

DCMS Museums and Galleries Sector Coronavirus bulletin

6 July 2020

Museums & Cultural Property COVID-19 Response Mailbox
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1. Key updates

NEW [£1.57 billion investment to protect Britain's world-class cultural, arts and heritage institutions: 05/07](#)

The investment includes:

- £1.15bn for cultural organisations through grants and loans
- £100m of targeted support for national cultural institutions
- £120m capital investment to restart construction
- Dedicated new funding for Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales

NEW [Lifeline support for Performing Arts Venues in Scotland: 03/07](#)

- A targeted £10m fund to support Scotland's performing arts venues.

NEW [Minister announces £4 million lifeline for the arts in Northern Ireland: 01/07](#)

- Communities Minister Carál Ní Chuilín announced a major £4m lifeline for the arts sector

NEW [Funding for councils to address coronavirus pressures and cover lost income: 02/07](#)

- Scheme to compensate councils in England for losses from museums and cultural assets
- All relevant losses, over and above the first 5% of planned income from sales, fees and charges, will be compensated for at a rate of 75p in every pound.

NEW Reopening guidance

Museums in England can reopen from 4 July

- [Good practice guidance for reopening museums: 25/06](#)

[Museums in Northern Ireland can reopen from 3 July: 02/07](#)

- [Culture and Heritage Destinations Venues: Guidance for a phased return](#)
- [Wales: Culture and heritage destinations and venues: guidance for a phased return](#)
- [Scotland: events sector guidance](#)
- [Scotland: guidance for creative studios and shared workspaces](#)

NEW [Maintaining records of staff, customers and visitors to support NHS Test & Trace 02/07](#) [Privacy notice for maintaining records of staff, customers and visitors: 03/07](#)

- Assist NHS Test and Trace by keeping a temporary record of your customers and visitors for 21 days, in a way that is manageable for your organisation, and assist NHS Test and Trace with requests for that data if needed. This could help contain clusters or outbreaks.
- Further information can be found [here](#), including FAQs and a toolkit for business

NEW [The Health Protection \(Coronavirus, Restrictions\) \(No. 2\) \(England\) Regulations 2020](#)

- New regulations which allow the museum and galleries sector to reopen

NEW [Apply for a moratorium under the Corporate Insolvency and Governance Act: 26/06](#)

- Apply for breathing space to consider a rescue plan for your company.

2. Guidance for reopening

[Good practice guidance for reopening museums: 25/06](#)

- Guidance for the museums sector in England intended to help employers, employees and the self-employed, and volunteers understand how to work safely.
- The guidelines should:
 - provide a set of practical considerations museums will want to work through before a museum is ready to reopen
 - be used in conjunction with COVID-safe guidelines published by HM Government, and is intended to enhance, not supplant existing regulations
 - sit alongside and inform existing business practices and standard structures already considered when managing risk and conducting business planning

[AIM and Museum Development checklist: 25/06](#)

- AIM and Museum Development have developed a related checklist that takes a step-by-step look at reopening considerations, in addition to and in support of the guidance

[Reopening timeline](#)

- NMDC has also produced a timeline of possible stages of reopening.

[VisitBritain “We’re good to go” industry standard: 25/06](#)

- Apply for a free UK-wide industry standard and consumer mark to reassure your customers that your business adheres to Government and public health guidance.

International examples

- **Belgium** - Museums reopened 19 May. Old Masters Museum protective measures [here](#).
- **France** - Museums reopened from 2 June. The Louvre plans to reopen on 6 July with strict rules for social distancing and 70% of the museum open to the public.
- **Germany** - Museums reopening. The [Museumsbund](#), [Brandenburg](#) museums association and the [Saxony](#) region have published guidelines.
- **Ireland** - Museums reopening as part of **phase 3 - 29 June** with safety measures in place.
- **Italy** - Museums [reopened](#) from 18 May with [social distancing measures](#), including buying tickets in advance, wearing a mask, and clearly indicating routes to take.
- **Netherlands** - [reopened](#) from 01/06. Dutch museums association reopening [protocol](#).
- **USA** - American Alliance of Museums has published [information](#) and some basic [guidelines](#) including a collection of [sample museum reopening plans](#).

Further information and guidance

- [Guidance for DCMS sectors](#)
- [Heritage locations guidance: 24/06](#)
- [The visitor economy guidance: 23/06](#)
- [Guidance on searching for archaeological finds in England: updated 26/06](#)
- [Guidance for shops and branches on reopening: updated 15/06](#)
- [Plans announced for London’s Covid-19 recovery: 23/05](#)

3. Reopening museums

[Easing of lockdown measures: 23/06](#)

- Museums and galleries in England will be able to reopen from 4 July, provided they can do so in a manner that is safe for their workforce and for their visitors.

[Museums sector responds to the reopening announcement: 23/06](#)

- The National Museum Directors' Council (NMDC), Museums Association (MA) and Association of Independent Museums (AIM) welcomed the announcement

[Our plan to rebuild: The UK Government's COVID-19 recovery strategy: updated 12/06](#)

[Government announces roadmap taskforces: 13/05](#)

[Culture Secretary announces Cultural Renewal Taskforce: 20/05](#)

[Museums and Galleries working group members announced 04/06](#)

Devolved nations approaches:

- [Scotland routemap: 21/05](#)
- [Wales roadmap: 15/05](#)
- [Northern Ireland approach: 12/05](#)

[Coronavirus Regulations update: 12/06](#)

- Museum cafes and gift shops in England can reopen from 15 June provided (a) the premises are self-contained and can be accessed separately from the museum; and (b) relevant social distancing and safe working measures can be put in place.

[NEMO Museums in Europe during the covid-19 crisis](#)

- NEMO map of museums: overview of European countries' plans to re-open museums.

[UK cultural sector reopening v6](#)

- Visual representation of reopening of the cultural sector. Tweet by Ben Melham.

3. Business support

[Business support homepage](#)

- [Financial support for businesses: updated 29/05](#)
- [Find coronavirus financial support for your business self-checker](#)
- [Business support website](#)
- [Business support helpline](#)

Support schemes for businesses

Loans

- [Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme \(CBILS\)](#) - loans of up to £5 million
- [Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme \(CLBILS\)](#) - loans of up to £25m.
- [Bounce Back Loans Scheme: updated 04/05](#) - loans of £2,000 to £50,000 at 2.5% interest.

Grants and business rates

- [Small business grants: and retail, hospitality and leisure grants guidance: updated 23/05](#)
- [Apply for the coronavirus Local Authority Discretionary Grants Fund: updated 08/06](#)
- [Local Authority Discretionary Grants Fund guidance version 2: updated 23/05](#)
- [Business rates: expanded retail discount: updated 02/04](#)

Further support and guidance

Finance and procurement

- [Filing charity annual returns during the coronavirus pandemic: 16/03](#)
- [Companies to receive 3-month extension period to file accounts during COVID-19: 25/03](#)
- [Insolvency law: help companies trading while exploring options for rescue: updated 14/05](#)
- [Companies House support for businesses hit by COVID-19: 16/04](#)
- [Tax helpline to help businesses affected by coronavirus: updated 26/03](#) - 0800 024 1222
- [Procurement policy note 02/20: Supplier relief due to Covid-19: updated 25/06](#)
- [Procurement Policy Note 04/20: Recovery and Transition from COVID-19: updated 25/06](#)
- [Financial Conduct Authority: Letter to insurance companies on ensuring SMEs: 15/04](#)
- [Government to support businesses through Trade Credit Insurance guarantee: 13/05](#)
- [Pay no Customs Duty and VAT on importing museum and gallery exhibits: 27/05](#)

Construction

- [Letter from BEIS Secretary of State on construction: 31/03](#)
- [Construction Leadership Council: site operating procedures v3: 15/04](#)
- [Procurement policy note 02/20: Guidance notes for construction contracts: 06/04](#)
- [Responsible contractual behaviour guidance: 07/05](#)
- [Construction Leadership council guidance: 07/05](#)

Staffing

- [Rules on carrying over annual leave to be relaxed: 27/03](#)
- [Holiday entitlement and pay during coronavirus: 13/05](#)
- [Claim back Statutory Sick Pay paid to your employees due to coronavirus: updated 29/05](#)

Other

- [Processing ticket refunds for cancelled charity events: 16/04](#)
- [£1.3 million fund to support Destination Management Organisations: 07/04](#)
- [Reporting serious incidents to the Charity Commission during the pandemic: 03/06](#)
- [Advice on staying secure during COVID-19: 10/06](#)
- [Code of practice for the commercial property sector: 19/06](#)

[Help and support if your business is affected by coronavirus: videos and webinars](#)

- how to make your workplace COVID-secure: [register here](#) or [watch recorded sessions](#)
- supporting and retaining staff and self-employed: [future webinars](#) and [recorded sessions](#)
- for international trade: [register here](#) or [watch recorded sessions](#)
- for small businesses and changes to reporting, regulation and tax: [recorded webinars](#)

Support across the UK

- Information for individuals and businesses in [Northern Ireland](#), [Scotland](#), and [Wales](#)

National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) guidance on secure home working

- [Moving your business from the physical to the digital](#)
- [Home working guidance](#)
- [Training for staff](#)

4. Employee support

Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

- [Guidance for employers: updated 01/07](#)
- [Guidance for employees: updated 01/07](#)
- [Fact sheet](#)
- [Step by step guide for employers: updated 02/07](#)
- [Guidance for research organisations: 05/06](#)
- [Template: claiming for 100 or more employees through Job Retention Scheme: 19/06](#)

From 1 July businesses given the flexibility to bring furloughed staff back part time. Individual firms will decide hours and shift patterns their employees will work, and will be responsible for paying their wages while in work. The following will apply for the period people are furloughed:

- **June and July**
 - The government will pay 80% of wages up to a cap of £2,500 as well as employer National Insurance (ER NICs) and pension contributions.
 - Employers are not required to pay anything.
- **August**
 - The government will pay 80% of wages up to a cap of £2,500.
 - Employers will pay ER NICs and pension contributions.
 - For the average claim, this represents 5% of the gross employment costs.
- **September**
 - The government will pay 70% of wages up to a cap of £2,187.50.
 - Employers will pay ER NICs and pension contributions and 10% of wages to make up 80% total up to a cap of £2,500.
 - For the average claim, this represents 14% of the gross employment costs.
- **October**
 - The government will pay 60% of wages up to a cap of £1,875.
 - Employers will pay ER NICs and pension contributions and 20% of wages to make up 80% total up to a cap of £2,500.
 - For the average claim, this represents 23% of the gross employment costs.

Self-employment Income Support Scheme: updated 02/07

- [Self-Employment Support Scheme extension: 29/05](#)
- [Online eligibility checker tool](#)
- Individuals can apply for the first SEISS grant until 13 July - eligible individuals can claim a taxable grant worth 80% of their average monthly trading profits.
- Applications for the second grant will open in August. Individuals will be able to claim a second taxable grant worth 70% of their average monthly trading profits, paid out in a single instalment covering three months' worth of profits, and capped at £6,570 in total.

5. Health guidance

Coronavirus: collected guidance: updated 01/06

Latest government guidance for health professionals and other organisations.

- [Staying alert and safe \(social distancing\): updated 03/07](#)
- [Staying safe outside your home: updated 24/06](#)
- [Working safely during coronavirus: updated 03/07](#)
- [Coronavirus outbreak FAQs: what you can and can't do: updated 24/06](#)
- [Meeting people from outside your household: updated 25/06](#)
- [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection: updated 18/06](#)
- [Guidance for contacts of people with possible or confirmed coronavirus infection who do not live with the person: updated 17/06](#)
- [Review of 2m social distancing guidance and summary of review findings: updated 26/06](#)

- [Meeting people from outside your household from 4 July: updated 04/07](#)
- [Plans to ease guidance for over 2 million shielding: 22/06](#)
- [Update from the UK Chief Medical Officers on the UK alert level: 19/06](#)

Face coverings

- [Public advised to cover faces in enclosed spaces: 11/05](#)
- [How to wear and make a cloth face covering: updated 04/06](#)

Outdoors

- [Guidance on spending time outdoors in England: 13/05](#)
- [Guidance on accessing green spaces safely: updated 04/07](#)
- [Safer public places – urban centres and green spaces: updated 26/06](#)

[NHS Test and Trace service: 27/05](#)

- [NHS test and trace: how it works: updated 11/06](#)
- [NHS test and trace: workplace guidance: updated 15/06](#)

6. Sector support and information

[National Lottery Heritage Fund information: updated 18/06](#)

[Heritage Emergency Fund extended: 18/06](#)

- The £50m Heritage Emergency Fund accepts applications for two grant levels, £3,000 to £50,000 or £50,000 to £250,000, to cover emergency costs during this difficult time.
- Grants can now be used to help organisations reopen after the coronavirus crisis.
- The deadline to apply has also been extended to Friday 31 July.
 - [Guidance for grants from £3,000 to £50,000](#)
 - [Guidance for grants from £50,000 to £250,000](#)

England

[Arts Council England Covid-19 support](#)

- ACE are making £160 million of emergency funding available.
- £64.8m invested so far in 9,666 people and organisations outside of the National Portfolio.

Wales

[Welsh government £18m support package for culture, creative and sport sector: 01/04](#)

- £7m [Arts Council of Wales](#) Arts Resilience Fund to support artists and arts organisations.
- £1m Cultural Resilience Fund for museums, archives and community and public libraries.
- £750k Emergency Relief Fund for independent sport, museum and heritage organisations.

[Welsh Museums Federation £325,000 Covid-19 Resilience Grants](#)

Scotland

[Museums Galleries Scotland information: 25/03](#)

[Museums Galleries Scotland funding overview: 06/04](#)

- [Urgent Response COVID-19 Fund](#) - for independent accredited museums up to £60,000 to cover up to 3 months of core costs.
- [Digital Resilience COVID-19 Fund](#) - up to £3000 to support digital working during closure.
- [COVID-19 Adaptation Fund](#) - up to £7,500 (£10,000 for partnerships) to purchase equipment and training that will enable them to reopen safely

Creative Scotland has launched a variety of funds for the Cultural and Creative Sector:

- [Creative Scotland £4m Bridging Bursary Fund](#) to help freelance creative professionals.
- [£7.5m Open Fund: Sustaining Creative Development](#): to support creative practitioners to develop work for up to 12 months with a maximum award of £50,000.

[Third Sector Resilience £20m Fund \(TSRF\): updated 08/05](#)

- For charities, community groups, social enterprises and voluntary organisations.

Northern Ireland

- [Museums in Northern Ireland can reopen from 3 July: 02/07](#)
- [£4 million lifeline for the arts in Northern Ireland: 01/07](#)

[Northern Ireland Creative Support Fund: updated 06/07](#)

- £1.5m fund for arts organisations, freelance artists, creative practitioners and performers.
- Creative Support Fund worth £500,000 for small to medium sized organisations
- [Northern Ireland Museums Council: 03/07](#)

Other funding sources

- [Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund covid response](#)
- [Art Fund: Respond and reimagine grants: 16/06](#)
- [Paul Hamlyn Foundation Contingency Fund: updated 28/05](#)

- [Association of Independent Museums guidance](#)
- [Museums Association: collected resource page](#)

[Cultural objects licences: new temporary procedure: updated 27/05](#)

- Arts Council England's Export Licensing Unit temporary export licences procedure.

[Museums In Quarantine: 22/04](#) - [Four behind the scenes programmes](#) available on BBC iPlayer

[Culture Diary: cultural activities to watch at home](#)

7. Key information sources

Check regularly for updates

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): UK government response](#)
[Sign up for email alerts](#)
- [Public Health England](#) twitter [Public Health England](#)
- [NHS guidance](#) twitter [NHS England](#)
- [Department of Health](#)
- [UK Prime Minister](#)
- [FCO Travel advice](#)