon as possible.

### **COVID-19: guidance for employees, employers and businesses**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19>

### **COVID-19: Support for businesses**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19/covid-19-support-for-businesses>

Watch our twitter for further updates [@Torfaenbiz](#)