



## LRFBIZ V30– ECONOMIC RECOVERY VERSION

### Lincolnshire Resilience Forum – Recovery Cell Comms Distribution

26 August 2020

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#### Headline Updates

##### **Covid-19 cases in Newark – staying safe and aware**

Following a recent outbreak of Covid-19 cases in the neighbouring town of Newark, Nottinghamshire, all Lincolnshire residents that travel to Newark for work and leisure, or to visit family and friends are being urged by the LRF to pay special attention to government guidance. This includes:-

- Providing full and accurate details of every party member when visiting a café, pub or restaurant as part of the [NHS Test and Trace](#) service
  - Only socialising in any indoor setting with one other household at any one time
  - Only meeting in a group of up to six people from different households in any outdoor setting
  - Following the guidelines on [car sharing](#)
  - Washing hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
  - Wearing a face covering when required to
  - Maintaining two metres social distancing where possible
  - Self-isolating immediately if symptoms appear and booking a free test by calling 119 or visiting [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)
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#### Business and Economy Updates

##### **Have your Say – Quarterly Economic Survey**

The Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Economic Survey is open for feedback we are encouraging as many businesses to respond at this important time. The information we submit into British Chambers of Commerce is used at a national level to direct policy decisions at the Bank of England and No 10 and helps shape interventions and policy.

The QES is the main economic barometer we are using consistently across the area and forms one of the key measures within the Greater Lincolnshire (LEP) Recovery Plan. The link to the survey is here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ZD3YTQ2>

Please share and promote with your networks across all channels. The closing date for responses is 16<sup>th</sup> September.

##### **Furlough Update**

- Proportionally fewer people in Greater Lincolnshire (GL) have been on furlough than in England overall, with 29% of eligible employments furloughed through since the opening of the scheme. Nationally 32% have been furloughed.
- In total, 143,200 people in GL and 95,600 in Lincolnshire have been furloughed at some stage up to 31<sup>st</sup> July.
- Boston has one of the lowest take up rates of the scheme in the whole country.

- The largest take up in GL is in East Lindsey where 35% of the work force has been on furlough at some stage. This is likely due to the higher volume of people employed in retail and hospitality compared to other areas.

*\* information is cumulative so indicates all those who have been on furlough at any point up to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020.*

### **Start Up Loans**

The British Business Bank's Start Up Loans (SUL) programme has announced it has issued its 75,000th loan, marking more than £623 million invested in small businesses since its launch in 2012. Start Up Loans saw a significant rise in loans issued since the start of the pandemic in the UK, with July 2020 a record month for drawdowns since 2014. The SUL programme has lent money and provided mentoring support to aspiring business owners in every region of the United Kingdom. More information is available [here](#).

### **Restart of the UK in JAPAN campaign**

The British Embassy, British Consulate-General and the British Council, in partnership with principal partners Jaguar Land Rover and Standard Chartered Bank are proud to announce the resumption of our ambitious UK in JAPAN campaign.

The campaign was launched in September 2019 and featured a series of events and activities to showcase UK excellence in business, innovation, culture, arts and education in order to build closer relationships between the UK and Japan through networking, sharing knowledge and experiences, and collaborations.

The campaign was paused while all delivery partners focused on the global Covid-19 pandemic and their respective responses. Though the virus response remains a priority, the campaign will resume from September 2020 with much of the activity focusing on how the UK and Japan can recover and rebuild, and how we can support a sustainable global recovery. Further details can be found [here](#)

### **Car Sharing**

A series of information sheets has been produced and translated in relation to transport sharing for employees and workers. This is as a result of the recent outbreak in Newark. To date these have been circulated to a number of the larger employers in the Boston area. Please circulate and share with, employers and networks, particularly to hard to reach groups as appropriate. Visit [here](#) and scroll to the end for pdf's in English, Romanian, Lithuanian, Latvian and Bulgarian.

### **10,000 people now signed up to COVID-19 immunity study**

A nationwide effort led by Public Health England (PHE) to research whether people who had COVID-19 can get infected again has hit a key recruitment milestone.

10,000 health workers from across the NHS have now signed up to take part in PHE's 'SIREN' (SARS-CoV-2 Immunity & REinfection Evaluation) study, which is exploring whether specific COVID-19 antibodies provide immunity. Scientists do not yet know if people who have been infected in the past are protected from becoming sick again, or how long any protection lasts. Read the details [here](#)

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## **Sector Updates**

### **Tourism and Food Sector Support Vacancy Opportunities**

To help the LEP to provide the best possible service to businesses in Greater Lincolnshire, the Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub are seeking to appoint sector specialists advisers to work with us on a consultancy basis.

We are seeking to appoint a sector specialist Visitor Economy Adviser (VEA) and an Agriculture / Horticulture Adviser (AHA) who can deliver specialist advice to sector SMEs.

The successful contractors will proactively engage SMEs within the relevant sectors in the Greater Lincolnshire and Rutland LEP area on behalf of the Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub Programme, working alongside the existing team of Growth Hub Advisers to provide additional specialist advice and support. The post holders will undertake a high quality diagnostic to establish business needs, leading to effective impartial business advice and signposting / brokerage to appropriate solutions and contribute towards the achievement of the programme objectives and targets.

Click the link [here](#) for more information and to respond. The closing date for the submission of tenders for the above roles is 1<sup>st</sup> September

## Hospitality, Retail and Culture

### Customer Logging Toolkit

If you are a business or organisation which has been advised to collect customer, staff and visitor details a customer logging toolkit is now available [here](#).

### Funding Available through the Culture Recovery Fund

DCMS have published guidance that pulls together the various schemes under the £1.57bn Cultural recovery Fund that are open for applications at the moment. They include:

- **Arts Council England Grants**- £500m grants for cultural organisations that are at risk of failure because of COVID-19 and who need funding of up to £3m
- **Culture Recovery Fund for Independent Cinemas** - £30m for independent cinemas who provide a year round film programme, that are at risk of failure because of COVID-19
- **Arts Council England Repayable Finance** - £270m repayable finance for cultural organisations that are at risk of failure because of COVID-19 and who need funding of over £3m
- **Historic England** - £50m heritage stimulus fund (capital) to restart vital construction and maintenance projects on heritage sites, stalled due to the restrictions caused by COVID-19
- **Arts Council England Capital** - capital expenditure funding for existing Arts Council capital grant holders who can demonstrate a capital funding shortfall due to COVID-19.

Read the guidance [here](#).

### Over 64 million meals claimed for as Eat Out to Help Out enters fourth week

- New figures today show that restaurants have claimed for more than 64 million discounted meals as Eat Out to Help Out enters its fourth week
- Upward trends in meals claimed for shows millions continue to flock to eat out to support 1.8 million jobs in the hospitality sector – which has been hit hard by coronavirus
- 87,000 claims have been made by restaurants taking part in the scheme

Further details [here](#)

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## Education & Skills

### Face Coverings in Education

The guidance has changed to recommend the wearing of face coverings - for pupils and staff - in communal areas of the education settings to include:-

- Where the layout of the school or college estate makes it particularly difficult to maintain social distancing when staff and pupils are moving around the premises
- Where on top of hygiene measures and the system of controls recommended in the full [opening guidance to schools](#) and [FE colleges and providers](#), permitting the use of face coverings for staff, pupils or other visitors would provide additional confidence to parents to support a full return of children to school or college

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## Fixed Key Messaging

- Last payments for the Local Authority Grant Schemes will be made on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020. If you are eligible for support and yet to claim, contact your Local Authority [here](#).
- 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](#)

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](#)

