

# **Covid Business Support & Kickstart Update**

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**Strategic Environment Committee, 16 February 2021**

## Local Restrictions Support Grant and 'discretionary' schemes – from 05 Nov (“lockdown2”)

### Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed)

Grant: £1,334 - £3,000

For rate payers, required to close

OR

### Additional Restrictions Grant (Discretionary)

Grant: £500 - £3,000

- (i) Non Rate-payers required to close
- (ii) Or “Severely Impacted” by restrictions

#### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Must be direct Business Rate Payer

Trading from a Gravesham address

Can demonstrate fixed costs

Trading from a Gravesham address

Incl. Home-based / occasional market trader

Two application windows operated, incl. over Christmas

## Local Restrictions Support Grant & 'discretionary' schemes – 05 Nov to 19 Dec 2020

Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed)

£1.55m

OR

Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG  
Discretionary)

£2.13m

DIFFERENCES TO ORIGINAL (SUMMER 2020) GRANT SCHEMES

Grant pot for rate payers smaller than early 2020

Fewer businesses required to close

Pot for discretionary grants much larger

Gravesham discretionary policy adopted – eligibility

Smaller grants; so simpler application process

02 Dec – 19 Dec (Tier 3 criteria) – retail open

## Changes since 20 December (Tier 4 commenced)

**Closed Businesses Lockdown Payment (CBLP) -  
in addition to LRSB Closed**

**Extra  
£2.95m  
LRSB**

**New  
£4.14m  
CBLP**

CBLP - one off 'top up' - £4000, £6000, £9,000

CBLP added to LRSB Closed grant payments

6-weekly payment cycle – extra funding, sooner

OR

**Additional Restrictions Grant (Discretionary)**

**Extra  
£0.95m**

Grant pot 'topped up', for parity with CBLP/LRSB

No prescribed criteria change

20 Dec – 04 Jan (Tier 4 criteria) – majority closed

05 Jan onwards ("Lockdown3") – majority closed

## Progress in Dispensing Grant Funds

**LRSB Closed + Closed Businesses Lockdown Payment (CBLP)**

OR

**Additional Restrictions Grant (Discretionary)**

LRSB - one-off Payment (paid end Jan '21)			
Rateable Value	Total Payments	Amount	Total Paid
& below	320	4,000.00	1,280,000.00
01-50,999	96	6,000.00	576,000.00
& above	16	9,000.00	144,000.00
	<b>432</b>		<b>2,000,000.00</b>

LRSB (Closed) - (05 Nov to 02 Feb)			
Rateable Value	Total Recipients	Amount (per 28 day)	Total Paid
& below	320	1,334.00	1,338,098.61
01-50,999	96	2,000.00	623,285.89
& above	16	3,000.00	156,214.35
	<b>432</b>		<b>2,117,598.85</b>

**LRSB  
60%  
spent**

ARG (Discretionary) - (05 Nov to 25 Jan)			
Rent / Rateable Value	Total Payments	Amount	Total Paid
Home based	40	500.00	
Low Rent / RV	43	1,334.00	
Mid Rent / RV	24	2,000.00	
High Rent / RV	3	3,000.00	
	<b>110</b>		<b>248,170.00</b>

ARG (Discretionary) - 26 Jan to 12 Feb 21	
	Total Paid
<b>ARG - Grand Total</b>	<b>£429,996.00</b>
<b>Total Paid</b>	<b>£678,166.00</b>

**ARG  
22%  
spent**

# Kickstart Scheme Update

	March 2020	December 2020	Increase
<b>Unemployment</b>	2,300 (3.5%)	4,805 (7.3%)	109%
<b>Youth Unemployment (18-24 year olds)</b>	455 (6%)	955 (12.6%)	110%

Council's application for 34 Kickstart Scheme placements approved – job description preparation

Government announced (3 Feb) that there is no longer a need for a minimum of 30 job placements to apply directly for a grant, i.e. no need for a 'Gateway' intermediary.

Youth Steering Group – DWP, North Kent College, training providers, National Careers Service, GBC, etc – information sharing and local partnership working, individual support for young people.