



## COVID-19 DAILY UPDATE 20/04/2020

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

Recently further actions have been announced:

- Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme portal has gone live, 140,000 firms have provided their details so far. [Find out more.](#)
- A step-by-step guide has been created for employers on the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme. [Find out more.](#)
- The Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme is now open to facilitate access to finance for medium-sized and larger businesses affected by the coronavirus outbreak.  
A lender can provide:  
up to £25 million to businesses with turnover from £45 million  
up to £250 million  
up to £50 million to businesses for those with a turnover of over £250 million  
[Find out more](#)
- A £1.25 billion coronavirus package to protect firms driving innovation in UK was announced. It will open in May.
- The £500 million Future Fund is comprised of £250 million from government combined with equal match funding from private investors.
- SMEs focusing on research and development will also benefit from £750 million of grants and loans. [Find out more](#)

## Cheshire and Warrington Updates

- The Pledge launched their first online '[Pledge Learn Live @ 11](#)' to help young people access career support and guidance whilst in the lockdown period.
- On Wednesday, 10-11am the Growth Hub, LEP and Marketing Cheshire Twitter will launch the Cheshire and Warrington Business Hour. With the #CWBizHour please join in the conversation.
- The LEP and Growth Hub are producing a podcast series about COVID-19 topics, [the second one has been released](#) and is about the CBILS, CLBILS and COVID-19 Corporate Financing Facility schemes. Please share with your networks.
- The Growth Hub are also sending regular newsletters, which can be [signed up to here](#). A [newsletter](#) was sent last week, with a new one being sent later this week. Please share with your networks.
- A [survey](#) has been created to gather business intelligence. So far we've received 404 responses.
- Active Cheshire have created a resource pack which can be downloaded, which includes advice and tips on keeping employees active and looking after their mental wellbeing while they are working from home. [Find out more here](#)
- All three local authorities are asking businesses to provide spare PPE equipment to help government efforts.
- The Pledge have collated a series of [careers education resources](#) for home schooling and for teachers setting work for young people.
- Updates are on the Growth Hub [website](#), being updated daily, a new layout has been launched to make it easier to access information.
- Marketing Cheshire have created a [guide](#) for their members and the wider retail, leisure, hospitality and tourism sector businesses. Marketing Cheshire are also speaking to businesses in this sector, understanding what their challenges are and what else they need.

### 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/>

