

THIRD LOCKDOWN. WHAT ARE THE RULES? NEW HELP FOR BUSINESSES ANNOUNCED THIS AM. £4.6 BILLION IN NEW LOCKDOWN GRANTS.

NEW AID FOR BIZ

Businesses in retail, hospitality & leisure can get a one-off grant worth up to £9,000 per property. This is intended to go to those businesses that will be closed until at least mid February...more likely March. The cash is provided on a per-property basis and is expected to benefit over 600,000 business properties.

- A further £594 million is also being made available for Local Authorities to support other businesses not eligible for the grants, that might be affected by the restrictions (e.g. if the biz has no rented property). Businesses should apply to their Local Authorities.
- The new one-off grants come in addition to the existing business support which is valid until the end of March, including grants worth up to £3,000 for closed businesses, and up to £2,100 per month for impacted businesses once they reopen.
- There is also the 100% business rates relief for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses, the discretionary funding for Local Authorities, the Government backed loans and the furlough scheme which is now extended to April.

This is how it works.....

The one-off top-ups will be granted to closed businesses as follows:

- £4,000 for businesses with a rateable value of £15,000 or under
- £6,000 for businesses with a rateable value between £15,000 and £51,000
- £9,000 for businesses with a rateable value of over £51,000

TO FIND OUT WHAT YOU ARE ENTITLED TO, GO HERE:

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

To get local information, advice or need to apply for loans from **Breckland District Council** here is the link: <https://www.breckland.gov.uk/article/15960/Coronavirus-Grant-Information> Breckland warn that they haven't got all the information yet from Central Government but will be updating as they get it. All grants in the pipeline are still on-going and they'll contact you.

HERE ARE THE LATEST ENGLAND LOCKDOWN RULES:

Everyone must stay at home and only go out for essential reasons. Primary and secondary schools will move to online learning for all pupils apart from vulnerable and keyworker children. Reasons to leave home include:

- Work or volunteering where it is "unreasonable" to work from home. This includes work in someone else's home, such as that carried out by social workers, nannies, cleaners and tradespeople
- Education, training, childcare and medical appointments and emergencies
- Exercise outdoors (limited to once a day). This includes meeting one other person from another household in an open public space to exercise
- Shopping for essentials such as food and medicine
- Communal religious worship
- Meeting your support or childcare bubble. Children can also move between separated parents
- Activities related to moving house

Those who are clinically extremely vulnerable will be advised to limit the time they spend outside the home. They should only go out for medical appointments, for exercise, or if it is otherwise essential, the government says, and not for work or education purposes. International travel, or travel around the UK is only permitted for essential reasons.

Hospitality businesses such as pubs and restaurants and non-essential shops must close, as must indoor and outdoor sports facilities including gyms and tennis courts.

Essential businesses and services can stay open to the public. These include:

- Supermarkets, food shops, pharmacies and garden centres
- Places of worship
- Petrol stations and MOT services
- Laundrettes
- Banks and post offices
- Doctors and dentists' surgeries and vets
- Car parks, public toilets and playgrounds

THE GOVERNMENT'S LOCKDOWN RULES ARE HERE:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/949536/NationalLockdownGuidance.pdf

THE BBC'S SITE IS GOOD: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/explainers-52530518>

Anyone in Norfolk who is experiencing Covid-19 symptoms should book a test. See the details here: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/

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