

Coronavirus Community Emergency Funds

Mid Ulster Area

Bulletin 8

21st May 2020

Covid 19 - Discretionary Support Form (INDIVIDUALS)

To help support people during the COVID-19 pandemic the Department for Communities (DfC) has put in place a non-repayable GRANT payment to assist with short-term living expenses where a person, or a member of their immediate family, has been infected by COVID-19 or told to self-isolate. To apply for the grant you can fill in the claim form here through the below link: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/publications/discretionary-support-form>

The Freelands Foundation (England & Northern Ireland): Emergency Fund (Individuals)

Hardship grants of between £1,500 and £2,500 to enable individuals, including those on short-term PAYE contracts, to survive financially while they explore other ways of sustaining themselves during COVID-19. £500,000 will be available to those living in NI.

Prince's Trust and NatWest: The Prince's Trust and NatWest Enterprise Relief Fund (Individuals)

A new £5million grant and one to one support and guidance fund for young entrepreneurs aged 18-30 affected by coronavirus. Grants can be used to maintain core business operations during the crisis, as well as meet any existing financial commitments, such as paying for essential equipment or settling invoices from suppliers



Residents can now access community support near them with the click of a button, via Mid Ulster District Council's new interactive online map and community response hub.

The online hub provides details of the many local groups and organisations offering help including community groups, food banks, pharmacies delivering prescriptions and local shops offering food delivery services.

To access the community response hub please visit: <https://mid-ulster-council-covid-19-response-midulster.hub.....>

MUDC Council - Emergency Community Support Fund (STILL OPEN)

As part of an on-going **support package** for the voluntary and community sector, MUD Council has opened an emergency grant programme for those organisations which are responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in their local communities. The programme offers financial support to assist constituted groups which are working in their local communities to:

- ✓ Deliver food and essential items
- ✓ Link to pharmacies to deliver prescriptions
- ✓ Other emergency crisis community support

If you feel your group would benefit from funding support, please contact one of the members of our staff or complete the **short grant application form**.

Contact us: Paula Kelly paula.kelly@midulstercouncil.org
Sean Henry sean.henry@midulstercouncil.org

MUD Council - Other useful pages

- [COVID-19: Advice And Information](#)
- [Emergency Community Support Fund](#)
- [Local Community Support](#)
- [Counselling and Advice Services](#)
- [Food Box Scheme and Food Banks](#)
- [Business Advice and Support](#)
- [Mental Health and Wellbeing](#)
- [Fuel Stamps](#)
- [Energy Efficiency Scheme](#)
- [Home Safety Scheme](#)
- [Make A Change](#)
- [Blind Cord Safety](#)
- [Community Life Saving](#)
- [Mid Ulster Macmillan Move More](#)
- [PARS Scheme](#)
- [Affordable Warmth](#)
- [Mental Health Support Services](#)

Sign up to MUD Council mailing list to hear about news and events in the local area!

You can change your mind at any time by unsubscribing in any email you receive, or by contacting us at communications@midulstercouncil.org



Covid-19 Trust and Foundation Funds **currently open for applications**

National Lottery – Community Fund

National Lottery Awards for All Northern Ireland (New COVID-19 restriction)

A quick way to apply for smaller amounts of funding between £300 and £10,000.

Suitable for voluntary or community organisations. In a statement, CEO Dawn Austwick stated all the funding decisions they make for the next six months (up to £300m of National Lottery funding) will be devoted to addressing the current crisis. This is restricted to: (a) Activities specifically geared to supporting communities through this crisis, and (b) Helping organisations overcome any liquidity issues caused by COVID-19.

Application deadline: Rolling.

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/awards-for-all-northern-ireland>

The National Lottery Community Fund (formerly Big Lottery Fund)

All funding decisions for the next six months (up to £300m of National Lottery funding) will be devoted to addressing the current crisis. In addition, they are accelerating the cash part of this funding as much as they can, so that they can get money to where it needs to be. This is not new money, but it will be faster money.

National Lottery Heritage Fund: Heritage Emergency Fund **(New, larger grants now available – opening 21st May 2020)**

We are providing a package of support for the heritage sector as a response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis. The Heritage Emergency Fund is short-term funding to support the immediate actions needed to stabilise operations and manage unforeseen risks. You can apply to us for a grant between £3,000 and £50,000 to cover unavoidable costs you will otherwise be unable to meet for up to four months. You should only apply to us for essential costs.

This includes increased advice and support, longer-term skills and capacity building initiatives, and a £50 million Heritage Emergency Fund to provide emergency funding for those most in need.

The Heritage Emergency Fund is accepting applications for funding from £3,000 to £50,000 and **now also £50,000-£250,000. Available to all past and current National Lottery Heritage Fund grantees and can be used to cover essential costs for up to four months. Intended to help organisations in the heritage sector address immediate risks, become more stable and work towards longer-term recovery after the crisis**

[FAQ](#) . **Deadline: 30 June 2020.**

We expect high demand for this fund and will prioritise funding against the criteria list below. To apply for the Heritage Emergency Fund, you must be:

- a not-for-profit organisation
- a current or previous recipient of a grant directly from us
- an owner, manager or representative of heritage, or be able to show you have delivered participatory heritage activity

You must meet all three criteria above to apply for funding through the Heritage Emergency Fund. If you do not meet these criteria, you may be eligible for other support as we develop our longer-term strategic support or other initiatives.

The Alpkit Foundation

In response to the coronavirus are prioritising funding to support projects that demonstrate an immediate impact on those affected by the crisis. Grants are available to grassroots organisations serving those affected by the outbreak. Funding can provide support for activities which might include:

- helping vulnerable and elderly people who are self-isolating,
- supporting the homeless,
- providing access to food, medicines or social care,
- supporting foodbanks,
- increasing the number of meals on wheels deliveries,
- bringing exercise indoors.

Applications can be made at any time and will be checked on a daily basis:

<https://alpkit.com/pages/foundation#apply>

Standard Life Coronavirus Funding

Standard Life Foundation are now offering grants of £5K to larger for COVID-19 related strategic work. They will be making funding available for work directly related to the pandemic, addressing specific challenges and helping to contribute to social change which tackles financial problems and improves living standards for those on low-to-middle incomes in the UK. More detail about their approach and the types of activities they will fund are outlined in more detail in the link below. **The next deadline for applications is 3 June 2020 at 1pm.** <https://www.standardlifefoundation.org.uk/>

Childs Charitable Trust: Emergency Funding

An Emergency Funding programme to support charities experiencing financial difficulties as a result of the current pandemic. Particularly welcomes applications from Christian based organisations.

Comic Relief: No Child Goes Hungry – Community Support Programme

Grants up to £2,500 available. This grant aims to contribute to community-based food provision responses that support local families with children under the age of 10 who may face food poverty as a result of school closures and/or loss of household income as a result of the COVID-19 virus. Priority will be given to small, locally based and local run groups or organisations in areas of disadvantage that have a clear understanding of the needs of their community and are undertaking actions as a means of addressing these needs.

Neighbourly.com

Funded by M&S Family (including M&S Bank and M&S Energy), Lidl, Aldi, Danone UK & Ireland and Coca-Cola European Partners this [new fund](#) supports community organisations helping those most at risk during the Coronavirus crisis. The partners have committed a combined total of almost £500,000 to the Fund, to provide immediate micro-grants to community organisations that are helping the people most affected by the outbreak, including the elderly, those on low incomes and people at risk of food insecurity.

Application deadline: none specified. NB As of 1st May, 389K of the total 500K had already been allocated.

Halifax Foundation NI

HFNI had initially focused COVID-19 funding on their SMALL and MEDIUM grants, with Large and Special Initiatives grants on hold for now due to the activity based nature of these programmes. They also moved from quarterly to weekly grant making to decrease turnaround time. **Due to overwhelming demand, they are now offering a single grants scheme offering grants of up to £5000 for COVID-19 related projects.** The aim is to make it easier for charities to access aid quickly to provide vital services during the Covid-19 crisis. So far, they've awarded £439K to 80 charities and are hoping to help as many as they can.

The Plunkett Foundation (In Kind Support)

Thanks to Co-op funding, they are now offering a dedicated package of free Covid-19 support for all forms of community business – including woodlands, farms, bakeries, pubs and shops, as well as those developing groups that have been affected by the pandemic. Includes support and guidance on developing short – medium term cash flow, reviewing business plans, applying for funding, upholding good practice governance and utilising community shares and accessing government support.

Ernest Hecht Charitable Foundation

Continuing to accept applications for funding from: i) charities who are struggling to survive funding crises during the Covid-19 pandemic, and (ii) charities who are seeking funding for future projects/activities.

Independent Age: Grants Fund **NEW**

Independent Age Grants Fund is a £2 million fund to help smaller organisations across the UK working with older people hardest hit by the virus. Their Grants Fund will comprise of four separate funding rounds. In each round they will make £500,000 available where organisations can apply to receive up to £15,000 each.

Aviva Community Fund **NEW**

Every three months, £250,000 is shared equally among their UK employees to donate to the forward thinking projects that matter to them most. Each charity can apply for up to £50,000. In addition to the usual 2 key funding areas of community resilience and financial capability and inclusion, for the current round of funding they have broadened the eligibility criteria to include core running costs of causes looking to adapt or continue their vital services throughout the COVID-19 outbreak. **Current Round Closing 28th July 2020.**

BBC Children in Need: COVID-19 Response Grant Programme **NEW**

(Full details TBC Soon)

The COVID-19 2020 Booster Grants programme will open to *current* BBC Children in Need grant-holders from Monday 18th May 2020 and will enable organisations to apply for funding up to £5,000 over a 6 month period.

The COVID-19 Large Grants programme will open to applications from 8th June 2020 and will enable organisations to apply for funding up to £80,000 over an 18 month period.

Community Foundation for NI: Coronavirus Community Fund

The CFNI's Coronavirus Community Fund is a key NI fund and aims to help constituted groups in NI to deal with the emerging issues of Coronavirus.

NB This fund has been continually widening its focus. This week the priority of "Black, Asian and ethnic minority communities" was added and the fund is now offering grants of up to 10K for the following -

The current focus is to support groups and organisations working with the following communities and issues and that are affected by coronavirus:

- Older people (aged over 50)
- Those at increased risk, particularly in relation to poor mental health and wellbeing
- Vulnerable isolated people and families, particularly those living in rural areas, families where a parent/ both parents have lost their employment or where children are living in poverty
- Children and young people's projects, particularly focusing on the voice of young people and connecting through creative mediums.
- Black, Asian and ethnic minority communities.

NB Safeguarding guidelines changed on 27/03 to reflect the fact that groups want to respond to immediate COVID-19 issues and may not yet have full adult safeguarding policies and procedures in place.

We want to support community groups working together; particularly in smaller geographical communities. We will therefore encourage a partnership approach, and one application from one lead organisation, rather than a number of separate applications. Groups working with people of all ages and at increased risk as a result of the virus, particularly in relation to poor mental health and wellbeing and vulnerable isolated people, particularly in rural areas will now be eligible to apply for funding. The fund will also continue to support older people and will seek applications for funding of between £1,000 and £10,000.

For organisations providing small scale emergency support, funding of between £1,000 to £2,500 will be available which organisations supporting need on a longer-term basis, and/or who are significantly enhancing their services at this time, can apply for grants of up to £10,000.

With grant sizes **of between £1,000 to £10,000**, it is the expectation that this funding will support organisations to continue to provide services over the next twelve months **enabling both short and longer term impact.**

The Foundation will prioritise:

- ✓ Initiatives that directly support those most at risk as a result of the threat of coronavirus, and clearly evidence the need for support
- ✓ Organisations with income levels of below £500,000 per annum
- ✓ Running costs for organisations to provide such support, including volunteer expenses, staff costs, and transport; providing the organisation is focusing their attention on providing support to both existing, and any potential new beneficiaries
- ✓ Small capital costs are eligible, providing the capital item will address the priorities of the fund, and is linked to keeping the older person connected to the outside world.

<https://communityfoundationni.org/grants/coronavirus-community-fund/>

Arts Council NI - Organisations Emergency Programme (OEP)

- £500,000 to support small- to medium-sized arts organisations with individual grants of up-to £25,000
- £500,000 held to monitor demand across the Organisations and Artists Emergency Programmes and allocated as projects develop.

This is a **rolling programme**, co-designed by the Arts Council and DfC.

Application forms and Guidance Notes for the Organisations Emergency Fund will be available from the Arts Council in May. Please watch Arts Council website and social media for application opening announcement.

Covid-19 Trust and Foundations Funds now **CLOSED or PAUSED (applications not currently being accepted)**

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation (More details coming soon)

Making an additional £16 million of funding available this year in response to COVID-19. £14 million will be in fast-response grants for organisations they currently support across all of their sectors: the arts, children and young people, environment, food and social change. £2 million will be for contributions to emergency funding schemes in collaboration with others. **They are currently closed to new applications so that they can concentrate support on the organisations they already fund and will reopen in May with their new funding strategy.**

Arts Council NI - Artists Emergency Programme (AEP) **Temporarily CLOSED**

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland opened a funding programme to support artists and performers during the COVID-19 crisis. The Artists Emergency Programme (AEP), worth £500,000, offers freelance artists, creative practitioners and performers the opportunity to apply for grants of up to £5,000 each.

The Arts Council's National Lottery funding will be used to support the research, design and future presentation of arts events and performances, including resources to help artists develop their creative practice. The AEP fund provides much needed financial support and employment, a lifeline to artists, at a time when the arts sector has been decimated under quarantine conditions, venue and gallery closures, festival and event cancellations and the disappearance of live audiences.

The Arts Council's Artists Emergency Programme is one element of the £1.5m funding package recently announced by Minister Hargey, Department for Communities, to support the arts and wider culture sectors during the current pandemic. Other measures will be rolled out to support arts organisations, libraries and museums in the coming weeks.

The Arts Council will endeavour to have decisions made within two weeks of receipt of proposals. Expression of Interest forms and guidance notes are available at artsCouncil-ni.org/funding/scheme/artists-emergency-programme

The Arts Council is working to bring forward the opening of its revised Support for Individual Artists Programme (SIAP) for 2020 to the month of May. This programme is also funded by the National Lottery and will focus on General Arts Awards and commissioning opportunities.

For more information on the financial impact of the Coronavirus on the NI Arts Sector (April 2020) visit artsCouncil-ni.org/news/coronavirus-covid-19-advice

Sport NI - Sports Hardship fund (Still closed as at 18th May pending additional funding)

New applications to the Sports Hardship Fund are suspended pending confirmation of additional funding. The Department for Communities £500,000 fund, with an additional £250,000, managed by SportNI, aims to provide financial assistance through a £2000 grant to sports clubs and organisations to assist with essential overheads and the costs of maintaining their facilities during the Covid-19 lockdown period. **UPDATE: Now closed pending further funding becoming available.**

Leathersellers Coronavirus Focused Small Grants (Now closed to applications but new strategy coming in July)

In the light of the unprecedented challenges that now face small charities providing vital services to the most vulnerable members of our community, their small grants programme invites applications from UK registered charities which are currently supporting the homeless or those at risk of becoming homeless, provision of food and essential supplies, victims of domestic violence or nursing care to vulnerable patients. Grants of up to £3000. **UPDATE: The application form for Stage 1 of their emergency small grants funding round is now CLOSED to new applicants.** See an update on their COVID-19 funding to end June 2020 [here](#).

OneFamily Foundation: Community Grants (The first round closed 12th May 2020. The next round will take place later this year - Dates TBC)

Currently inviting customers to nominate a local charity, group or cause for a Community Grant of up to £2,500 to help them to continue providing support to those affected by the Coronavirus, or who themselves are struggling to maintain their usual services. Examples for nominations might include foodbanks, support groups or homeless charities. Have already helped more than 200 good causes deliver projects such as helping disability charities invest in their resources, and community groups tackle isolation amongst the older generation. Nominations for this round closed on the 12th May 2020.

Alec Dickson Trust: COVID-19 Funding (Still closed as at 11th May but expected to reopen)

ADT supports young people who through **volunteering or community service**, aim to enhance the lives of others, particularly those most marginalised by society. To help young people to volunteer in response to COVID-19 they are now **offering larger grants of up to £1000.**

Aviva Community Fund (Current Round closed 5th May but will reopen)

Every 3 months, £250,000 is shared among UK employees to donate to projects that most matter to them. Each charity can apply for up to £50,000. In addition to the usual 2 key funding areas of community resilience and financial capability and inclusion, the May round broadened the eligibility criteria to include core running costs of those looking to adapt or continue their vital services throughout COVID-19.

CAF Coronavirus Emergency Fund (Still paused pending more donations)

A fund specifically to help smaller charitable organisations affected by the impact of Covid-19. Grants of up to £10,000 are available to those providing much needed support to our communities across the UK.

Clothworkers' Emergency Capital Programme (Had intended to reopen 4th May, but remains paused as of 18th May)

Small capital grants of up to £5,000 for essential capital items to adapt or increase services in response to the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic. Priority given to organisations supporting vulnerable and 'at risk' groups within their [programme areas](#).

CRISIS: In This Together- Emergency Grants Programme (Still Paused as of 18th May)

Emergency grants fund to support local groups financially affected by additional demands on their resources and who have expanded their provision to meet the current needs of those experiencing homelessness across the UK. Two types of grant - Awards of up to £5k for short term responses to COVID-19 and Awards of up to £50K for long term needs such as potential expansion and change of services.

Greggs Foundation - Coronavirus Emergency Appeal (Currently closed with additional funding under review)

Urgent funding for emergency food parcels, hardship payments and small grants (average £500). They are also accepting donations for the appeal. To request support you send an email to them.

Sport NI - Sports Hardship fund (Still closed pending additional funding)

New applications suspended pending confirmation of additional funding. The Department for Communities £500,000 fund, with an additional £250,000, managed by SportNI, aims to provide financial assistance through a £2000 grant to sports clubs and organisations to assist with essential overheads and the costs of maintaining their facilities during the Covid-19 lockdown period.

The Fore: The RAFT Fund (Rapid Action by the Fore) (Still paused since 24th April pending more funding)

Emergency grants of up to £5,000 to help small charities and social enterprises respond to the COVID-19 crisis and address the changing needs of their beneficiaries and increase their organisational resilience. Currently only open to existing grantees but they are aiming to raise £1 million funding to extend to other organisations.

COVID-19 Funds NOW CLOSED (unlikely to reopen)

- [Arts and Business NI: Remote Family Engagement Fund](#) (Closed 24th April)
- [Greggs Foundation - Coronavirus Emergency Appeal](#) (Unlikely to reopen until 2021)
- [Irish Rugby Football Union \(Northern Ireland\): Club Continuity Fund](#) (Closed 30th April 20)
- [Leathersellers Coronavirus Focussed Small Grants](#) (Closed to new applications)
- [Live Here, Love Here - Small Grants Scheme](#) (Closed 18th May 2020)
- [Legal & General Coronavirus Emergency Charity Fund](#) (Closed 20th April 2020)
- [MoneySavingExpert](#) (Now closed to new applications)
- [Sir Jules Thorn Charitable: Hospice Fund](#) (Closed 10th May 2020)
- [The NIHE Covid 19 Community Support Fund](#) (Closed 13th May 2020)
- [Standard Life Coronavirus Funding](#) (Closed 8th May)
- [Tesco Bags of Help COVID 19 Communities Fund](#) (Now closed in Northern Ireland)
- [The Elton John AIDS Foundation's COVID-19 Emergency Fund](#) (Now closed)
- [The Princes Countryside Fund](#) (Closed 15th April)
- [Thomas Pocklington Trust Emergency Fund for the sight loss sector](#) (Closed)
- [UFI Charitable Trust \(UK\): VocTech Now](#) (Closed)

Other current Grants not specific to Covid-19

The Telecommunity Fund Grant

Grants available £500 - £2,000.

The Telecommunity Fund was established with capital from BT, management and unions. It exists to support small, locally based grass roots community projects. Priorities include young people, older people or people with disabilities. **Deadline: The next panel meeting will take place on 16th June 2020, therefore applications submitted after 19th May 2020 will not be considered in this round.**

https://communityfoundationni.org/grants/the-telecommunity-fund-grant/?dm_i=24PQ,6TAJK,QX3W1H,RA7N0,1

The Pressure Group Fund

Grants available up to £1,000.

Applications are invited for projects that can demonstrate how they are trying to address social injustice and what the impact of their work will be. In particular how they will encourage civic action, working with groups and individuals to get their voices heard by decision-makers. **Deadline: Ongoing no deadline.**

https://communityfoundationni.org/grants/the-pressure-group-fund/?dm_i=24PQ,6TAJK,QX3W1H,RA7N0,1

Covid-19 Business & Self Employed Schemes

Information regarding statutory sick pay, furlough, and claiming benefits because of the impact of coronavirus [is available to download.](#)

NI Micro-Business Hardship Fund

<https://www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk/content/coronavirus-ni-micro-business-hardship-fund>

The NI Executive has launched a new NI Micro-business Hardship Fund to help Northern Ireland based micro-businesses and social enterprises unable to access other regional and national COVID-19 support measures. Department for the Economy (DfE) will make up to £40 million available through a fund, which is being administered by Invest Northern Ireland on behalf of the Department for the Economy. It will offer emergency funding to businesses facing immediate cash flow difficulties due to the impact of COVID-19.

Summary of the scheme.

The funding is available to businesses unable to access the £10,000, £25,000 and Covid-19 Childcare Support grant schemes.

In order to ensure that the £40 million budget is not exceeded, the final amounts awarded will depend on the number of successful applications. The level of Hardship Fund grant will be up to £10,000 for businesses which pay business rates on premises and up to £5,000 for those that do not pay business rates. Businesses within each category will receive the same amount.

Only one grant will be paid to each eligible business, irrespective of how many properties the business occupies.

Eligibility - Who is eligible

Businesses should ensure they meet the following criteria before applying to the fund:

- The business must be based in Northern Ireland.
- At 29 February 2020, the business must have employed between one and nine employees paid via PAYE. Businesses, where the sole employee is the business owner or company director, are not eligible for this scheme. The number of employees will be based on headcount.
- Since 1 March 2020, the business must have experienced a reduction in turnover in excess of 40% as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic or associated Government restrictions.
- Who cannot apply
The NI Micro-business Hardship Fund is open to all micro-business and social enterprises excluding the following:
- Primary agricultural producers i.e. those primarily concerned with crop or animal production or forestry or logging or fisheries or aquaculture. However, agricultural businesses associated with the processing, marketing and retail of agricultural products can apply to the fund.

Who cannot apply

The NI Micro-business Hardship Fund is open to all micro-business and social enterprises **excluding** the following:

- Primary agricultural producers i.e. those primarily concerned with crop or animal production or forestry or logging or fisheries or aquaculture. However, agricultural businesses associated with the processing, marketing and retail of agricultural products can apply to the fund.
- **Businesses eligible for the following NI Executive schemes:**
 - [£10,000 Small Business Support Grant Scheme](#)
 - [£10,000/£25,000 Small Business Grant for rental properties and Total NAV of £1,590 or below](#)
 - [£25,000 Retail, Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure Grant](#)
 - [COVID-19 Childcare Support Scheme](#)
 - **Charities or social enterprises with charitable status.**
 - **Social enterprises that receive less than 60% of revenue from trade in goods and/or services.**

Businesses should note that other non-repayable Government grants related to COVID-19 will be taken into account and will be deducted, where applicable, from the final grant awarded.

Check if you're eligible to apply

You can use the online eligibility checker to find out if you can apply for the NI Micro-business Hardship Fund. [Use the online eligibility checker](#)

How to apply

You must complete the [eligibility checker](#) to apply for the fund. The online checker will help you find out if you qualify for the scheme. If you are eligible, the checker will direct you to the online application process.

Before you apply for the grant scheme, there are some steps that you can take to prepare for completing your application. See [get ready to apply for the NI Micro-business Hardship Fund](#).

Applications for the NI Micro-business Hardship Fund will close at 6 pm on Friday 12 June 2020.

After you have applied: Payments will be made after the scheme has closed, and the number of successful applications is determined. You will be able to check the progress of your submitted application online by logging into your dedicated portal account. Invest NI will process applications as quickly as possible. Once an application is approved, applicants will be notified by email that their application has been successful. Unsuccessful applicants will also be

informed by email.

Further information and FAQs

Find further [guidance and frequently asked questions on the NI Micro-business Hardship Fund \(PDF, 670K\)](#).

Call the NI Micro-business Hardship Fund helpline on Tel: 0800 952 4422, if you have an enquiry. The helpline is open Monday to Friday, 8:30 am - 5 pm. Alternatively, you can [make an enquiry online](#).

[Social Investment Business: Resilience and Recovery Loan Fund](#) (funded by Big Society Capital). A new fund for social enterprises and charities who are experiencing disruption to their normal business model as a result of COVID-19. Established to make an existing government scheme (the Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS)) more easily accessible to charities and social enterprises. The £25m is part of a [wider package of support](#) announced by Big Society Capital.

[Facebook Small Business Grants Program](#)

Facebook is offering \$100m in cash grants and advertising credits for up to 30,000 small businesses that are facing disruptions due to the virus.
Application deadline: none specified.

Coronavirus: Chancellor announces aid for charities

Chancellor Rishi Sunak has announced a £750m package to keep struggling charities afloat during the coronavirus pandemic.

The move follows concern that some charities are facing collapse, with income shrinking because of enforced shop closures. Bigger charities such as Oxfam and Age UK have furloughed two-thirds of staff.

The measures involve cash grants direct to charities providing key services during the crisis. As part of the scheme, £360m will be directly allocated by government departments to those charities. Another £370m will go to small local charities, including those delivering food and essential medicines and providing financial advice.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-sets-out-extra-750-million-coronavirus-funding-for-frontline-charities>

[Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan](#)

The temporary Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme supports SMEs with access to loans, overdrafts, invoice finance and asset finance of up to £5 million and for up to 6 years. The government will also make a Business Interruption Payment to cover the first 12 months of interest payments and any lender-levied fees, so smaller businesses will benefit from no upfront costs and lower initial repayments.

Application deadline: none specified.

[Self-employment Income Support Scheme](#)

The Self-employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) will support self-employed individuals (including members of partnerships) whose income has been negatively impacted by COVID-19. The scheme will provide a grant to self-employed individuals or partnerships, worth 80% of their trading profits up to a cap of £2,500 per month for the next 3 months. **Application deadline: none specified.**

Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme **will continue until 31 October 2020** with workers continuing to receive 80% of their salary up to £2,500 per month.

New flexibility to the scheme will be introduced from the start of August to help support people to get back to work. From the start of August furloughed workers will be able to return to work part-time with employers being asked to pay a percentage towards the salaries of their furloughed staff.

The employer payments will substitute the contribution the government is currently making, ensuring that staff continue to receive 80% of their salary.

More specific details and information around its implementation will be made available by the end of May 2020. For more information on the Scheme [click here](#)

Under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, all UK employers with a **PAYE** scheme will be able to access support to continue paying part of their employees' salary for those that would otherwise have been laid off during this crisis.

This applies to employees who have been asked to stop working, but who are being kept on the pay roll, otherwise described as 'furloughed workers'. HMRC will reimburse 80% of their wages, up to £2,500 per month. This is to safeguard workers from being made redundant.

Information regarding statutory sick pay, furlough, and claiming benefits because of the impact of coronavirus [is available to download.](#)

Coronavirus Business Support

Coronavirus (COVID-19): This page helps businesses find out how to access the support that has been made available, who is eligible, when the schemes open and how to apply.

Support scheme	Support organisation
£25,000 Grant for Hospitality, Tourism and Retail Sector Ratepayers NI only £25,000 grant for Northern Ireland companies in the retail, tourism and hospitality sectors with a rateable value between £15,001 and £51,000.	Department for the Economy (DfE), Land & Property Services (LPS)
£10,000 Small Business Support Grant Scheme NI only £10,000 grant available to Northern Ireland businesses eligible for the Small Business Rate Relief Scheme and businesses with a rateable value below £15,000 who currently benefit from Industrial Derating.	Department for the Economy (DfE), Land & Property Services (LPS)
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme UK-wide Government will cover 80 per cent of business staff wages, up to £2,500 per employee per month.	HMRC
Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme UK-wide Provides a government guarantee of 80% to enable banks to make loans of	British Business Bank

Support scheme	Support organisation
up to £25m to firms with an annual turnover of between £45m and £500m.	
<p>Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme UK-wide</p> <p>The temporary Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS) will support small and medium-sized businesses with access to loans, overdrafts, invoice finance and asset finance of up to £5 million and for up to six years.</p>	British Business Bank
<p>Business Rates Holiday NI only</p> <p>Three-month rates holiday for Northern Ireland non-domestic ratepayers (excluding public sector and utilities).</p>	Land & Property Services (LPS)
<p>Deferral of Self- Assessment Payment UK-wide</p> <p>The Self- Assessment payment on account, that is ordinarily due to be paid to HMRC by 31 July 2020 may now be deferred until January 2021.</p>	HMRC
<p>Support for Businesses Paying Tax UK-wide</p> <p>All businesses and self-employed people in financial distress, and with outstanding tax liabilities, may be eligible to receive support with their tax affairs through HMRC's Time To Pay service.</p>	HMRC
<p>Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) UK-wide</p> <p>Self-employed individuals or members of partnerships can claim a taxable grant worth 80% of your trading profits up to a maximum of £2,500 per month for 3 months.</p>	HMRC
<p>VAT Deferral UK-wide</p> <p>The UK government will defer Valued Added Tax (VAT) payments due between 20 March 2020 and 30 June 2020. VAT refunds and reclaims will be paid by the government as normal.</p>	HMRC
<p>Statutory Sick Pay Rebate UK-wide</p> <p>The UK government is to bring forward legislation to allow small and medium-sized businesses to reclaim Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) paid for staff sickness absence due to coronavirus.</p>	HMRC
<p>Covid-19 Corporate Financing Facility UK-wide</p> <p>The new Covid-19 Corporate Financing Facility (CCFF) means that the Bank of England will buy short-term debt from larger companies.</p>	Bank of England