



## INFORMATION FOR THOSE **BUSINESSES WHO HAVE HAD TO CLOSE UNDER THE NATIONAL LOCKDOWN BUT DON'T HAVE THEIR OWN RATEABLE VALUE**

The national restrictions are in place until 2<sup>nd</sup> December, with details about which venues **MUST** close down being found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november#businesses-and-venues>

Note the restrictions are for a 28 day period so will apply up to and **including** Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

Rochdale Council is now able to accept applications from businesses that have **HAD** to close down but didn't meet the original criteria of having a business rates reference. You must still meet the criteria set out by Government to be eligible, including trading on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020. Information on how to apply can be found here: <http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/coronavirus/Pages/additional-restrictions-grant.aspx>

**DO NOT APPLY** unless you are in one of the specified sectors on the list of businesses and venues.

This scheme is also open to applications from **businesses who supply into the hospitality and leisure sectors**, who have been adversely affected due to the enforced lockdown of these sectors.

## INFORMATION FOR **BUSINESSES IN THE HOSPITALITY AND LEISURE SECTORS THAT HAVE SUFFERED A REDUCTION IN TRADE DUE TO SOCIAL DISTANCING MEASURES**

The Council is also now able to accept applications from certain businesses that have continued trading and have suffered a fall in sales/turnover due to in the increased restrictions. This is for businesses in the following sectors: hospitality and leisure businesses with on-going fixed commercial costs such as rent that can demonstrate a high local economic impact (jobs).

- Hospitality is defined as: businesses such as visitor accommodation, bars, restaurants, cafes that offer food and drink to be consumed within the premises, or a place to sleep.
- Leisure is defined as: recreation, entertainment, sports and tourism businesses.

Details of how to apply can be found here: <http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/coronavirus/Pages/local-restrictions-support-grant-open-for-business.aspx>

**NOTE** - these grants are not available for loss of income to support wage or employment costs.

## GENERAL INFORMATION FOR ALL BUSINESSES

An important change has been made to the **furlough scheme** which means regarding reclaiming furlough for people who are working their notice. Up until now this was allowed, but from 1 December this will no longer be the case, and you will not be able to reclaim furlough costs for people who are working their notice periods, irrespective of whether they are as a result of redundancy, resignation, retirement or dismissal.

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-which-employees-you-can-put-on-furlough-to-use-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme?utm\\_source=76daff5d-b201-4236-b621-b0c79869fce8&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=daily#history](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-which-employees-you-can-put-on-furlough-to-use-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme?utm_source=76daff5d-b201-4236-b621-b0c79869fce8&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily#history)

The **Bounce Back Loan scheme** has been extended, with the deadline for applications now 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021. Also, if you already have a BBL but borrowed less than you were entitled to, you can now apply to top up your existing loan to your maximum amount – again by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021.

If you have been unable to access the BBL scheme as your current bank is not one of the accredited lenders, then you may want to have a look at a new scheme announced by the Business Growth Hub.

<https://businessfinance.growthco.uk/funding/bounce-back-loans/>

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Kind regards

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