

9th July 2020

Briefing Note

CECA Scotland Member Briefing:

COVID-19 - CECA SCOTLAND UPDATE

Introduction

CECA Scotland will be producing regular updates to keep member companies updated on new developments relating to the Covid-19 coronavirus and its impact on the Scottish civils sector. If you would like further information or to share your experiences about how COVID-19 is impacting on your business, contact our Chief Executive, Grahame Barn: 07976 199615 or grahame@cecascotland.co.uk.

Summer Statement - What Does it Mean for Scotland

Further to yesterday's CECA Scotland [Daily Update](#), the Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe) have written a very helpful blog on what yesterday's Summer Statement means for Scotland, given many of the measures announced only apply in England.

In respect on investment in infrastructure (£5.6 committed by the UK Chancellor), SPICe confirm that while this would normally be expected to generate Barnett consequential for the Scottish Government, this only occurs where the investment involves *additional* funding. In this case, the infrastructure announcements made in the Summer Statement involve a re-prioritisation of pre-COVID-19 investment plans, so the money is not new, it is just being spent differently. This means that no Barnett consequential result from the spending. So, if the Scottish Government wishes to replicate these schemes, it will also have to re-prioritise existing spending plans. Read more [here](#).

In addition, the UK Government have issued a statement today highlighting the benefits for Scotland in yesterday's Summer Statement, which you can read [here](#)

Move to Phase 3

The First Minister has [today](#) confirmed that Scotland will officially move to Phase 3 of the route map out of lockdown. As with Phase 2 there will be a staged approach to further easing of restrictions. Read the Phase 3 Update to the Routemap [here](#)

What is changing when? Key Dates

Friday 10 July

- Mandatory face coverings in shops and other retail
- Outdoors - a household can meet up to 4 other households at a time - up to 15 people in total
- Indoors - a household can meet up to 2 other households at a time - up to 8 people in total (this includes overnight stays)
- A household can meet up to 4 other households per day in total

CECA Scotland Briefing: COVID-19 Update

Monday 13 July

- Organised outdoor contact sports, play and physical activity, can resume for children and young people under 18
- All dental practices begin to see registered patients for non-aerosol routine care.
- Non-essential shops inside shopping centres can re-open
- Face-to-face youth work can resume outdoors

Wednesday 15 July

- Places of worship can re-open with physical distancing and limited numbers
- All holiday accommodation permitted
- Indoor hospitality (subject to physical distancing rules and public health advice).
- Hairdressers and barbers open
- Museums, galleries, monuments, libraries, various other visitor attractions, cinemas open
- All childcare providers can open
- Easing of restrictions on attendance at funerals, marriage ceremonies and civil partnerships registrations, with physical distancing (limited numbers).

Wednesday 22 July

Motorcycle instruction and theory/hazard tests can resume.

Universities and colleges - phased return to on campus learning as part of a blended model with remote teaching.

Personal retail services such as beauticians and tailors can re-open

NOT before 31 July (*The First Minister has said Phase 3 could last longer than 3 weeks*)

- Non-essential offices & call centres can re-open
- Working from home and working flexibly remain the default
- Live events (outdoors) with physical distancing and restricted numbers.
- Live events (indoors) - with physical distancing and restricted numbers
- Bingo halls (with physical distancing)
- Other indoor live-entertainment venues (e.g. theatres, music venues)
- Indoor gyms (with physical distancing and enhanced hygiene measures)
- Outdoor contact sports (organised for adults and informal for all ages)
- Driving lessons
- Scaling up of public services

Tuesday 11 August

- Children to be able to return to school full time (the blended model of schooling remains a contingency plan).

Scottish Government: Help for Homebuyers and Employment Support

New initiatives to support homebuyers and help people into work or to re-train have been announced by Finance Secretary Kate Forbes. The measures are part of the Scottish Government's wider efforts to help the economy recover from the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) and are expected to involve an investment of around £200m.

The threshold at which Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (LBTT) is paid will be raised from £145,000 to £250,000 and a further £100m is being invested in targeted employment support and training. Economy Secretary Fiona Hyslop will set out further details on this employment funding in due course. Ms Forbes announced the initiatives as part of a statement following spending announcements by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Read more [here](#)

For more information please contact Grahame Barn on grahame@cecascotland.co.uk

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CECA National Weekly Update

The latest CECA National Weekly Update, covering 1-8th July, has been published. Read [here](#).

Construction Industry Tax Update

Read the latest Tax Update from construction industry tax expert, Liz Bridge, [here](#).

COVID-19 Guidance for People with Specific Medical Conditions

Updated guidance was published yesterday (8th June) for people with specific medical conditions including cancer, diabetes, heart disease, IBD; chronic kidney and liver disease; dermatological, neurological, (specific) ophthalmic, respiratory and rheumatic conditions, chronic pain, and rare diseases. Read it [here](#).

Public Health Checks at borders

Following yesterday's announcement that quarantine free travel will be possible this summer, new Scottish Government guidance has been published today on public health checks at the Scottish border. Read it [here](#).

Expenses and Benefits during COVID-19

HMRC have today revised the guidance issued on 6th July; COVID-19 tests are will no longer be treated as a benefit and in line with provision of PPE, provision will be non-taxable. Read more [here](#)

Updated Job retention scheme and furloughing video

The UK Government have updated their Job Retention Scheme video to reflect recent changes. Watch it [here](#)

You can access the Scottish Government's latest COVID-19 Construction Sector guidance [here](#).

Access Phase 2: business and physical distancing guidance [here](#).

<https://cecascotland.co.uk/covid-19/>

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