



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

### **COVID-19 E-shot future editions: Please provide your feedback!**

We hope you have found our communications useful and relevant over the past weeks and months and we are looking forward to continuing to keep you up to date on COVID-19 business related topics and information.

This is the 18<sup>th</sup> edition of our COVID-19 e-shot for businesses. We'd like to ensure future editions carry on meeting your needs, so please let us know:

- How often you'd like to receive these (e.g. continue weekly, fortnightly)
- Are there any particular topics you'd like to hear more about in relation to COVID-19 and business
- How helpful these weekly bulletins have been for you

Please email us at [info@southwalesbusiness.co.uk](mailto:info@southwalesbusiness.co.uk) with your feedback and help us to help you.

### **Update: Self-Employment Income Support Scheme**

The Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) has been updated with a number of changes including the following:

- **SEISS is closed for the first grant**, the scheme allows you to claim a second and final taxable grant, you can make a claim for the second grant if you are eligible, even if you did not make a claim for the first grant, find out more [here](#)
- new guidance has been published **if you have been overpaid**, made a claim in error and were not eligible for the grant or would like to make a voluntary repayment, find out more <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-a-grant-through-the-coronavirus-covid-19-self-employment-income-support-scheme>
- guidance on how HMRC works **out trading profits and non-trading income** has been updated to **include that losses are not included in your non-trading calculation**, find out more <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tell-hmrc-and-pay-the-self-employment-income-support-scheme-grant-back>
- guidance on how **different circumstances affect the scheme** has been updated to include what supporting evidence you may be asked for if having a new child affected the trading profits you reported for the tax year 2018 to 2019, find out more <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/how-different-circumstances-affect-the-self-employment-income-support-scheme>



## **Retailers – changes to the 2m physical distancing duty**

The Welsh Government have announced that changes to the 2m physical distancing duty have come into force. The new 2m regulation has consequences for premises, including shops. Welsh Government has written to retailers in Wales recognising there are some occasions when it is not always possible to maintain 2m and set out additional measures businesses need to put in place to reduce the risk of coronavirus.

Please read the letter: <https://businesswales.gov.wales/sites/business-wales/files/Circular%20letter%20to%20Retailers%20in%20Wales.pdf>

## **Enterprise Nation Platform: Free Recovery Advice for Businesses**

The Professional and Business Services Sector and Enterprise Nation, supported by the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, have teamed up to offer small and medium sized businesses free advice to help them recover from the impact of Coronavirus.

Professional bodies and trade associations are mobilising experts in their sector to offer free calls on topics from accounting to advertising, HR and legal affairs.

Enterprise Nation is providing free access to the platform, until 31 December 2020, to enable small and medium sized businesses in need of advice and support to connect with business advisers offering to help.

The scheme is open to small businesses throughout the UK.

For further information please visit the Enterprise Nation website.

<https://www.enterprisenation.com/freesupport/>



**Thursday 23rd July 2020: Torfaen PopUp Business School:**  
**BUSINESS POWER UP event streaming live**  
**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO JOIN US!!**

Over the past couple of days **businesses** from across Torfaen and budding entrepreneurs looking to start a business in the borough have been taking advantage of a fabulous FREE opportunity to hear from Simon Paine of PopUp Business School on how to power up their business and creative ideas in practical ways, adapt, emerge stronger and have the confidence to tackle the road ahead within the new business environment.

This inspiring, impactful and motivating 3 day 'virtual' event which started on Tuesday and covering a whole host of **topics is concluding on Thursday 23rd July and focusing on:**

- **How to Maximise Your Online Presence**
- **Using Your Marketing Mind set to Boost Sales**

**JOIN US BETWEEN 9:30am & 3pm!**

Members of the Torfaen Economy & Enterprise team will also be hand.

Book here: <https://events.popupbusinessschool.co.uk/TorfaenJuly2020>



## **Torfaen Start Up Grant – £127k awarded**

We are very pleased to announce that we have now awarded 51 grants totaling £127k to our new start up businesses in Torfaen. There is funding available for just 12 further businesses, so act now.

The purpose of the grant is to support newly created businesses with immediate cash flow support to help them survive the economic consequences of the Covid-19 outbreak.

### **The eligibility criteria for the grant is as follows:**

- **Started trading between 1st April 2019 and 1st March 2020**
- **Forecast annual turnover less than £50,000**
- **Not in receipt of Self Employment Income Support, Non Domestic Rate Grant, Economic Resilience Fund**
- **Businesses must be operating in Wales**

### **Businesses must have one or more of the following**

- **HMRC Unique Taxpayer Reference (UTR) Number**
- **VAT Registration Number or a VAT exemption certificate**
- **Written correspondence confirming registration with HMRC**

For further information on this grant please read the [Start Up Grant Guidance Notes](#)

The [Eligibility Checker](#) for this grant can be found here.

Applications can be made from 29th June 2020 via <https://iweb.itouchvision.com>



## **HMRC Webinar: Extension to the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and flexible furloughing**

**Friday 24th July 2020 (14:15-15:15)**

Do you want to find out more about changes to the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and how flexible furloughing can support your business? Join HMRC's live webinar for the latest information, including:

- overview of changes to the scheme, including how you can now bring previously furloughed employees back to work to suit the needs of your business
- introduction to flexible furloughing and how it works
- example of how to work out the wages of flexibly furloughed employees
- information on key dates and claims periods
- overview of upcoming changes to the scheme in August, September and October as the level of the grant is slowly reduced and employers will be asked to contribute towards the cost of furloughed employees' wages

If you would like to join, please **[choose a date and time](#)**

**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)

**If you are a business in Torfaen**, ready to open for your customers let us know by including us [@Torfaenbiz](#) & our [Facebook page](#) in your posts using **#Openforbusiness** with pictures.

**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](#)