



NORWICH
City Council

Norwich City Council Local Authority Additional Restrictions Grants Scheme

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Norwich City Council Scheme for the Additional Restrictions Fund

Introduction

An Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) fund has been awarded to Local Authorities to support local economies and local businesses that have been adversely impacted by national restrictions and local very high level restrictions (Tier 3) which are imposed to prevent the spread of Covid-19. This funding is to provide support to businesses that do not qualify for Local Restrictions Support Grants (LRSNG). All grant awards will be subject to sufficient funding being available.

The ARG fund is operated at Norwich City Council's discretion to allow support to be given using local knowledge but there are some national criteria set by the Government. The council will prioritise those businesses that meet the following government criteria.

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- Businesses that have been severely impacted by the restrictions but may not qualify under the LRSNG scheme e.g. businesses that supply the retail, hospitality or leisure sectors or businesses in the events sector but have not had to close
- Businesses that do not have a business rates assessment, this includes people who may be self-employed e.g. a hairdresser that rents a chair in a salon
- Regular market traders with fixed costs, such as rent, that do not have their own business rates assessment
- Bed & breakfasts that pay council tax instead of business rates

Norwich City Council will accept applications from any local business that:

- Trades from business premises within the Norwich City Council area
- Can demonstrate ongoing fixed property-related costs for business premises (businesses operating from domestic premises are not eligible with the exception of Bed and Breakfasts)
- Can demonstrate a significant fall in income due to current Covid-19 restrictions

A qualifying business with more than one property can submit an application for every actively trading property.

Eligibility

Businesses that have applied for the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme are eligible to apply.

Businesses must have been open as usual and providing in-person services from the premises they are claiming for on 4 November 2020 to be eligible for this grant.

Grants will not be paid to the following

- Businesses operating from domestic properties.
- Businesses that can still trade and operate their services remotely e.g. offices
- Businesses that have chosen to close but not been required to do so by the national restrictions; unless they can demonstrate significant impact on their business due to other businesses being required to close
- Businesses that mainly trade on-line
- Companies in administration or are insolvent including where there has been a striking off notice will not be eligible to apply for assistance under this scheme.

Local businesses

Applicants must be a local business that is wholly or predominantly based in and around the Norwich area.

Businesses with a business rates assessment but not eligible under the LRSG scheme

Grants will be paid to businesses, that were not necessarily required to close and can demonstrate they supply companies that were required to close that has had an impact on their income as a result.

Evidence will be required to demonstrate the impact on the business such as a bank statement and invoices (showing the business name, client name and registered address dated within the last 3 months).

Grants will be awarded based upon the [rateable value criteria of the LRSG scheme](#).

Businesses in flexible workspaces

Grants will be paid to businesses that provide personal services to customers but pay an all-inclusive rent to their landlord/agent that do not have their own business rates account but occupy a space that was part of a larger business rate assessment on 4 November 2020.

Evidence will be required with each application to prove occupation of the premises on 4 November 2020, e.g. a lease, tenancy or service agreement and proof of payment of the rent shown, evidence that the business was trading to customers from the premises on 4 November 2020; other evidence may also be submitted or requested to support the application.

Regular market traders

The council will accept applications for a grant for those businesses who held a current licence for a pitch and were registered with the council on 4 November 2020 but have not been allowed to trade or have been severely impacted by the restrictions.

Bed and Breakfast businesses who pay council tax

Grants will be paid to businesses where the bed and breakfast is the business owner/s main residence.

Bed and breakfast businesses must hold a current food safety licence with Norwich City Council to prove that breakfast is regularly served to guests.

To qualify for this funding, evidence will need to be submitted with the application to prove that they operated as a Bed and Breakfast on 4 November 2020 and have been affected by Covid-19 e.g. links to websites, advertising materials, evidence of future bookings that have been cancelled as a result of Covid-19.

For the above 3 categories grants will be based on the annual rent paid to the agent/landlord or mortgage payments and will be made for each 28-day period as follows:

Fixed Property Costs e.g. Rent	Grant payable
£0 to £1500	£500
£1501 - £15,000	£1,334
£15,000 to £51,000	£2,000
More than £51,000	£3,000

There is no right of appeal on this scheme and the council's decision is final.

State aid

Following the outbreak of the Coronavirus, the European Commission has approved schemes to aid businesses affected by the Coronavirus outbreak on the basis of their Temporary Framework, including the COVID-19 Temporary Framework scheme for the UK.

The maximum level of aid that a company may receive is €800 000 (€120 000 per undertaking active in the fishery and aquaculture sector or €100 000 per undertaking active in the primary production of agricultural products). This is across all UK schemes under the terms of the European Commission's Temporary Framework. The Euro equivalent of the Sterling aid amount is calculated using the Commission exchange rate applicable on the date the aid is offered.
https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/how-eu-funding-works/information-contractors-and-beneficiaries/exchange-rate-infoeuro_en

Any aid provided under this scheme will be relevant if you wish to apply, or have applied, for any other aid granted on the basis of the European Commission's Temporary Framework. You will need to declare this amount to any other aid awarding body who requests information from you on how much aid you have received. You must retain this letter for four years after the conclusion of the UK's transition from the EU and produce it on any request from the UK public authorities or the European Commission.

Aid may be granted to undertakings that were not in difficulty (within the meaning of Article 2(18) of the General Block Exemption Regulation³) on 31 December 2019, but that faced difficulties or entered in difficulty thereafter as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.

This aid is in addition any aid that you may have received under the De Minimis regulation allowing aid of up to €200,000 to any one organisation over a three fiscal year period (i.e. your current fiscal year and previous two fiscal years), and any other approved aid you have received under other State aid rules, such as aid granted under the General Block Exemption Regulation.