

Chesterfield Borough Council Additional Restrictions Grant Scheme – Addendum 04 January 2022

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 On 31 October 2020, the Government announced the introduction of a new funding stream known as the Additional Restrictions Grant. This funding stream enables Local Authorities to provide additional support to businesses which are under national and local restrictions because of the coronavirus pandemic. The Additional Restrictions Grant can be used to provide discretionary business grants and wider business support activities across Chesterfield Borough.
- 1.2 On 5 January 2021, the government announced additional funding to Local Authorities to enable them to provide ongoing support to businesses following the introduction of further national lockdown restrictions.
- 1.3 Chesterfield Borough Council is responsible for administering the Additional Restrictions Grant scheme to businesses located within its boundaries.
- 1.4 The Council was allocated funding of £3,029,832, to be used across the financial years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.
- 1.5 £2,805,569 of the available grant funding has already been allocated to eligible Chesterfield businesses.
- 1.6 The Additional Restrictions Grant scheme has been reviewed and this addendum sets out the eligibility criteria for the latest round of grants, which will enable the remaining Additional Restrictions Grant scheme funding of £224,263 to be distributed to local businesses.
- 1.7 On 21 December 2021, the government announced that further Additional Restrictions Grant scheme funding would be made available to Local Authorities to enable them to provide ongoing support to businesses following the impact of the latest Omicron variant of Covid-19. Further Additional Restrictions Grant scheme funding will therefore be made available to Chesterfield businesses once this funding has been received from Central Government.

2.0 Scope of the Fund

- 2.1 The Government guidance issued on 4 November 2020 gives the Council discretion over the Additional Restrictions Grant scheme.

Hospitality grant

- 2.2 The Council intends to utilise the remaining funding stream in the form of a single discretionary grant payment of £1,000 to be paid to hospitality businesses such as cafés, restaurants, pubs, and bars (excluding takeaway food businesses) who continue to trade within Chesterfield Borough.
- 2.3 Hospitality businesses must be delivering 50% or more of their business through in person custom to be eligible for this grant. The Council will utilise information it already holds about these businesses to determine their eligibility.

Eligibility

- 2.4 To be eligible for grant support under the scheme, businesses must:
- 2.4.1 Not be in administration, insolvent or in receipt of a striking off notice at the time of grant award.
 - 2.4.2 not be considered to have a detrimental impact on the borough, e.g., breach of statutory notice
 - 2.4.3 Meet the subsidy control allowance (formally state aid) set out by Government.

3.0 The Council's approach

Hospitality grant

- 3.1 Eligible applicants within the hospitality sector who have already applied for and been awarded a Local Restrictions Support Grant or an Additional Restrictions Grant will not be required to complete a new application form and their eligibility for the remaining grant funding will be assessed automatically.

- 3.2 However, businesses will be required to return the hospitality grant payment if their circumstances have changed since previous covid-19 business grant applications were made and they no longer meet the eligibility requirements at paragraph 2.3 and 2.4.
- 3.3 Grants will be paid to businesses within 7 days of approval of the application.
- 3.4 Grant payments will be made direct to the businesses' bank account by faster payment.
- 3.5 The Council will review the Additional Restrictions Grant scheme again when the value of any new funds is known to determine eligibility for future releases of the scheme and ensure that expenditure in full can be achieved prior to the 31 March 2022 deadline.
- 3.6 Further information about the eligibility criteria for any future releases will be publicised at the appropriate time. An application form will more than likely need to be completed for further releases of scheme funding.
- 3.7 The Council reserves the right to vary the terms of the scheme at any time, and without notice, should it be necessary to do so.

4.0 Other information

- 4.1 Grant income received by a business is taxable therefore funding paid under the Additional Restrictions Grant scheme will be subject to tax. Only businesses which make an overall profit once grant income is included will be subject to tax.
- 4.2 The Government and Chesterfield Borough Council will not accept deliberate manipulation and fraud and any business caught falsifying their records to gain grant money will face prosecution and any funding issued will be subject to claw back, as may any grants paid in error.
- 4.3 Businesses are required to declare that by accepting the grant payment, they confirm that they meet the eligibility criteria for the grant scheme and that the information they have provided is accurate.
- 4.4 Businesses are required to declare that any payments accepted will be in compliance with Subsidy Control Allowances.

- 4.5 The Council does not accept any liability for any issues that may arise for businesses because of applying for, receiving, or not receiving grant payments under this scheme.
- 4.6 Enquiries about the scheme should be emailed to grants@chesterfield.gov.uk