

News release: 2 December 2020

Additional Restrictions Grant scheme is open for applications

Lifeline grants of £7,500 are on offer to small and micro businesses that have lost income due to the national restrictions.

Businesses based in Lichfield district that meet the criteria, can now apply for an Additional Restrictions Grant.

While the Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRS), which was launched locally last week, is for businesses that have been required to close due to the national restrictions, the Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) is to support businesses that have had their trade affected by restrictions.

The ARG is a discretionary grant from a fixed pot of almost £2.1 million allocated to Lichfield District by the Government to establish a business grant scheme or other business support.

As part of the scheme, the council is offering one-off grants of £7,500 for micro and small businesses that are:

- involved in the direct supply chain for businesses/sectors which have had to close due to local or national restrictions, able to show trade with closed businesses is a significant proportion of their income.
- trading from a commercial premises which is a local franchise and the parent company has previously received a coronavirus grant.
- involved in the events, arts or entertainment sectors.
- involved in the rural/agriculture sector.
- Home based that are the only source of employment and business income.

The following criteria must also be met to be eligible for a grant:

- Businesses must have been trading the day before the national restrictions came into force on 4 November 2020.
- Companies must not be in administration, insolvent or where a striking-off notice has been given.
- Companies must have seen a loss of income of more than 30%, compared to the same period last year.
- Businesses that haven't received support from the Local Restrictions Support Grant.

Councillor Liz Little, Cabinet Member Responsible for Economic Development, said: "I am really pleased we've opened the application process for the latest round of Government grants. I am sure it

will be very much welcomed by our local businesses that have been significantly impacted by the pandemic.

“While the majority of this pot of funding will go towards the grants, we will also use some of the funding to deliver training to businesses and to support start-ups enterprises.”

For the Additional Restrictions Grant eligibility criteria and to apply online, visit www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/supportingbusiness.

Ends

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