

Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme opens in one week

The [Government has today confirmed](#) that employers will be able to make claims through the Coronavirus [Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme](#) from Tuesday 26 May.

This scheme will allow small and medium-sized employers, with fewer than 250 employees, to apply to HMRC to recover the costs of paying coronavirus-related SSP.

Latest figures show uptake of financial support for businesses

[New figures on the UK-wide government support schemes](#) for individuals and businesses have been published today showing that over 10 million are benefiting from the schemes in place.

Eight million jobs have been furloughed, two million have claimed Self-employment Income Support and just under 500,000 businesses have taken up the Bounce Back Loan Scheme, Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme or the Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme.

Anybody with Covid-19 symptoms can now be tested

The [Government confirmed yesterday](#) that anyone experiencing a new, continuous cough; high temperature; and now also a loss of or change in their normal sense of smell or taste can book a test by visiting www.nhs.uk/coronavirus.

Those unable to access the internet can call 119 in England and Wales or 0300 303 2713 in Scotland and Northern Ireland to book a test.

Staying safe outside your home

[Guidance outlining the principles you should follow](#) to ensure that time spent outside your home is as safe as possible has been updated. It now includes the loss or change in your normal sense of smell or taste as a new official coronavirus symptom.