



LRFBIZ V24– ECONOMIC RECOVERY VERSION

Lincolnshire Resilience Forum – Recovery Cell Comms Distribution

15 July 2020

Headline Updates

Mandatory face coverings in shops

Face coverings will be mandatory from 24 July when shopping. This is to protect those who work in shops and to give people more confidence to shop safely. Those who do not wear a face covering in shops will face a fine of up to £100 and shops can refuse entry to someone not wearing a face covering and can call the police if someone fails to comply. Further guidance to follow soon.

Major new campaign to prepare UK for end of the Brexit transition period

The government is launching a major new public information campaign; 'The UK's new start: let's get going' and will set out the actions businesses and individuals need to take to prepare for the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020. Campaign advertisements will include a "Check, Change, Go" strapline which directs people and businesses to a straightforward checker tool at gov.uk/transition which quickly identifies the necessary next steps they need to take.

The campaign will run across the full range of communication channels, including TV advertising and radio, out of home, digital, print, and direct channels such as text messages and Webinars alongside the launch of a field force team which offering one-to-one support in person or over the phone to businesses and their supply chains to minimise disruption to the movement of goods. Full details can be found [here](#)

Thanks from the LRF

Three key messages are:-

- To thank the public and business for their continued support, it is because of the public and business response Lincolnshire remains a relatively safe county; we should not become complacent
- That Government Guidelines is still 2M. The guidance re: [1M plus](#) can be used if 2M is not achievable and other protective factors are put in place i.e. face coverings.
- We are working across the public sector, business and the community to enable business, retailers, services, public amenities, schools, transport and public spaces to open safely, we need everyone to take personal responsibility for their part in protecting each other and the economy.

Business and Economy Updates

Local Authority Discretionary Grants

NKDC, SKDC, ELDC and North East and North Lincolnshire Council grants are all now allocated and closed.

- BBC OPEN
- COLC OPEN. (R4) extra promotion underway to attract further interest.
- RUT OPEN. Reviewing allocation of remaining funds
- SHDC OPEN. Reviewing widening access in a further call

- WLDC OPEN. Criteria has been amended to open up to a wider group of businesses.

PPE open government call closes

Office for Product Safety and Standards has updated the guidance for new high-volume manufacturers of PPE and guidance for businesses and individuals on the small-scale manufacture of PPE published, amended to reflect the closure of the Government PPE offers portal and move to competitive tendering processes, to align the traceability requirements for all manufacturers, and to remove the need for the notified body number to be placed on each individual piece of PPE. Updated guidance can be found [here](#)

PPE waste disposal

How to dispose of your personal or business waste, including face coverings and personal protective equipment (PPE) is available at [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): disposing of waste](#) and is intended primarily for businesses and is NOT APPLICABLE TO healthcare settings (hospitals, primary care providers, care homes, home care).

CompaniesHouse to restart the voluntary strike off process

In March 2020, temporary easement measures were introduced to suspend voluntary strike off action in response to COVID-19. This temporary measure will be lifted from 10 September 2020 after which the process will restart to dissolve companies that have applied for voluntary dissolution. Full details and guidance can be found [here](#)

Education & Skills

DfE Virtual Jobs Fair

The Department for Education is holding another Virtual Jobs Fair next week and is asking for support to promote job, apprenticeship and volunteering opportunities locally across social media. See the toolkit to [download assets](#) that will provide details about how this works, and how to get involved. Please tag in @HMGMidlands or @HMGEast on social media and use the tracked links bit.ly/32mMDSi or bit.ly/3ewCCUW

- Bring the event to life for jobseekers by encouraging any employers on your networks to get involved and be proactive to facilitate online conversations about opportunities
- Use the assets to create content on your own channels
- Look out for and share content from the National Careers Service channels and @HMGMidlands or @HMGEast

Major overhaul of higher technical education announced

Measures to boost the quality and take-up of higher technical education to help plug skill gaps, level up opportunities and support the UK's economic recovery have been announced by Education Secretary Gavin Williamson. The package of measures announced marks the next step in establishing a system of higher technical education where students and employers can have confidence in high-quality courses that provide the skills they need to succeed. The package includes:

- Introducing newly approved higher technical qualifications from September 2022 supported by a government-backed brand and quality mark – qualifications will only be approved where they provide the skills employers need, providing much needed clarity for students and employers.
- Working with Ofsted and the Office for Students to make sure the quality of courses is consistently high across HE and FE institutions – building on our Institutes of Technology so students and employers can be confident courses will be high quality.
- Launching a new public awareness campaign – working in partnership with employers and careers advisers to showcase the benefits and the wide range of opportunities that studying a higher technical qualification can open up and making sure students get the right information, advice and guidance to make informed choices.

Full details can be found [here](#).

Sector Specific Updates

Hospitality and Arts

New planning rules to protect cultural heritage

Changes to the planning system have been introduced to save theatres, concert halls and live music performance venues and councils will now need to take the temporary impact of Covid-19 into account when considering permission for change of use, redevelopment or demolition of a theatre, concert hall or live music performance venue. This move, alongside the £1.57 billion investment is intended to protect Britain's cultural, arts and heritage sector, and provide extra security to businesses as they make plans to re-open their premises when it is safe to do so. Full details are available [here](#)

Eat Out to Help Out Registration opens

Restaurants and other establishments serving food for on-premises consumption can now sign up to the new government initiative aimed at protecting jobs in the hospitality industry and encouraging people to safely return to dining out and is now live on GOV.UK, allowing businesses to join the scheme. Full details and how to register can be found [here](#).

Local Visitor Economy Guides

Visit Lincoln has produced a blog in response to sector survey results, focused on latest technology solutions that businesses can access remotely to keep operations on track in a safe and secure way, as well as providing tips on better engagements with customers. Click [here](#) to access.

The Greater Lincolnshire LEP published a guide intended for any pub operator who might want to consider developing overnight accommodation for business and leisure visitors - from opening up unused bedrooms above the pub to a new build extension with a larger number of rooms, the guidance outlines how you should approach it and how to translate your idea into reality. Click to read [here](#).

Agri/Food Sector

Trade and Agriculture Commission membership announced

Retailers, farming unions, consumer, hospitality and environmental bodies from across the UK have been named as members of the Government's new Trade and Agriculture Commission.

It will be chaired by food safety expert Tim Smith, a former Chief Executive of the Food Standards Agency and Tesco Group Technical Director and report directly in to International Trade Secretary Liz Truss, advising on:

- Trade policies the Government should adopt to secure opportunities for UK farmers, while ensuring the sector remains competitive and that animal welfare and environmental standards in food production are not undermined.
- Advancing and protecting British consumer interests and those of developing countries.
- How the UK engages the WTO to build a coalition that helps advance higher animal welfare standards across the world.
- Developing trade policy that identifies and opens up new export opportunities for the UK agricultural industry – in particular for SMEs – and that benefits the UK economy as a whole.

Full details can be found [here](#)

Health and Care

Health and Care Visa to access global talent in health and care services

The new Health and Care Visa will make it cheaper, quicker and easier for healthcare professionals from around the world to come to the UK and will be launched this Summer, creating a new fast-track visa route for

eligible health and care professionals. They have also today announced further details on how the exemption to the Immigration Health Surcharge will work for health and care staff, who will now be permanently exempt from this charge. Further details can be found [here](#)

Energy

Battery storage boost to power greener electricity grid

Government are relaxing planning legislation to make it easier to construct large batteries to store renewable energy from solar and wind farms across the UK to maximise UK's renewable energy storage and create hundreds of new green jobs. Changes will make it easier to build larger batteries – ensuring renewable energy can be stored and used all year round and over 100 large-scale batteries could now be built, trebling the amount already in operation. Further details can be found [here](#)

Flooding Blueprint

Plans to better protect and prepare millions of homes and businesses from flooding and the climate emergency has been launched by the Environment Agency. Further details can be found [here](#). The measures are set to include:

- Expanded flood warnings by 2022 to all at risk properties, with 62,000 more families to be added to the service
- Increased investment in natural flood management schemes to better protect communities, tackle climate change and create new wildlife habitats
- Further promotion of property flood resilience measures to help homeowners and businesses build back better and recover quicker after flooding
- More collaborative partnerships with national road, rail and utilities providers to ensure their investments are flood resilient and benefit the public

£40 million to kick start next-gen nuclear technology

The government announced a £40 million of funding to unlock thousands of green jobs by developing the next generation of nuclear energy technology. Full details can be found [here](#)

Aerospace and Defence

Space Agency backs drones to deliver Covid-19 testing kits

Drones delivering COVID-19 test kits and technology using space data to support vulnerable people are among the projects backed by new UK Space Agency funding.

[Three new projects](#) have been selected as part of a joint initiative between the UK Space Agency and the European Space Agency (ESA) to find and support space-enabled technologies and services that can support the NHS response to Covid-19.

Webinars

Date	Topic	Booking Link
15/07/2020	Selling food & drink products directly in China via e-commerce	https://www.businesslincolnshire.com/events/event-details/?id=1104&navigatedFromSearch=true
16/07/2020	POWER-UP YOUR E-EXPORTING SKILLS	https://www.businesslincolnshire.com/events/event-details/?id=1105&navigatedFromSearch=true
22/07/2020	Digital security following Covid-19 and keeping your business secure online	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/working-safely-during-coronavirus-cyber-security-tickets-113091864812?aff=BIRD
30/07/2020	Innovation Showcase: How Lincolnshire businesses have adapted during Covid-19	https://www.businesslincolnshire.com/events/event-details/?id=1103&navigatedFromSearch=true

Fixed Key Messaging

- Visit [Business Lincolnshire](#) or call 01522 782189 for continued support to your business
- View the Government Covid-secure guidance by sector [here](#)
- Click [here](#) if you can provide Covid-19 testing capacity.
- Feed business impacts into [Business Intelligence](#)

As we move from Response to Recovery, the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum has created a Recovery Comms Cell made up of county and district councils, NHS, and LEP/ Business Lincolnshire leads to ensure consistency of key messaging. This is not intended as a comprehensive list but to update on new and key messages relevant to economic recovery. Follow and tag @ [twitter LRF](#) [twitter LEP](#) [twitter Business Lincolnshire](#)

