

Business Support Tools in the Humber for Covid-19 Response

What	Who	Details	When			
			Green Available now	Amber Available in near future	Red Unknown	
Finance						
Business Rates Cash Grants	£25,000	Government Backed Hull City Council Rates Team ERYC Rates Team North Lincs Rate Team North East Lincs Rates Team	£25K cash grant for all retail, hospitality and leisure business in commercial premises with a rateable value between £15k and £51k.	Detailed info expected from Friday 20 March Funding availability expected in early April.		
	£10,000		£10k cash grant for all businesses in commercial premises that are eligible for small business rate relief or rural rate relief (with rateable value below £15k)			
100% Business Rates Holiday		Government Backed Hull City Council Rates Team ERYC Rates Team North Lincs Rate Team North East Lincs Rates Team	A 100% business rates holiday for all retail, hospitality and leisure businesses that operate from a commercial premises with any rateable value for the duration of the 2020-21 tax year.	Detailed info expected from Friday 20 March Eligible businesses will be contacted by their local council rates team in early April		
Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme for SMEs		Government & British Business Bank backed All major banks taking part. Participating lenders can be seen here: www.british-business-bank.co.uk/ourpartners/supporting-business-loans-enterprise-finance-guarantee/efg-accredited-lenders/	Loans and overdrafts of between £1,000 & £5 million available to SMEs (with ≤£41 million T/O) that have a sound borrowing proposal, but insufficient security to meet a lender's normal requirements. The first 6 months of the credit facility will be interest free. In order to access the scheme, businesses should contact their finance provider, not the British Business Bank.	Expected to be available from Monday 23 March		
Support for businesses paying tax		HMRC Dedicated Helpline: 0800 0159 559	Businesses in financial distress/with outstanding tax liabilities, may be eligible to receive support with their tax affairs through	Available Now		

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		HMRC's Time To Pay service. These arrangements are agreed on a case-by-case basis.	
ICT for Growth Grant – <i>Supporting Home Working</i>	<u>Humber Business Growth Hub</u> Email: Business.Investment@hullcc.gov.uk	Grants to cover 40% of the cost of essential hardware and software require to enable homeworking of staff, of proposals totalling £2,500 to £25,000 . An application form, last set of company accounts, a bank statement and one written quote for the required goods are needed. Growth Hub Advisor support available to complete the application and collate supporting documentation. Grants will be offered within 5 working days of receipt of application.	Available Now
Business Growth Grant - Access to Contingency Planning & Crisis Management Advice and Consultancy	<u>Humber Business Growth Hub</u> Email: Business.Investment@hullcc.gov.uk	Grants to cover 40% of the cost of working with a specialist/advisor/consultant to help mitigate the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on your business, of projects totalling £2,500 to £12,500 . An application form, last set of company accounts, a bank statement and one written quote for the required goods/service are needed. Growth Hub Advisor support available to complete the application and collate supporting documentation. Grants will be offered within 5 working days of receipt of application.	Available Now
Statutory Sick Pay Refund for SMEs	<u>Government Backed</u>	Refund will cover up to 2 weeks' SSP per eligible employee who has been off work because of COVID-19 Eligible for business the classed as an SME's on 28 February 2020 only.	

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		<p>Employers will be able to reclaim expenditure for any employee who has claimed SSP (according to the new eligibility criteria) as a result of COVID-19</p> <p>Employers should maintain records of staff absences and payments of SSP, but employees will not need to provide a GP fit note</p>	<p>Government will work with employers over the coming months to set up the repayment mechanism for employers as soon as possible</p>
Insurance Payments	<u>Insurance Providers</u>	<p>Businesses that have cover for both pandemics and government-ordered closure should be covered, as the government and insurance industry confirmed on 17 March 2020 that advice to avoid pubs, theatres etc. is sufficient to make a claim.</p> <p>Insurance policies differ significantly, so businesses are encouraged to check the terms and conditions of their specific policy and contact their providers. Most businesses are unlikely to be covered, as standard business interruption insurance policies are dependent on damage to property and will exclude pandemics.</p>	<p>Available now (effective from 17 March 2020)</p>
Facebook Small Business Grants	<u>Facebook</u>	<p>The grants will endeavour to help businesses that are experiencing disruptions in their cash flow.</p> <p>Facebook is offering US\$100 million (approximately £84 million) in cash grants and advertising credits on its ad platform for up to</p>	<p>At this stage there are no further details on industry eligibility, confirmation on the countries which will be included, or launch date.</p>

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		<p>30,000 eligible small businesses. The funding is intended to help firms in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covering operational costs. • Helping with rent costs. • Connecting with more customers. • Maintaining a strong workforce. <p>Small businesses in over 30 countries where Facebook operates may be eligible to apply.</p>	
Advice and Support			
Support from Growth Hub Advisors	<p><u>Humber Business Growth Hub</u> Email: Growth.Hubs@humberlep.org</p>	<p>Tailored information, advice and guidance available via telephone and email with a locally-based business advisor.</p> <p>Call back from advisors within 2 working days of the enquiry being received.</p>	Available Now
Business Support Webinars	<p>Keeping your business afloat during the Coronavirus Outbreak</p> <p>HR Basics for SME Businesses</p> <p>Practical Operational Changes to take During Coronavirus Outbreak</p>	<p><u>Humber Business Growth Hub</u> Email: Business.Investment@hullcc.gov.uk</p> <p>A range of live and interactive webinars covering a range of key topics to support businesses during the Covid-19 outbreak.</p> <p>Webinars will be recorded and available to re-watch if business cannot attend live webinar.</p>	Available from Monday 23 March

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	Enabling remote working and securing networks			
	Cashflow resilience and the financial products available			
Virtual Training	<u>Facebook</u>	Facebook's has pledged to create new 'virtual training' to support businesses operating during the coronavirus outbreak.	TBC	
Other Measures				
Relaxing of Planning Regulations	<u>Government</u>	Agreeing that pubs and restaurants will have planning regulations relaxed so they can switch to provide takeaways or deliveries, without applying for change of use – will help the business and help those at home self-isolating	Available Now	
Free Childcare	<u>Government Backed</u> Funding passported by Local Authorities	Funding for the government's early years entitlements will continue during any periods of nursery, preschool or childminder closures, or where children cannot attend due to coronavirus (COVID-19) The Government will continue to pay funding to local authorities for the free entitlements for two, three and four-year-olds The Department for Education has set out its expectation that local authorities should follow	Available Now (Effective from 17 March 2020)	

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		<p>its position and continue to pass on the government funding it receives for these entitlements to providers, in the event that any are advised to close by Public Health England or children are not able to attend due to coronavirus, to minimise short-term disruption.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/news/free-childcare-offers-to-continue-during-coronavirus-closures</p>	
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