



## COVID-19 DAILY UPDATE 03/04/2020

We want to provide our partners with a daily COVID-19 update.

Recently further actions have been announced:

The [Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme](#) has been updated so even more smaller businesses can access it. The expanded scheme will be operational with lenders from Monday 6th April 2020.

- The new features are:
  - Smaller businesses who would have previously met the requirements for a commercial facility but would not have been eligible for CBILS are now eligible.
  - No personal guarantees for facilities under £250k.
  - Personal guarantees for facilities above £250k: Personal guarantees may still be required, at a lender's discretion, but recoveries under these are capped at a maximum of 20% of the outstanding balance of the CBILS facility after the proceeds of business assets have been applied.
  - A Principal Private Residence (PPR) cannot be taken as security to support a personal guarantee or as security for a CBIL backed facility.
  - Security: For all facilities, including those over £250,000, CBILS can now support lending to smaller businesses even where a lender considers there to be sufficient security, making more smaller businesses eligible to receive the business interruption payment.
- Businesses could help boost the UK's resilience to the long-term impact of the coronavirus outbreak and similar situations in the

future, as a result of £20 million government funding announced today. Grants of up to £50,000 will be available to technology and research-focussed businesses to develop new ways of working and help build resilience in industries such as delivery services, food manufacturing, retail and transport, as well as support people at home in circumstances like those during the coronavirus outbreak. [Read more here.](#)

- The government has announced a £3 million fund for organisations redistributing safe surplus food to those who need it during the coronavirus outbreak. All food redistribution businesses and charities will be encouraged to bid for grants over the coming month. [Read more here.](#)
- Government campaign for industry support:
  - Manufacturers, who can manufacture and supply: Testing consumables & equipment, PPE, Coronavirus tests for antigens or antibodies. [Read more here.](#)
  - Offer coronavirus (COVID-19) support from your business. [Read more here.](#)

## **Cheshire and Warrington Updates**

- The LEP and Growth Hub are producing a podcast series about COVID-19 topics, the first one is due for release next week and is about support for business. The second one is planned for release the week after and is about the CBILS scheme.
- All Local Authorities are asking businesses to provide spare PPE equipment to help government efforts.
- The LEP is working closely with local authorities and government.
- A one page flyer has been sent from the LEP and Growth Hub outlining the support available to businesses, with information about support available. This is in partnership with the three local authorities.
- A [survey](#) has been created to gather business intelligence. So far we've received 365 responses.
- Updates are on the Growth Hub [website](#), being updated daily, a new layout has been launched to make it easier to access information.
- The Growth Hub are also sending regular newsletters, which can be [signed up to here](#). Yesterday's newsletter can be viewed [here](#).

- Marketing Cheshire have created a [guide](#) for their members and the wider retail, leisure, hospitality and tourism sector businesses. They are also creating a further survey for these businesses to understand the impact on the sector.
- Businesses in Cheshire East are invited to sign up to the Business Helping Business initiative, which links businesses together so businesses can support each other. If a business would like to offer support or if needs to access business related help, [please visit the site.](#)

## Useful Links

- <http://candwgrowthhub.co.uk/covid-19/>
- [www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response](http://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response)
- <https://www.businesssupport.gov.uk/coronavirus-business-support/>

