



BIZ BUZZ CRISIS UPDATE

19-05-2020

NEW "PICK FOR BRITAIN" FARMING JOBS WEBSITE + REBATES FOR EMPLOYERS PAYING COVID-19 RELATED SICK PAY

THE GOVERNMENT HAS SET UP A NEW FAST ACTION WEBSITE TO HELP FARMERS FIND HARVEST WORKERS. Jobs are available on fruit farms, arable farms, livestock farms and in pack houses – with workers also needed to fill other vacancies. Those who are furloughed from their normal employer can take up this work if they want to. Farmer's Weekly have got a load of good links and help here: <https://www.fwi.co.uk/business/business-management/staff/coronavirus-how-to-find-seasonal-work-on-farms>

The Govt website info is here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-and-prince-of-wales-urge-workers-to-pick-fruit-and-veg-for-britain>

There's a website designed especially for this purpose <https://pickforbritain.org.uk/> At the time of writing the site had crashed! The usual advice applies: NEVER GIVE UP!!!

EMPLOYERS CAN RECLAIM STATUTORY SICK PAY A new on-line service will be up and running from 26th May so that employers with fewer than 250 employees can claim rebates on any Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) that was related to Coronavirus . Coronavirus Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme, operated through HMRC, will cover up to 2 weeks starting from the first qualifying day of sickness, if an employee is unable to work because they either:

have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms

cannot work because they are self-isolating because someone they live with has symptoms

are [shielding](#) and have a letter from the NHS or a GP telling them to stay at home for at least 12 weeks

You can claim for sickness starting on or after 13th March or from 16th April if your employee was shielding. The weekly rate was £94.25 before 6 April 2020 and is now £95.85.

Tax agents will also be able to make claims on behalf of employers. Make sure you have the info you need. Keep records of all the SSP payments that you wish to claim from HMRC.

All the regs are here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-back-statutory-sick-pay-paid-to-employees-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19>

THE DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE - FREE WEBINARS FOR EXPORTERS/IMPORTERS :

LOGISTICS AND MOVEMENT OF GOODS DURING COVID-19 Wed 20th May 10am 1 hour. Join this webinar with DIT and the British Freight Transport Association. Help on routes to market and help during this time of uncertainty. [Register now](#)

MANAGING DISRUPTION OF SUPPLY CHAINS DURING COVID-19 Fri 22nd May 1430 1 hour. This webinar is with DIT and the Federation of Small Businesses to offer help with international supply chain disruptions during COVID-19. [Register now](#)

Find info from DIT website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-international-trade>

UPDATING YOUR CAR INSURANCE /GETTING REFUNDS ON YOUR POLICY. The FCA has ordered UK insurers to review policies which are not now needed due to lockdown.

The FCA details are here: <https://www.fca.org.uk/news/press-releases/fca-confirms-measures-insurance-customers-coronavirus>

THE GOVERNMENT'S ROADMAP FOR OPENING UP THE ECONOMY IS HERE:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/884171/FINAL_6.6637_CO_HMG_C19_Recovery_FINAL_110520_v2_WEB_1_.pdf

If you need to get information, advice or need to apply for loans from Breckland District Council here is the link: www.breckland.gov.uk/coronavirus

All Biz Buzz crisis updates are to be found on www.np4nb.online