

Applying for the extended furlough scheme

Following the extension of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme to 31 March 2021, the Government has [updated its guidance](#) to provide employers with details of how to claim for periods after 1 November 2020.

[HMRC has also published guidance](#) on individuals you can claim for who are not employees, including company directors, agency workers and contractors.

Local Restriction Support and Additional Restrictions Grants

[Guidance has been published](#) for local authorities on paying grants to support businesses during the November to December 2020 national lockdown and periods of local restrictions.

Bounce Back Loan guidance updated

[Bounce Back Loan guidance](#) has been updated to include new options available to small and medium-sized businesses enabling them to top up existing loans, extend the loan period, make interest-only repayments, or pause repayments. The scheme is open to applications until 31 January 2021.

Sick pay for those deemed clinically extremely vulnerable

[Guidance for employers](#) on how to claim back employees' coronavirus-related Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) via the Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme has been updated to include what can be claimed for employees who have been advised by letter to shield because they're [clinically extremely vulnerable](#).

Covid-19 secure guidelines updated to reflect new restrictions

[Guidance on Working safely during Covid-19](#) has been updated to make clear that anyone who can work from home, should (section 1.1) and clinically extremely vulnerable individuals should not attend work if they can't work from home whilst the [new national restrictions](#) are in place.

Figures indicate that passengers are avoiding public transport

The [latest transport usage figures](#) published by the Department for Transport show a significant drop in the use of public transport in England during the last week, with national rail usage falling to as low as 27% of normal levels, whilst the London Underground saw passenger levels fall to less than a third of normal levels.

Motor vehicle usage also fell following the introduction of the new national restrictions, down to 60% of normal levels last weekend.

Covid-19 Bulletin

11 November 2020



Mass testing rolls out

[Guidance has been published](#) to enable people working and living in Liverpool to find out how to get a coronavirus test as part of the NHS Test and Trace mass testing scheme.

Over half a million rapid-turnaround lateral flow [tests will be sent out by NHS Test and Trace](#) to local public health leaders this week, signalling the next phase of the government's plan to expand asymptomatic testing for Covid-19.

Information for businesses in Scotland

[Guidance for businesses and individuals in Scotland](#) has been updated to reflect the new business support available from 5 November. The Scottish Government has a [5-level system](#) of Covid-19 protection measures that can be applied nationally or locally depending on prevalence of the virus across Scotland. This new system came into effect on 2 November.

Guidance for apprentices, employers and training providers

The Government has updated its [guidance for apprentices, employers, training providers and assessment organisations](#) in response to the impact of Covid-19, outlining the changes that the Education and Skills Funding Agency is making to the apprenticeship programme during the coronavirus outbreak.