

Financial Support during Lockdown (Alert Level 4)

Tennis Wales is committed to helping our venues, coaches and officials find the financial support available to them during these challenging times. We have outlined below a number of sources for potential support. It is important to highlight that information and support available is changing rapidly and we advise that you keep a regular eye on the links provided. Tennis Wales will provide updated information when we can.

If you believe that you are not supported by any of these opportunities and have a financial support need during the lockdown period please contact us direct to discuss your individual circumstance.

Self-Employed People

1. Coronavirus Self-Employed Income Support

The self-employed scheme is being extended from 1 November 2020.

The Self-Employment Income Support Scheme Grant Extension provides critical support to self-employed people in the form of two grants, each available for three month periods covering November 2020 to January 2021 and February 2021 to April 2021.

The first grant will cover a three-month period from 1 November 2020 until 31 January 2021. The Government will provide a taxable grant covering 80% of average monthly trading profits, paid out in a single instalment capped at £7,500 in total.

You'll have to confirm to HMRC that your business has been adversely affected by coronavirus. The grants are taxable income and also subject to National Insurance contributions.

You are also able to setup a **payment plan** for outstanding tax owed from the 2019/20 tax year; you must complete your self-assessment tax return first ahead of the 31st January deadline and then can apply for a payment plan via your personal tax account.

Further information and a link to apply for income support (**applications are open now**) and to set up a payment plan can be found in your personal tax account with HMRC.

Business Wales have good information and support available for self-employed people, which can be found [here](#)

2. Sport Wales 'Freelancer Fund'

Is currently closed, but will **re-open week commencing 18th January, with revised criteria**. We urge all self-employed or freelance workers to subscribe via the Sport Wales website to receive further information as soon as it is available <https://www.sport.wales/content-vault/sportfreelancerfund/>

The grant will increase to £2,500 (with those successful in phase one automatically being considered for an additional £1,000).

Following feedback from NGBs such as Tennis Wales, we're expecting the revised criteria to support more people, so please take the time to see if you're eligible.

Venues, CITCs and Coaching Operators

1. Job Retention Scheme

The Job Retention Scheme (also known as the furlough scheme), has now been extended to March 2021 and more employees are eligible. As of 1 November, workers can be furloughed for all or part of their usual hours, and you can claim for anyone employed on 30 October 2020 with a Pay As You Earn (PAYE) RTI submission between 20 March 2020 and 30 October 2020.

The criteria for the Job Retention Scheme means that employees can be on any type of contract, including a zero-hour contract or a temporary contract, and foreign nationals and agency workers are also eligible. The Job Retention Scheme covers 80% of an employee's salary for usual hours not worked (up to £2,500). Claims can be submitted up to 14 days in advance, and you will receive the payment and must pass this on to your employee. The full details of the scheme and how to apply can be found on the [Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme](#) page.

Please ensure you furlough all eligible staff for all their usual hours not worked to minimise income loss.

2. ERF Sector Specific Grant

The Sector Specific Grant applications will open in the week commencing **11 January 2021** and remain open for **2 weeks or until funds are fully committed**.

This grant is to support businesses impacted by the restrictions introduced on 4 December 2020. Use the [Eligibility Checker](#) now to review the criteria prior to its opening.

The ERF Sector Specific Support (operating cost) package is targeted at Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure (HTL) businesses and associated supply chain businesses that will be materially impacted by a greater than 60% impact of turnover as a result of the restrictions introduced on 4 December 2020 until the 22 January 2021.

The funds seek to compliment other COVID-19 response measures to support businesses, social enterprises and charitable organisations in Wales. [FAQs](#) are available for further information

3. ERF Restrictions Business Fund

On the 30 November the First Minister announced a £340m package of support directed primarily at the hospitality, tourism and leisure related supply chain sectors. The purpose of the fund is to support businesses into the New Year with cash flow support to help them survive the economic consequences of the restrictions put in place.

For all other eligible businesses to receive any of the ERF Restrictions Fund, businesses will need to register their details, as well as making a short on-line application to their respective

local authority for the discretionary elements. These payments will start to reach businesses in January. The fund includes two different grants.

Eligibility for the Business Restrictions Fund:

- Hospitality, non-essential retail, tourism, leisure and supply chain businesses, which are impacted by the new restrictions that are in receipt of Small Business Rate Relief (SBRR) and have a rateable value of £12,000 or less will be eligible for a £3,000 payment. Supply chain businesses qualifying for SBRR will also be eligible for this support if they have greater than 40% reduction in turnover during the restriction period.
- Hospitality, non-essential retail, tourism, leisure and supply chain businesses with a rateable value of between £12,001 and £150,000 will also be eligible for a £5,000 payment if impacted by the restrictions. Supply chain businesses in the same rateable value bracket will also be eligible for this support if they have greater than 40% reduction in turnover during the restriction period.

As with hospitality businesses in the first round of the ERF Restrictions Business Fund, non-essential retail businesses that were previously registered under the firebreak will be paid directly.

For non-essential retail businesses without registration, a registration process will be opened in January 2021 and payment made as soon as possible. All information will be available on the Business Wales website and linking through to the relevant local authority websites.

How to access?

Businesses must be on the non-domestic rates (NDR) rating list for their local authority on 1 September.

Businesses who received the Lockdown Business Grant in October via their Local Authority will begin receiving payments via the ERF Restriction Fund into their bank account during December. These businesses will not be required to re-register their details.

For all other eligible businesses to receive any of the ERF Restrictions Fund, businesses will need to register their details, as well as making a short on-line application to their respective local authority for the discretionary elements. These payments will start to reach businesses in January.

Business will be able to access the registration and application process to access the funding through the Business Wales and Local Authority websites. Further details on the process will be published shortly.

Businesses not eligible for non-domestic rates will be able to continue to apply to local authorities for a Discretionary Grant of up to £2,000.

4. ERF Restrictions Discretionary Grant

- Local authorities will continue delivering the Lockdown Discretionary Grant to businesses that are materially impacted. As was the case for the Firebreak, this will continue to be targeted at businesses that are not on the non-domestic rates (NDR) system and therefore not eligible for the NDR linked grants. The grant level for this strand would be set at eligible costs of **up to £2,000** per business.
- This will provide support to sub VAT sole traders without a property who are materially impacted (>40% reduced turnover) as a result of the restrictions, e.g. cleaners providing services to the hospitality industry.
- Application forms for the ERF Restrictions Discretionary Grant can be accessed by visiting the relevant local authority website. Please check your relevant local authority

website for details. When all local authority schemes have opened, direct links to the relevant web pages will be published on the Business Wales website.

You are **not eligible** for this grant if:

- You are eligible for, or have received a Non-Domestic Rate Grant from your Local Authority
- If you have 50 or more employees
- If the business generated less than 50% of your income, the business must be your main source of income.

Applications will be dealt with on a **first come first served** basis. This **may** lead to applications not being appraised after they have been submitted if the fund is fully committed.

Information is evolving all the time, further support and help can be found on the Business Wales site [here](#)

5. Sport Wales 'Be Active Wales' Fund

The Be Active Wales Fund aims to protect, prepare and progress community sport clubs and organisations in Wales through the Covid-19 pandemic and into the future.

The fund has already helped many clubs and organisations across Wales face the challenges caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. It will continue to provide funding to help clubs tackle these challenges, and to ensure sustainability for years to come.

There are **three types of grant** available, all designed to address different challenges faced by clubs and organisations.

If you are applying for the fund, it's important that you choose the correct grant and make your application relevant to that grant.

PROTECT

To help **protect** clubs and community organisations or groups that are at **immediate financial risk** as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. This grant is intended to help organisations that are **unable to meet their financial obligations because of Covid-19**. For example, to cover fixed costs (e.g. rent and utility) that are no longer supported with revenue.

Protect grants of **£300-£5,000** are available for emergency support

PREPARE

To help **prepare** clubs and community organisations in direct response to Covid-19. This grant is designed to fund elements and items that are **essential for a return to play**.

Prepare grants of **£300-£50,000*** are available.

*For grants over £5,000, you will need to make a 15% contribution (from the club's own funds or grants from elsewhere). This is not a general development grant – **applications must be in direct response to Covid-19**.

PROGRESS

To help **progress** sport and activity to the next step and support **long-term sustainability**.

This grant is intended to help clubs and community organisations:

- Tackle inequality
- Create long-term solutions to be more sustainable
- Take innovative approaches

Grants of **£300 - £50,000*** are available. * You will need to make a contribution of 10% for grants over £10k or 20% over £25k.

BEFORE APPLYING – WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

To make your application strong and increase your chance of success, it's important that you fully understand what each grant is about and what the criteria is.

Applications are more likely to be successful when they:

1. Choose the relevant grant for the club's needs. Many of the applications which we have to reject are due to the wrong grant being selected.
2. Articulate how the items which the club wish to fund meet the aims and criteria of the grant.

We recommend that you take the following steps before applying:

1. Read all the relevant webpages, including *this* page and the pages for each grant listed below.
2. Read through the [Help Centre FAQs](#) and ask any additional questions you might have.
3. Consider how [support organisations](#) could help you in the application process.

Further information on the Be Active Wales Fund can be found [here](#)

UK Government Funding Announcement

Following the announcement of new national restrictions in England, the UK Government has announced new one-off top up grants for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses to help them through to the spring in England.

The grants will be provided as follows:

- £4,000 for businesses with a rateable value of £15,000 or under
- £6,000 for businesses with a rateable value between £15,000 and £51,000
- £9,000 for businesses with a rateable value of over £51,000

The new one-off grants are in additions to existing business support, including grants worth up to £3,000 for closed businesses, and up to £2,100 per month for impacted businesses once they reopen.

We are awaiting further advice on how this funding will impact Wales and if additional sources of grant funding will be available as a consequence.

We urge all venues, CITCs and coaching operators who have not had business support funding to date to write directly to their local authority to make a case of support. In particular venues who have a rateable value (including notional), offer elements of hospitality or pay employees via the PAYE system.

Tennis Wales can assist with appropriate local contacts and review support requests.