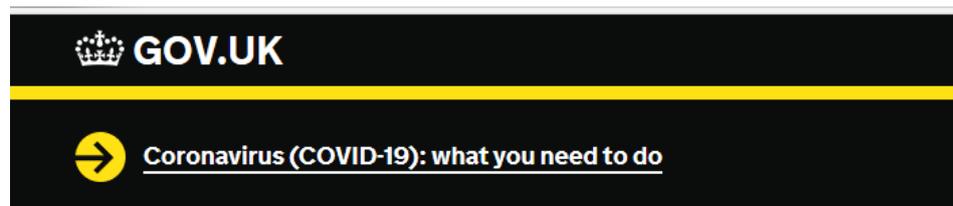

Written: 21 April 2020

LATEST GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS AND NEWS

FindBusinessSupport Scotland has issued latest updates on advice for businesses in Scotland. See: <https://findbusinesssupport.gov.scot/coronavirus-advice>

One key help is that the UK government has launched a new service to help you find UK-wide coronavirus financial support for your business. Some support available only to businesses in Scotland is not included.



[Home](#)

Find coronavirus financial support for your business

Coronavirus (COVID-19) support is available to employers and the self-employed. You may be eligible for loans, tax relief and cash grants.

Use this business support finder to see what support is available for you and your business.

[Start now >](#)

See: <https://www.gov.uk/business-coronavirus-support-finder>

Second phase of requests for the Scottish Bridging Bursary are now open

If you submitted a request to the Bridging Bursary (Arts and Creative) funding programme Creative Scotland will respond to all requests as soon as possible and within the four-week timeframe indicated. Please do not submit another request if you made one in the previous round.

The response to the first phase of requests was significant, with over 800 requests in three days requesting a total of just under £1.5m of the previously available £2m funds for the Bridging Bursary (Arts and Creative).

See: <https://www.creativescotland.com/funding/funding-programmes/bridging-bursary>

Bridging Bursary Programme

The Bridging Bursary for freelance or self-employed screen practitioners who have lost income from their work due to COVID-19 is available to workers in Scotland's screen sector (exhibition, distribution, development, production or postproduction for film or television, scripted or unscripted, live-action or animation, talent and skills development, film education) who are experiencing immediate financial difficulty due to the loss of screen sector income in Scotland as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

See: <https://www.screen.scot/funding-and-support/screen-scotland-funding/bridging-bursary-programme>

The i-Con Challenge Fund & Matchmaking Platform

An initiative designed to quickly match industry challenges with potential solution providers and funding for impact focused innovation projects. The aim to boost this fund through the varied network of partners who are committed to invest in the recovery of the sector.

Who is it for:

Challenge holders: anyone working in the built environment (policy makers, public & private sector clients, contractors, manufacturers, federations, trade & professional bodies, specialist sub-contractors, professional consultants, etc) with a COVID19-related problem that needs a solution.

Solution providers: product, service and technology providers from the built environment or other sectors, Universities, colleges, and R&D bodies.

See: <https://www.cs-ic.org/innovationcentre/innovation-support/i-con-covid-19-support/the-i-con-challenge-fund-matchmaking-platform/>

The job Retention Scheme

This has been extended by a further month to reflect social distancing measures.

See: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-extends-furlough-scheme-to-end-of-june>

You can check if you are eligible to claim for your employees' wages here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wages-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme>