



**NORTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**LOCAL RESTRICTION GRANT SCHEME (LRGS)**

**11th November 2020**

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Government announced on the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020 a four week national lockdown for England and that funding will be awarded to support businesses that are told to close.
  
- 1.2 This guidance sets out the process for determining eligibility for grant support, award amount and the application process that businesses will need to complete in order to qualify for grant support under the Local Restriction Grant Scheme (LRGS) (for businesses forced to close and paying business rates) and details of evidence that will be required in support of an application.

**2. Guidance**

- 2.1 Under the guidance issued to the Council by Government on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020 the LRGS will only be available to businesses that are required to close from 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and registered with business rates. A list of the business types required to close can be found at the end of this policy.
  
- 2.2 The grants will be issued for each 4 week period a business is closed due to national restrictions.
  
- 2.3 To be eligible for the LRSG a business must be trading on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and registered with Business Rates on or before 00.01 on the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Funding to North Kesteven District Council (NKDC) will be based on the number of eligible hereditaments.
  
- 2.3 Businesses that have closed but have adapted to offer a takeaway service or click and collect will be eligible for this grant.

- 2.4 An Additional Restriction Grant (ARG) will be allocated to Local Authorities based on £20 per head of population this fund will be a discretionary grant to support businesses further details on this scheme will be published under the ARG Policy.

### **3. Businesses not eligible for a grant**

- 3.1 Companies in Administration, Insolvent or where a Striking-Off Notice has been made before the local lockdown are not eligible for funding under this scheme.
- 3.2 Businesses that have chosen not to reopen since March 2020
- 3.3 Businesses that have chosen to close, but are not required to do so under Government lockdown restrictions (see list) will not be eligible.
- 3.4 Business not registered with Business Rates on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### **4. Grant Awards**

- 4.1 Businesses occupying hereditaments appearing on the local rating list with a Rateable Value (RV) less than **£15,000** on the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 will receive a payment of **£1,334** per four weeks of closure
- 4.2 Businesses occupying hereditaments appearing on the local rating list with a Rateable Value (RV) of more than **£15,000 but less than £51,000** on the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 will receive a payment of **£2,000** per four weeks of closure.
- 4.3 Businesses occupying hereditaments appearing on the local rating list with a Rateable Value (RV) of more than **£51,000** on the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 will receive a payment of **£3,000** per four weeks of closure.

### **5. Process for applying for LRSG**

- 5.1 Business will be required to submit an online application, providing the following information;
- Business Name/Address and contact information
  - Sector/type of business
  - Company Registration Number (if registered)
  - Number of employees
  - Business Rates number along with a copy of the bill issued for the current year ie 2020/21
  - Evidence of trading prior to lock down
  - Bank details and copy of recent bank statement
  - Details of how the grant will be used

- Confirmation of closure declaration
- Fraud declaration

## **6. Timescale and Application Process**

- 6.1 The Council will be opening the online application process on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020
- 6.2 The application process will be digital, via electronic form only and a link will be available on the Council' website and promoted through Council Social Media accounts and weekly BusinessNK newsletter. Any business that is unable to apply online should contact the Grants Team directly for assistance.
- 6.3 Grant payments will be made from Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

## **7. Additional Details**

- 7.1 Grant income received by a business is taxable therefore funding paid under the Local Authority, Local Restriction Grant Scheme will be subject to tax. Only businesses which make an overall profit once grant income is included will be subject to tax.
- 7.2 The Council will not accept deliberate manipulation and fraud. Any business caught falsifying their records to gain additional grant money will face prosecution and any funding issued will be subject to claw back as may any grants paid in error.
- 7.3 State Aid rules and requirements apply to this scheme and applicants will be required to complete a state aid declaration.

## **Businesses to close**

- Indoor and outdoor leisure facilities such as bowling alleys, leisure centres and gyms, sports facilities including swimming pools, golf courses and driving ranges, dance studios, stables and riding centres, soft play facilities, climbing walls and climbing centres, archery and shooting ranges, water and theme parks
- Non-essential retail such as clothing, electronics, vehicle showrooms, travel agents, betting shops, auction houses, tailors, car washes, tobacco and vape shops.
- Pubs - other than take away (food not alcohol)
- Restaurants - other than take away (food not alcohol)
- Entertainment venues such as theatres, concert halls, cinemas, museums and galleries, casinos, adult gaming centres and arcades, bingo halls, bowling alleys, concert halls, zoos and other animal attractions, botanical gardens;

- Personal care facilities such as hair, beauty and nail salons, tattoo parlours, spas, massage parlours, body and skin piercing services, non-medical acupuncture, and tanning salons.
- Cafes - including work place canteens - but not including canteens in hospitals or care homes, or providers of post-16 education or training
- Bars including bars in hostels or members clubs, social clubs
- Cinemas, theatre, nightclubs, Bingo Halls, Concert Halls, Museum and Galleries
- Casinos, Betting shops and adult gaming centre
- Spas, Nail, beauty salons, hair salons and barbers, tanning salons, massage parlours, tattoo and piercing parlours
- Sexual entertainment venues, hostess bars
- Skating rinks
- Indoor facilities - dance studios, fitness studio, gyms, sports courts, swimming pools, bowling alleys, amusement arcades, playgrounds or soft play areas, or other indoor leisure centres or facilities , including indoor games, recreation and entertainment venues]
- Circuses, funfairs and fairgrounds (whether indoors or outdoors), theme parks and adventure parks and activities.