

# Barrow BID Business Support Seminar

Presented by

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# Summary of Available Support

- **Local Restrictions Support Grants (Open)**
  - Businesses with premises
  - Allowed to open but severely impacted by restrictions
- **Local Restrictions Support Grants (Closed)**
  - Businesses with premises
  - Forced to close
- **Additional Restrictions Grant**
  - Businesses not eligible for either LRSG grants
  - Have been financially affected by lockdowns
- **Other Grants**
- **Furlough Scheme for Employers**
- **Self Employment Income Support Scheme**
- **Other Support For Business**
- **HMRC Time To Pay Schemes**

# Local Restrictions Support Grants (Open)

- Administered by Local Authorities
- Available for periods of Tier 2 restrictions
  - 17<sup>th</sup> October 2020 to 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 to 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020
- Aimed at businesses occupying premises who are not mandated to close but severely affected by Tier 2 restrictions
  - Leisure
  - Hospitality
  - Accommodation
- Initial Claims must be applied for via a downloadable form which is completed and sent to the local authority
  - <https://www.barrowbc.gov.uk/resources/assets/attachment/full/0/8624.doc>
- If a claim is accepted for the first period then further grants will be awarded for periods of similar restrictions without needed to apply again – the Local Authority will contact via email to confirm that your eligibility has continued
- The grant is based on the length of the lockdown period and the rateable value of your premises
- 17<sup>th</sup> October to 4<sup>th</sup> November
  - RV Under £15000 £633
  - RV £15001 to £50999 £950
  - RV £51000 & Over £1425
- 2<sup>nd</sup> December to 30<sup>th</sup> December
  - RV Under £15000 £967
  - RV £15001 to £50999 £1450
  - RV £51000 & Over £2175
- Further information can be found here <https://www.barrowbc.gov.uk/coronavirus/financial-support-for-business-and-residents/local-restrictions-support-grant/local-restrictions-support-grant-open/>

# Local Restrictions Support Grants (Closed)

- **Administered by Local Authorities**
- **Available for different periods of lockdown**
  - 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 to 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020
  - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 to 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021
- **Eligible businesses are those that occupy premises and are registered for business rates and were mandated to close under the National Lockdowns**
  - Non Essential Retail
  - Hospitality
  - Accommodation
  - Leisure and Sports
  - Entertainment Venues
  - Personal Care
  - Community Centre's
  - Places of Worship
- **Excluded Businesses**
  - Businesses who have been able to stay open because they are deemed to be offering 'essential retail' or guest houses and hotels who are able to stay open to offer overnight accommodation to key workers.
  - Businesses whose substantive business is a takeaway.
  - Businesses that are able to continue to trade because they do not depend on providing direct in-person services from premises and can operate their services effectively remotely (e.g. accountants, solicitors).
  - Businesses that have chosen to close but not been required to. This includes business premises which were already closed before the restrictions were imposed.

# Local Restrictions Support Grants (Closed)

- Initial Claims must be applied for via a downloadable form which is completed and sent to the local authority
  - <https://www.barrowbc.gov.uk/resources/assets/attachment/full/0/8625.doc>
- If a claim is accepted for the first period then further grants will be awarded for periods of similar restrictions without needed to apply again – the Local Authority will contact via email to confirm that your eligibility has continued
- The grant is based on the length of the lockdown period and the rateable value of your premises
- 5<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December
  - RV Under £15000 £1334
  - RV £15001 to £50999 £2000
  - RV £51000 & Over £3000
- 31<sup>st</sup> December to 15<sup>th</sup> February
  - RV Under £15000 £2239
  - RV £15001 to £50999 £3357
  - RV £51000 & Over £5035
- Further information can be found here  
<https://www.barrowbc.gov.uk/coronavirus/financial-support-for-business-and-residents/local-restrictions-support-grant/local-restrictions-support-grant-closed/>

# Additional Restrictions Grant

- Administered by the Local Authority
- Aimed at the following businesses
  - Those occupying premises but not eligible for LRSG
  - Those without premises or not the ratepayers for premises occupied
  - Licenced Taxi Drivers
  - B&B's who are registered as a food business
- Excluded businesses include
  - Large businesses (over 250 employees)
  - Supermarkets
  - Properties occupied for personal use
  - Businesses that remain open when mandated to close
- Cover periods of National Lockdowns
  - 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 to 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020
  - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 to 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021
- Applications are via an online portal on the LA websites
  - <https://forms.liberata.com/business-rates/local-restriction-arg-barrow-grant-request/barrow>
- Applicants will need to provide supporting evidence which may include
  - Self Assessment Calculations for self employed applicants
  - Bank Statements (Dated from November 2020 to show it was active at the start of lockdown)
  - Business Rates Account number
  - Licence Number for taxi drivers
  - Company Number
  - Employee Numbers
  - VAT Number

# Additional Restrictions Grant

- If a claim is accepted for the first period then further grants will be awarded for periods of similar restrictions without needed to apply again – the Local Authority will contact via email to confirm that your eligibility has continued
- Amounts awarded are firstly based rateable value of premises (if applicable) as follows:-
  - RV £1 to £15,000;  $£1,334 + £2,239.21 = \mathbf{£3,573.21}$
  - RV £15,001 to £50,999;  $£2,000 + £3,357.14 = \mathbf{£5,357.14}$
  - RV £51,000 and above;  $£3,000 + £5,035.71 = \mathbf{£8,035.71}$
- If the applicant has no premises then awards are based on employee numbers as follows:-
  - Micro 1-9  $£1,334 + £2,239.21 = \mathbf{£3,573.21}$
  - Small 10-49  $£2,000 + £3,357.14 = \mathbf{£5,357.14}$
  - Medium 50-250  $£3,000 + £5,035.71 = \mathbf{£8,035.71}$
- Taxi Drivers are awarded a set amount for each period of lockdown
  - 5<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December  $£210.00$
  - 31<sup>st</sup> December to 15<sup>th</sup> February  $£352.50$

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS**

**19<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021**

- There may be further application windows depending on how much of this fund is distributed in the first round but this is not guaranteed
- Further information can be found here  
<https://www.barrowbc.gov.uk/coronavirus/financial-support-for-business-and-residents/additional-restrictions-grant/>

# Other Grants

- **Wet Led Pubs**
  - One off payment of £1000
  - To pubs where income from food is less than 50% of turnover
  - Should be awarded directly by the council – they will email those businesses who they believe are eligible
  - If you haven't been contacted but believe you are eligible you should contact the council
  - Specific exclusions include
    - Cafes – Restaurants – Nightclubs – Sports venues
- **Business Mandated to Close – January 2021**
  - One off payment will be made to those businesses that are mandated to close in January 2021
  - Those eligible will have been identified by the Local Authority from the applications for The LRSG (Open and Closed)
  - Payment should be made automatically to the bank account provided in the LRSG applications
  - Amounts awarded are based on rateable value as follows:-

▪ RV Under £15000	£4000
▪ RV £15001 to £50999	£6000
▪ RV £51000 & Over	£9000
- **Details of all grants can be found here**  
<https://www.barrowbc.gov.uk/coronavirus/financial-support-for-business-and-residents/covid-19-business-grants/>

**My advice would be to check to see if you qualify and if you are in any doubt submit an application to the Local Authority and ask them to review this. They may tell you that you don't qualify for one grant but may be eligible for a different one based on the type of business you operate or premises you occupy.**



## Problems Encountered

**We have seen some problems with applications :-**

- **Properties owned by a person and registered for business rates in their name but occupied by their business.**
- **No bank statements in the business name**
- **Premises designated in the wrong business sector**
- **Turnover % disputes for 'Wet Led' Pubs and Retail Premises**
- **Changes in occupiers not notified to the Local Authority**
- **Newly Self Employed not having correct documentation as proof**

**All of these can be overcome but may need assistance from your accountants or advisors to provide proof.**

# Furlough Scheme for Employers

- Available in respect of any employee who was on an RTI submission by 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020 – including Directors of Limited Companies
- Can be Full or Flexi Furlough
- Reasons to furlough include –
  - Business Closed
  - Childcare difficulties
  - Less work than normal
  - Shielding
- No requirement to have been furloughed before
- Enables an employer to claim up to 80% of the employees salary back under the furlough scheme for the time where the employee is unable to work
- Employee must be paid at least 80% of their wages for time not worked and full pay for any time worked or training and also holidays
- Maximum of £2500 per month per employee
- No claim available for National Insurance or Pensions
- Claims have to be made monthly within 14 days of the end of the month being claimed
- Set to end on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021 but widely expected to be extended in the Budget on 3<sup>rd</sup> March – eligibility criteria and amounts may change

# Furlough Scheme for Employers

- Employees have to be advised and agree to be furloughed
- Employers decision to furlough – employee can ask but do not have an automatic right to be furloughed
- Names of employers who claim furlough have started to be published
- Amounts claimed will be published from February in ‘Bands’ of how much has been claimed
- Employees will be advised in their personal tax accounts if they have been subject to a furlough claim
- Correct paperwork is required to be retained by the employer for 5 years
- HMRC are starting to undertake Audits of employers for suspected fraud

# Self Employment Income Support Scheme

- **Self Employed Income Scheme**
  - Available to sole traders and individual members of a partnership or LLP
  - 3 payments have already been made covering the period to end of January 2021
  - Payments were based on 2018/19 profits or average of 3 years 2016/17 – 2018/19 in some cases
  - A 4<sup>th</sup> payment will be due for February – April 2021
  - Details of the qualifying criteria and amounts for the 4<sup>th</sup> Grant have not been announced
  - Some speculation that figures may now include 2019/20 to bring people who started self employment in 2019/20 into the scheme
  - Further details are expected in the budget on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

# Other Support For Business

- **Cumbria LEP - Business Support and Advice Programme**
  - BSAP is a scheme where businesses can access up to 3 hours of professional support free of charge to help them through this period and plan for the future
  - Areas of support include
    - Financial Accounting and Sources of Finance for SME Business
    - Planning
    - Marketing and Sales
    - Pricing and Product/Service Validation
    - Business Operations (including Manufacturing and Logistics)
    - Leadership and Management
    - Succession Planning
    - Growth, Productivity & Competitiveness
    - Skills Training
    - Trading Internationally
    - General Business Legislation such as Environmental, GDPR etc.
    - Knowledge of the Wider Business Environment, Trends,
    - Forthcoming Legislation
  - Further details are here <https://www.thecumbrialep.co.uk/business-support-and-advice-programme/>
- **Barrow BID Business Premises Grant**
  - Up to £1000 for BID levy payers to improve the external features for their business premises
  - <https://barrowbid.co.uk/business-premises-grant-scheme/>

# HMRC Time to Pay

- **HMRC – Time to Pay**
- **VAT**
  - Amounts deferred in 2020 was originally meant to be paid by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. HMRC are now allowing it to be spread over 12 months – Business must apply for this by 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/deferral-of-vat-payments-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19>
- **Self Assessment**
  - Tax on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021 can be spread over next 12 months if less than £30000. Taxpayers need to apply by end of March 2021  
<https://www.gov.uk/pay-self-assessment-tax-bill/pay-in-instalments>
- **Corporation tax**
  - Time to pay agreements will be considered by HMRC for any outstanding liabilities. Companies need to contact HMRC Payment Support Service  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs/contact/business-payment-support-service>
- **PAYE/NIC**
  - Time to pay agreements will be considered by HMRC for any outstanding liabilities. Employers need to contact HMRC Payment Support Service  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs/contact/business-payment-support-service>

Any  
Questions?



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