



Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) Addendum 16 February - Guidance for Applicants

In response to the impact of local restrictions on footfall and business demand, the Government has announced a new grant for businesses, the Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) Addendum 16 February.

This scheme is an extension of the Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) January 5 scheme that covered the 42 day period 5 January to 15 February 2021.

The scheme takes effect from 16 February and funding will be for a 44 day period covering 16 February to 31 March 2021.

Scope of the LRSG (Closed) Addendum 16 February The Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) Addendum 16 February is aimed at certain business types that have remained closed and subject to national restrictions.

Which businesses this scheme will support

The LRSG (Closed) Addendum 16 February scheme will support businesses that have to remain closed as a result of national restrictions. Those businesses will include:

- Non-essential retail
- Leisure
- Personal care
- Sports facilities
- Hospitality

Level of grants available

The level of funding will be a one-off payment for the period 16 February to 31 March 2021 and will be calculated based on the rateable value of the qualifying business property as follows:

- For properties with a rateable value of exactly £15,000 or under, payments of £2,096.00
- For properties with a rateable value over £15,000 and below £51,000, payments of £3,143.00
- For properties with a rateable value of exactly £51,000 and over, grants of £4,714.00

Businesses can make an application for each property with a rateable value that they operate from within Northumberland. Each property requires a separate application. Some businesses may, therefore, receive more than one grant payment. A successful application for one property does not guarantee the same business a successful application for any additional properties if they do not meet the eligibility criteria. State Aid rules will apply to single and multiple applications.

Eligibility criteria

- Businesses must have a property within Northumberland with a qualifying rateable value.
- Businesses must have been mandated to close as a result of national lockdown restrictions;
- Businesses that are able to conduct their main service because they do not depend on providing direct in-person services from premises and can operate their services effectively remotely (e.g. accountants, solicitors) do not qualify for this scheme;
- Businesses that have chosen to close but not been required to will not be eligible for this scheme;
- Businesses that were in administration, are insolvent or where a striking-off notice has been made are not eligible for funding under this scheme.
- Businesses that, were they to receive grant payments under this scheme, breach subsidy rules are not eligible for funding under this scheme.

How to apply for the LRSG (Closed) Addendum 16 February

Businesses who qualify for the scheme are those who were successful applicants under the Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) January 5 scheme.

In order to reduce the administrative burden an email will be sent to those successful businesses under those schemes with a link to a short electronic form to complete.

The form prompts applicants for confirmation of certain information and the applicant must make a declaration. Applications must be made by 31 May 2021 and final payments will be made by 30 June 2021.

Queries regarding this scheme can be addressed to the County Council at the following

dedicated email address: covidgrants@northumberland.gov.uk

Appeals

Applicants whose applications are rejected may request a review. The review will be carried out by an officer who was not involved in the original decision. The decision of the review is final. Details about how to request a review will be provided to every applicant whose application is rejected.

Managing the risk of fraud

Neither the Government nor Northumberland County Council will accept deliberate manipulation and fraud - and any business caught falsifying their records to gain grant money will face prosecution and any funding issued will be subject to claw back, as may any grants paid in error.

It is important that applicants ensure that they provide accurate bank details for grant payments and that these relate to the business concerned

Will these grant schemes be subject to tax?

Grant income received by a business is taxable. The Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) Addendum 16 February 2021 will need to be included as income in the tax return of the business. Only businesses that make an overall profit once grant income is included will be subject to tax.