



BIZ BUZZ CRISIS UPDATE

3rd June 2020

DISCRETIONARY BUSINESS GRANTS NOW OPEN IN BRECKLAND BUT IT'S "FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED"...YOU HAVE UNTIL JUNE 23rd.

BRECKLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL HAS £1.5m EXTRA MONEY This is the cash promised by Government in April to help businesses which were not eligible under the original COVID-19 grant schemes. Breckland are keen to spend it on those in greatest need but are aware demand may well outstrip supply.

WHO'S ELIGIBLE?

Category A: Government-Priority-Listed Businesses: Bed and Breakfasts; Regular Market Traders; businesses in shared spaces/flexible work spaces. The awards will be between £2,000 - £10,000 (depending on size of business and hardship caused by Covid-19-imposed trading conditions). The awards will be on a 'first-come-first-served' basis. They anticipate starting to make payments from around the 5th June.

Category B: Small Businesses & Charities who've suffered significant hardship due to Covid-19 & are important to the local economy / local recovery. Businesses must be 'small'; have business premises in Breckland; must have been trading on 11th March; and cannot be eligible for other Covid financial support. The District Council will make a relative assessment about the hardship experienced, and the impact on the Breckland economy. The grants will be up to £10,000. The awards will go to those in greatest need BUT using whatever monies are left over after paying out the Category A group.

The window for applications is 1st June to 23rd June (close of business). The window may end earlier if the DC grant money is allocated quickly. So get your act together fast.

All businesses must also meet the minimum eligibility criteria below:

- Occupying a business property, or part of a business property, within Breckland
- Having suffered a significant fall in income due to the Covid-19 crisis
- Are 'small' including employing fewer than 50 employees
- Were trading on the 11th March 2020 (and are not in administration, insolvent or where a striking-off notice has been made)
- Not being eligible for other for cash grants from any central government COVID-related scheme (apart from Self-Employed Income support scheme)

Breckland Council warn they'll have incredibly limited scope to consider 'appeals' so make sure you get the right information to them at the start.

THE APPLICATION FORM IS HERE: You can save the form as you go along but the best thing is to assemble your key evidence before proceeding.

<https://www.breckland.gov.uk/discretionary-grant>

LAs across Norfolk have different criteria and not all are ready. The Norfolk Chambers of Commerce have got an upsum of all those that are live here and they'll be updating constantly: https://www.norfolkchamber.co.uk/news/coronavirus/discretionary-business-grants-%E2%80%93-start-open-applications?utm_source=Norfolk%20Chamber&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=11583808_Norfolk%20Chambers%20Daily%20Briefing%20-%2003%20June%202020&dm_i=1DEE,6WA4G,MOTT09,RPA7R,1

THE LATEST ADVICE ON HOW TO PREPARE FOR OPENING YOUR BUSINESS IS HERE:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

THE GOVERNMENT'S ROAD MAP 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