

DCMS Museums and Galleries Sector Coronavirus bulletin

11 January 2021

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

NEW [Lockdown regulations](#)

NEW [England Lockdown: Stay At Home posters: 05/01](#)

NEW [£4.6 billion in new lockdown grants to support businesses and protect jobs: 05/01](#)

- Businesses in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors are to receive a one-off grant worth up to £9,000. The one-off top-ups will be granted to closed businesses as follows:
 - £4,000 for businesses with a rateable value of £15,000 or under
 - £6,000 for businesses with a rateable value between £15,000 and £51,000
 - £9,000 for businesses with a rateable value of over £51,000

NEW [Check if eligible for a grant due to national restrictions \(for closed businesses\): updated 05/01](#)

- The Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRSB (Closed) Addendum) supports businesses that have been required to close due to the national restrictions.

NEW [COVID-19 critical worker status: 07/01](#)

- Clarification on when a security operative is considered to be a "critical worker".
- A security operative is considered a critical worker if they are deployed in roles essential to supporting law and order, or which have the potential to limit any further likely pressures on the Police or national emergency services - this could include the guarding of empty or closed commercial property judged at risk, closed retail sites or sensitive office premises, or the monitoring of similar through CCTV or other remote means, and the provision of alarm response centres including mobile units
- Any access to school places is role dependent and will be decided by the local authority.
- The Government has created a [letter](#) for employers to help with employees who need to come to work. Employers are advised to download the letter and customise with their letterhead and details and print off for their staff to show to the police if necessary.

NEW [Mandatory COVID-19 testing introduced to bolster border measures: 08/01](#)

- All international arrivals to England, including UK nationals, arriving by boat, plane or train required to present a negative COVID-19 test taken up to 72 hours prior to departure.

2. Current rules

[National lockdown: stay at home: updated 06/01](#)

[Lockdown regulations](#)

- A national lockdown is in place. You must stay at home.
- You may only leave your home for work if you cannot reasonably work from home.
- Museums and galleries in England must stay closed.
- Museum restaurants and cafes can open for takeaway only, provided they are in a self-contained unit, and it is possible for a member of the public to enter the premises from a place outside the premises used for the closed business.

In [Wales](#), [Scotland](#) and [Northern Ireland](#) different rules apply.

- **Northern Ireland:** closed for a planned 6 week period from 23 December
- **Wales:** indoor and outdoor attractions including museums closed.
- **Scotland:** [Protection levels](#), restrictions [guidance](#) and [central belt restrictions](#)

3. Guidance

[Good practice guidance for reopening museums: updated 04/01](#)

- Guidance for the museums sector in England.

Devolved nations guidance:

- [Northern Ireland: Culture and Heritage Destinations Venues: Guidance for a phased return](#)
- [Wales: Culture and heritage destinations and venues: guidance for a phased return](#)
- [Scotland: guidance for museums, galleries and heritage attractions: updated 14/12](#)

Sector resources:

- [AIM and Museum Development reopening checklist: 25/06](#)
- [Association of Independent Museum coronavirus resources](#)
- [EMBED Reopening Recommendations Guidance](#)

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

- Industry standard shows your business follows Government and public health guidance.

[Cultural objects licences: new temporary procedure: updated 09/12](#)

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

[Government Indemnity Scheme: temporary courier arrangements: updated 12/11](#)

- Details of temporary courier arrangements in place due to pandemic.

Further information and guidance

- [Guidance for DCMS sectors](#)
- [Heritage locations guidance: updated 07/01](#)
- [The visitor economy guidance: updated 07/01](#)
- [Guidance on searching for archaeological finds in England: updated 06/01](#)
- [Guidance for shops and branches on reopening: updated 07/01](#)
- [Performing Arts guidance: updated 07/01](#)
- [Volunteering guidance: updated 08/01](#)

4. Test and Trace

[NHS Test and Trace: requirement to maintain records: updated 11/01](#)

[NHS test and trace: how it works: updated 11/01](#)

[NHS test and trace service in the workplace: updated 11/01](#)

[NHS Test and Trace customer logging toolkit: updated 25/09](#)

[ICO guidance: 18/09](#) and [Q&A for small businesses and organisations](#)

- Mandatory for museums and galleries to have a system to collect Test and Trace data, and to ask customers to provide these details. Businesses required to retain details for 21 days.
- Museums must display an official NHS QR code poster so visitors can scan the QR code using their NHS COVID-19 App, as an alternative to visitors providing contact details.
- The regulations are [here](#), and further information [here](#), with FAQs and a business toolkit.

[NHS COVID-19 app launches across England and Wales: 24/09](#)

[Information and resources for app](#)

- The QR codes can be [downloaded via a website to display as posters in premises](#).

[COVID-19 early outbreak management action cards: updated 31/12](#)

[Arts, Heritage and Cultural Venues action card](#)

- Quick-reference guides to help you quickly identify, report and respond to any outbreak.

[Scotland: Test and protect, multi-sector guidance: 14/07](#)

[Protect Scotland: 10/09](#)

- Confidential contact tracing app. Scotland only.

5. Job Support

[Chancellor extends furlough and loan schemes: 17/12](#)

[Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme](#)

[Claim for employees' wages: updated 23/12](#)

[Check which employees you can put on furlough: updated 05/01](#)

- The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme has been extended until the end of April.
- For claim periods running to January 2021, employees will receive 80% of their usual salary for hours not worked, up to a maximum of £2,500 per month. The £2,500 cap is proportional to the hours not worked. Employers have to pay NI and pension contributions.
- Flexible furloughing, in regard to the hours and days staff work, will continue.
- Workers made redundant in advance of 31 October can be rehired.
- The [Job Support Scheme](#) will be postponed.
- The [Jobs Retention Bonus](#) will not be paid in February.

[Check you can claim a grant through the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme: updated 29/11](#)

[Online eligibility checker tool](#)

- Scheme extended to April 2021. Provides 2 further grants. Applications for third grant open.
- Grant for November to January calculated at 80% of average trading profits, up to £7,500.

[Kickstart Scheme: AIM and the MA working together to support the kickstart scheme: 14/09](#)

- The [Kickstart Scheme](#) offers fully-funded 6-month job placements to young people.

6. Funding

[Culture Recovery Fund: £1.57bn to protect cultural, arts and heritage institutions: 05/07](#)

[Culture Recovery Fund: Lifeline for culture organisations across the country: 07/11](#)

[Culture Recovery Fund: Grants Second Round: 18/12](#)

- The Culture Recovery Fund: Grants Second Round is for cultural organisations as they transition back to a viable and sustainable operating model during April-June 2021.
- Opens 12pm Wednesday 6 January, closes 12pm Tuesday 26 January.
- Minimum grant amount you can apply for is now £25,000. Total fund is up to £250m.

[Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage: Second Round: 18/12](#)

- The National Lottery Heritage Fund is distributing £36m of funding to organisations in England, in partnership with Historic England, based on criteria set by DCMS.
- Grants of between £10,000 and £3m.
- Opens Thursday 7 January and you can apply any time from then until 26 January.
- Over £1bn has already been allocated:
 - [£500m grants via ACE](#) to museums & galleries, theatres, music & comedy orgs
 - [£92m via National Lottery Heritage Fund and Historic England to heritage sites](#)
 - [£30m via BFI to independent cinemas](#)
 - [£165m in repayable finance to support major arts and heritage institutions: 11/12](#)
 - [Capital Kickstart Fund: 11/12](#)

- [Culture Recovery Rund: Repayable Finance Round Two: 14/12](#)
[Historic England: Lifeline Grants for Culture: 07/11](#)
- £14 million investment in England's historic sites benefitting 162 heritage organisations.
- [Heritage Capital Kickstart Fund](#): supports heritage projects paused, delayed or at risk.

England

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

[ACE National Lottery Project Grants open for applications](#)

- £59.8m available for independent organisations, creative practitioners and freelancers.

[National Lottery Heritage Fund information: updated 21/12](#)

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

[Local government income compensation scheme guidance](#)

- 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.

Northern Ireland

[Northern Ireland Creative Support Fund: updated 21/12](#)

[£2m Community Arts, Culture and Heritage Fund](#)

- Will prioritise projects which support people with disabilities and those who are vulnerable.

[£7.75m programme to support arts and cultural organisations: 28/10](#)

- Aimed at helping the arts and cultural sector recover from the effects of the pandemic.

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

- £4m fund for arts organisations, freelance artists, creative practitioners and performers.

Scotland

[Scottish government: supporting culture throughout the pandemic: 20/12](#)

- The Museums Recovery and Resilience Fund to receive an extra £3.1m to meet demand.

[Museums Galleries Scotland Coronavirus Guidance for Museums](#)

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

- [Museum Development Fund: support for civic and university museums: 08/10](#)

Open to organisations that manage Accredited museums not eligible for the Recovery and Resilience Fund – civic (local authority and ALEO run museums) and university museums.

- [COVID-19 Adaptation Fund](#) - up to £7,500 (£10,000 for partnerships) for reopening safely

[Creative Scotland](#) support:

- [£7.5m Open Fund: Sustaining Creative Development](#): to support creative practitioners
- [£10m lifeline support for Performing Arts Venues in Scotland: 03/07](#)

Wales

[Welsh government's £53m Cultural Recovery Fund: updated 23/10](#)

- £18.5m for accredited museums, archive services, and others.
- £7 million fund for freelancers to support individuals in the sector
- [£27.5m fund administered by the Arts Council of Wales](#) for galleries and arts centres.

Other funding sources

- [Paul Hamlyn Foundation Contingency Fund: updated 10/2020](#)
- [£25m Weston Culture Fund Launched: 05/10](#)

7. Business support

[Spending Review: 25/11](#)

- Over £150 million to strengthen our cultural and heritage infrastructure
- More than £100 million of capital investment for DCMS-supported bodies

- Six museums and galleries have been added to the VAT refund scheme.

[Business support homepage](#)

[Temporary VAT cut for accommodation and attractions: updated 03/12](#)

- VAT reduced from 20% to 5% for hospitality and attractions, including museums, and for food and non-alcoholic drinks from restaurants, cafés, extended to 31 March.

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

- how to make your workplace COVID-secure: [watch recorded sessions](#)
- for international trade: [watch recorded sessions](#)
- for small businesses and changes to reporting, regulation and tax: [recorded sessions](#)

[Business evictions ban extended until March 2021: 09/12](#)

- Business owners affected by the pandemic protected from eviction until end of March 2021.

Loans and grants for businesses

Loans - application deadline extended to 31 March

- [Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme \(CBILS\)](#) - loans of up to £5m.
- [Bounce Back Loans Scheme: updated 30/11](#) - loans of £2,000 to £50,000 at 2.5% interest.

Grants and business rates

- [Check if eligible for grant due to national restrictions \(closed businesses\): updated 05/01](#)
The Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRSB (Closed) Addendum) supports businesses that have been required to close due to the national restrictions.
- [Further economic support announced: 31/10](#)
- [Local Restrictions Support Grants and Additional Restrictions Grant: updated 27/12](#)
- [Check if eligible for Local Restrictions Support Grant \(for open businesses\): updated 22/12](#)
- [Check if eligible for Local Restrictions Support Grant \(closed businesses\): updated 31/12](#)
- [Check if you're eligible for the coronavirus Additional Restrictions Grant: updated 22/12](#)
- [Small business grants: and retail, hospitality and leisure grants guidance: updated 07/08](#)

Support across the UK

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

8. Health guidance

[Coronavirus: collected guidance: updated 09/11](#)

- [Social distancing: updated 22/12](#)
- [Making a support bubble with another household: updated 29/12](#)
- [Working safely during coronavirus: updated 01/01](#)
- [Public Health England Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Resource Centre](#)

9. 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](#)