



## Business Information Update 9th July

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### Petition for Extension for free parking in Elgin

As you know we highlighted last week that the Moray Council was proposing to start re charging for Car Parking in Elgin from the 1st August. This caused a huge amount of upset and stress not only to the BID businesses but to members of the public concerned about having to touch the machines which would be widely used by others.

A petition has now been started to object to this and we have been asked to share it with you, if you feel strongly about the decision you may wish to sign it and share it with others.

Here is the link- <http://chnq.it/SFvYhZQQ>

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### Moray Council- Application for use of outside space

The Moray Council have sent us the application form for businesses to apply to use outside space (form below).

There is normally a charge for this license however the Council has agreed that for the purposes of pandemic response, no charge will be made for the use of additional space beyond that required by your business in normal trading circumstances.

Please note that if you wish to serve alcohol in a new area then there are separate licensing requirements and this should be arranged directly with the council's licensing team – please use your

normal contacts for this.

Please read the [Outside Space Licensing Cover Note](#) (below) before submitting your application.

Please send your completed application form and any queries to [covid19@moray.gov.uk](mailto:covid19@moray.gov.uk)

[Outside Space Licensing Cover Note](#)

[Application Form](#)

[Example License](#)

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## Scottish Government Phase 3 Update

The following confirmed dates for Phase 3 were released today by Scottish Government.

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July

- Mandatory face coverings in shops and other retail.

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July

- Non-essential shops inside shopping centres can re-open (following guidance and with physical distancing).
- All dental practices may begin to see registered patients for non-aerosol routine care. Urgent care centres will continue to provide aerosol generating procedures
- Face-to-face youth work can resume outdoors (following relevant guidance).

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July

- Places of worship can re-open for congregational services, communal prayer and contemplation with physical distancing and limited numbers.
- Museums, galleries, monuments, libraries, various other visitor attractions, cinemas (including drive-ins and venues screening films) – with physical distancing and other measures (e.g. ticketing in advance).
- Hairdressers and barbers can re-open – with enhanced hygiene measures.
- Indoor hospitality can reopen (subject to physical distancing rules and guidance).
- All holiday accommodation permitted (following relevant guidance).
- Easing of restrictions on attendance at funerals, marriage ceremonies and civil partnership registrations with physical distancing (limited numbers). Associated receptions are subject to restrictions on hospitality and household meetings.

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

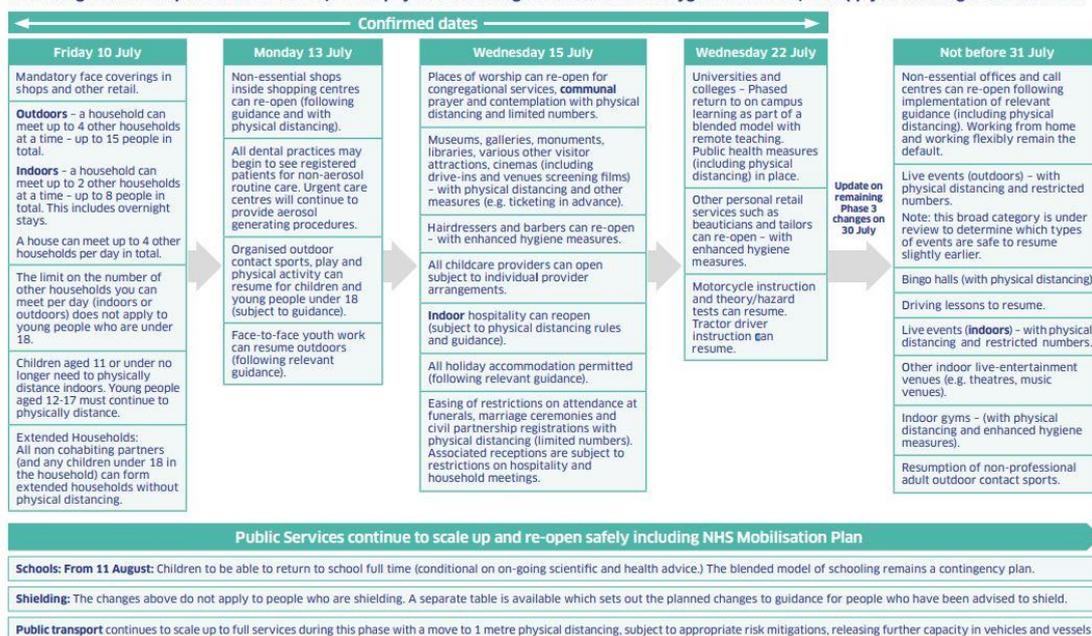
- Universities and colleges – Phased return to on campus learning as part of a blended model with remote teaching. Public health measures (including physical distancing) in place.

- Other personal retail services such as beauticians and tailors can re-open – with enhanced hygiene measures

None of the below are expected to be permitted before 31st July:

- Non-essential offices and call centres
- Live events (outdoors) – with physical distancing and restricted numbers.
- Bingo halls (with physical distancing).
- Driving lessons
- Live events (indoors) – with physical distancing and restricted numbers. Other indoor live-entertainment venues (e.g. theatres, music venues).
- Indoor gyms – (with physical distancing and enhanced hygiene measures).

Guide to re-opening and scaling up over Phase 3. Not all details are shown. Please refer to guidance and Q&A for more details. Relevant guidance and public health advice (such as physical distancing rules and enhanced hygiene measures) will apply to all changes shown below.



[You can read the full update here](#)

## UK Government Plan for Jobs

The Chancellor of the Exchequer set out a Plan for Jobs to Parliament on 8 July 2020. Some of the measures for Scotland are below.

**Retention Bonus** – The government will introduce a one-off payment of £1,000 to UK employers for every furloughed employee who remains continuously employed through to the end of January 2021. Employees must earn above the Lower Earnings Limit (£520 per month) on average between the end of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and the end of January 2021. Payments will be made from February 2021. Further detail about the scheme will be announced by the end of July.

**Kickstart Scheme** – The government will introduce a new Kickstart Scheme in Great Britain, a £2

billion fund to create hundreds of thousands of high quality 6-month work placements aimed at those aged 16-24 who are on Universal Credit and are deemed to be at risk of long-term unemployment. Funding available for each job will cover 100% of the relevant National Minimum Wage for 25 hours a week, plus the associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer minimum automatic enrolment contributions.

**Expanded Youth Offer** – The government will expand and increase the intensive support offered by DWP in Great Britain to young jobseekers, to include all those aged 18-24 in the Intensive Work Search group in Universal Credit.

**Enhanced work search support** – The government will provide £895 million to enhance work search support by doubling the number of work coaches in Jobcentre Plus before the end of the financial year across Great Britain.

## **Hospitality Measures**

**Eat Out to Help Out** – In order to support around 130,000 businesses and to help protect the jobs of their 1.8 million employees, the government will introduce the Eat Out to Help Out scheme to encourage people to return to eating out. This will entitle every diner to a 50% discount of up to £10 per head on their meal, at any participating restaurant, café, pub or other eligible food service establishment.

The discount can be used unlimited times and will be valid Monday to Wednesday on any eat-in meal (including on non-alcoholic drinks) for the entire month of August 2020 across the UK. **Participating establishments will be fully reimbursed for the 50% discount.**

**You will be able to register from 13th July.** [You can find out more here](#)

**Temporary VAT cut for food and non-alcoholic drinks** – From 15 July 2020 to 12 January 2021, to support businesses and jobs in the hospitality sector, the reduced (5%) rate of VAT will apply to supplies of food and non-alcoholic drinks from restaurants, pubs, bars, cafés and similar premises across the UK. Further guidance on the scope of this relief will be published by HMRC in the coming days.

**Temporary VAT cut for accommodation and attractions** – From 15 July 2020 to 12 January 2021, to support businesses and jobs, the reduced (5%) rate of VAT will apply to supplies of accommodation and admission to attractions across the UK. Further guidance on the scope of this relief will be published by HMRC in the coming days

[You can read the whole document here](#)

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## We're Good to Go!

"We're Good To Go" is the official UK mark to signal that a tourism and hospitality business has worked hard to follow Government and industry COVID-19 guidelines and has a process in place to maintain cleanliness and aid social distancing.

Upon successful completion of the application, you will be sent a secure link to download your certificate, mark and a toolkit with practical steps for telling your customers that your business is Good to Go.

[Find out more here](#)

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## FSB- How to reassure customers your small business is COVID-19 secure

Please read the below information from the Federation of Small Businesses

"As more businesses are reopening or plan to reopen across the UK in the coming weeks, learn how you can fuel customer confidence with our tips and advice.

It's going to be crucial for your business to maintain customer safety and trust in this new normal. Our guide takes you through everything from risk assessments to communicating with customers.

[Find out more here](#)

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## Upcoming Acas training for managers and HR professionals

Please read the below information on upcoming training from Acas.

Digital training events are now available, designed to build skills and knowledge for people managers and those involved with organisational change:

[Transitioning from lockdown](#) - this training session includes:

Holidays and leave - furlough - varying contracts - flexible working - bringing staff back into the workplace - addressing staff concerns including staff safety

>> [view more detail or register your place](#)

**Redundancy: Getting it right** - this training session includes:

Planning and alternatives - collective redundancy process including consultation - individual redundancy - selection process - selection criteria - legal considerations

>> [view more detail or register your place](#)

**Managing discipline and grievance** - this training session includes:

Addressing the challenges remote working presents in discipline and grievance procedures - resolving issues informally - investigations - taking action - appeals

>> [view more detail or register your place](#)

**Employment law update** - this training session includes:

Statutory payment rates - maternity/paternity pay and minimum wage - holidays during furlough - working safely during the pandemic - employment law changes from April

>> [view more detail or register your place](#)

Aside from getting up to speed with the latest guidance and advice, the events also provide an excellent opportunity for you to ask questions of the Acas trainer on important issues being faced by your organisation.

[View more information about Acas training including details of how events can be tailored for groups of managers within your organisation](#)

**Events can be booked online or you can call our customer services team on 0300 123 1150 to reserve places**

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**Take Care and Stay Safe**  
**Gill & Tina**