

8th July 2020

Briefing Note

CECA Scotland Member Briefing:

COVID-19 - CECA SCOTLAND UPDATE

Introduction

CECA Scotland will be producing regular updates to keep member companies updated on new developments relating to the Covid-19 coronavirus and its impact on the Scottish civils sector. If you would like further information or to share your experiences about how COVID-19 is impacting on your business, contact our Chief Executive, Grahame Barn: 07976 199615 or grahame@cecascotland.co.uk.

UK Chancellor's Summer Statement

In his summer statement, UK Chancellor Rishi Sunak, announced a package of measures designed to kickstart the UK economy, A Plan for Jobs, which you can read in full [here](#). Many of the announcements, such as a £2000 grant to employers taking on new apprentices, the stamp duty and the green homes grant, apply in England only.

Key announcements which apply UK wide include:

Construction Talent Retention Scheme - The government is funding a Construction Talent Retention Scheme to support the redeployment of workers at risk of redundancy. This will help retain construction skills and match talented workers to opportunities across the UK.

CECA National have produced a briefing on the Construction Talent Retention Scheme, which you can read [here](#).

Job Retention Bonus - The government will introduce a one-off payment of £1,000 to UK employers for every furloughed employee who remains continuously employed through to the end of January 2021. Employees must earn above the Lower Earnings Limit (£520 per month) on average between the end of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and the end of January 2021. Payments will be made from February 2021. Further detail about the scheme will be announced by the end of July.

Kickstart Scheme - The government will introduce a new Kickstart Scheme in Great Britain, a £2 billion fund to create hundreds of thousands of high quality 6-month work placements aimed at those aged 16-24 who are on Universal Credit and are deemed to be at risk of long-term unemployment. Funding available for each job will cover 100% of the relevant National Minimum Wage for 25 hours a week, plus the associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer minimum automatic enrolment contributions.

Eat Out to Help Out - In order to support around 130,000 businesses and to help protect the jobs of their 1.8 million employees, the government will introduce the Eat Out to Help Out scheme to

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encourage people to return to eating out. This will entitle every diner to a 50% discount of up to £10 per head on their meal, at any participating restaurant, café, pub or other eligible food service establishment. The discount can be used unlimited times and will be valid Monday to Wednesday on any eat-in meal (including on non-alcoholic drinks) during August 2020 across the UK.

Barnett Consequentials - As a result of today's Summer Statement, the Scottish Government will receive an additional £800 million of Covid-19 funding through the Barnett formula.

First Minister's Daily Update 8th July

The First Minister confirmed in her [statement](#) today that Scotland from 10th of July onwards, if you are travelling to Scotland from any of the 39 places the UK Government has rated as green, you will not be required to self-isolate upon arrival in Scotland. The only exceptions are Spain and Serbia, where a 14-day quarantine will still be required. Read more about the changes [here](#)

Next steps for people Shielding

It was announced today that advice for people who are shielding is to change in the coming month. From 10 July those shielding will no longer need to physically distance from people they live with. From that date, they can meet in groups of up to eight people outdoors from two other households in a single day, as long as strict hand hygiene and physical distancing advice is followed and can travel further than 5 miles from their house. Read more [here](#)

HSE Guidance

Be COVID-secure: The HSE is calling for businesses to [make sure they're COVID-secure](#) as more sectors get back to work. As part of the call to action, employers are reminded of their duty to protect workers and others from harm, including taking reasonable steps to control the risk and protect people from coronavirus. Find out more about [COVID-19 risk assessment](#)'s here.

Using PPE and face coverings during the outbreak: The coronavirus outbreak has not changed employers' duty to make sure people are not exposed to hazardous substances as part of their work. Make sure you have read the HSE's [latest advice on Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#) and on [using face coverings and face masks during the outbreak](#).

You can access the Scottish Government's latest COVID-19 Construction Sector guidance [here](#).

Access Phase 2: business and physical distancing guidance [here](#).
<https://cecascotland.co.uk/covid-19/>

For more information please contact Grahame Barn on grahame@cecascotland.co.uk

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