

Subject: CoronaVirus Update No35
Date: Friday, 15 May 2020 at 10:51:36 British Summer Time
From: EHA Secretary
Attachments: image001.png

Dear Member

Please kindly see a roundup of news for your information:

1. Council asks everyone not to rush back to the seafront and downland beauty spots

Statement from Eastbourne Borough Council:

“We ask everyone to follow the government advice about social distancing and not to rush back to areas that would normally attract increased numbers of people, such as the seafront and downland beauty spots”

- Read full story here <https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/eastbourne-borough-council-news/council-asks-everyone-to-follow-government-advice-and-not-rush-back-to-the-seafront-and-beauty-spots/>
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2. Holiday pay etc for employees whilst on furlough

Official guidance can be found at this link:

- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/holiday-entitlement-and-pay-during-coronavirus-covid-19>
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3. Detailed instructions

The Local Authority has now received detailed instructions, for the distribution of **Discretionary Grants** for Micro Businesses etc and also included **B&B's paying Council tax only**. If this applies to you, then please visit the below link:

- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/885011/local-authority-discretionary-grants-fund-guidance-local-government.pdf
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4. Self-Employment Income Support Scheme opens for application

The scheme will allow those who are **self-employed** to **claim a taxable grant of 80%** of their average monthly trading profits, paid out in a single instalment covering 3 months, and capped at £7,500 altogether. This is a temporary scheme, but it may be extended.

- Check if you are [eligible to claim](#).
- **To make a claim** you will need:
 - Self Assessment UTR
 - National Insurance number
 - Government Gateway user ID and password
 - Bank account number and sort code you want us to pay the grant into (only provide bank account details where a Bacs payment can be accepted)

NB: When claiming you will have to confirm to HMRC that your business has been adversely affected by coronavirus.

5. Coronavirus: Will I be able to go on holiday?

Is it now possible to go on holiday, either in the UK or abroad?

Read in BBC News: <https://apple.news/AoJLyU3pOSB2rvjTzkscOhw>

The office received an alarming amount of calls yesterday from concerned members on this topic, especially since booking.com is beginning open its doors again.

With that in mind, you might find this helpful/useful:

It is important that any forthcoming guest understands, that accommodation providers have NOT had any lockdown restrictions removed, except for the criteria listed by the Government.

Therefore, It is down to the accommodation provider to contact the guest and give them a choice:

1. **Moving** the date to a later time in the year; which is problematic as we have no idea when these restrictions will be removed; /OR
2. Cancel the booking; if the guest wants to cancel the booking, then you can do that via the BDC extranet and click on **Request to cancel booking**. As Force Majeure, takes effect, this means the guest can cancel for free, and therefore you will not have to pay commission.

Here is the link if you require any further information:

- https://partner.booking.com/en-gb/help/reservations/temporary-changes-help-you-manage-date-modifications?utm_source=extranet&utm_campaign=110609
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Take care & keep being safe 😊

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