



COVID-19 DAILY UPDATE 31/03/2020

We want to provide our partners with a daily COVID-19 update.

Yesterday and today further actions have been announced:

- The Business Secretary has also announced he will make changes to enable UK companies undergoing a rescue or restructure process to continue trading, giving them breathing space that could help them avoid insolvency. This will also include enabling companies to continue buying much-needed supplies, such as energy, raw materials or broadband, while attempting a rescue, and temporarily suspending wrongful trading provisions retrospectively from 1 March 2020 for three months for company directors so they can keep their businesses going without the threat of personal liability.
- Over 10,000 businesses have already successfully applied for the three-month (automatic and immediate) extension to the filing of their accounts following a fast-track online process. Business can [apply here](#).
- Government is asking for coronavirus (COVID-19) support from businesses. They are looking for businesses who can provide: medical testing equipment, medical equipment design, protective equipment for healthcare workers, such as masks, gowns and sanitiser, hotel rooms, transport and logistics, for moving goods or people, manufacturing equipment, warehouse or office space, for medical use or storage, expertise or support on IT, manufacturing, construction, project management, procurement, engineering or communications and social care or childcare. Businesses are being asked to [complete this form](#) if they can help.

- To help get personal protective equipment (PPE) and hand sanitiser to NHS staff as quickly as possible, Business Secretary Alok Sharma is easing administrative requirements and barriers to imports of these essential tools, without compromising on their safety.
- By reducing the amount of red tape, new suppliers and businesses that produce ingredients for safe hand sanitiser and PPE will be able to bring their products to market in a matter of days.
- New [government partnership](#) with airlines to fly back more tourists stranded abroad.

Cheshire and Warrington Updates

- The LEP is working closely with local authorities and government.
- A one page flyer is being sent from the LEP and Growth Hub outlining the support available to businesses, with information about support available. This is in partnership with the three local authorities.
- A [survey](#) has been created to gather business intelligence. So far we've received 352 responses.
- Updates are on the Growth Hub [website](#), being updated daily, a new layout will be launched this week to make it easier to access information.
- The Growth Hub are also sending regular newsletters, which can be [signed up to here](#). Yesterday's newsletter can be viewed [here](#).
- Marketing Cheshire have created a [guide](#) for their members and the wider retail, leisure, hospitality and tourism sector businesses. They are also creating a further survey for these businesses to understand the impact on the sector.
- Businesses in Cheshire East are invited to sign up to the Business Helping Business initiative, which links businesses together so businesses can support each other. If a business would like to offer support or if needs to access business related help, [please visit the site](#).

Useful Links

- <http://candwgrowthhub.co.uk/covid-19/>
- www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response
- <https://www.businesssupport.gov.uk/coronavirus-business-support/>

