

		CORONAVIRUS INFO UPDATE 25 MARCH 2020	
HELP AVAILABLE	Who is it for?	What support is available?	More information
Support for freelance workers	Self-Employed	In the last week the UK government and NI Executive have announced a range of measures aimed at supporting businesses and individuals through the coronavirus pandemic. No specific earnings support has been announced for self-employed people, but some updates are expected. We'll continue to review and update you.	
Universal Credit/Income Support	Self-Employed	If you have had a significant interruption to income applications for Universal Credit can be made online: www.universal-credit.service.gov.uk	UC Helpline: 0800 012 1331
Hardship/emergency payments	Self-Employed	If you need access to an emergency payment, contact: Department for Communities Finance Support service: 0800 587 2750 Make the Call 0800 232 1271 Helpline for benefits and supports entitlements	Advice NI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • @Advice NI • Benefits Helpline – 0808 802 0020 • Money/Debt Helpline 0800 028 1881 • https://www.adviceni.net
Income Tax	Self-Employed	Income Tax Self-Assessment, payments due on the 31 July 2020 will be deferred until the 31 January 2021. No application is needed.	https://bit.ly/3dqzavT

			HMRC Coronavirus Helpline 0800 015 9559
Domestic Rates	All	Domestic rates delay . Rates bills will be issued in June rather than April, but ratepayers will have to pay the same amount owed in the year.	https://bit.ly/2JeKwoQ
What else could help?	All	For individuals, this gateway number can be helpful in identifying the range of benefits and supports that you may be eligible for. Make the Call 0800 232 1271 Helpline for benefits and supports entitlements	https://bit.ly/2QL8Suz
Business Rates	All businesses	Business rates rebate of 25% for all businesses. Rates bills will be issued in June rather than April with no rates charged for April, May and June 2020 All existing rates hardship schemes remain in place too: https://bit.ly/3aib4RT	https://bit.ly/3duKtD9
Business Support Grant	Small businesses	Details of this scheme have just been published, covering a grant of £10,000 to be available to all small businesses who are eligible for Small Business Rates Relief, (that is with a rateable value of up to £15,000). Payments will be made directly into the bank accounts of eligible businesses through the rates system. An online web portal will be set up this week for remaining eligible businesses to register their details.	https://bit.ly/2WHkBhy

Retail, Tourism & Hospitality Business Grants	Small businesses in these sectors	<p>A grant of £25,000 will be provided to companies in the retail, tourism and hospitality sectors with a rateable value between £15,000 and £51,000. Payments will be administered directly as with the £10k payment.</p> <p>Tourism NI have also set up a Business Support helpline: 028 9592 5313</p>	https://bit.ly/2WHkBhy
Job Retention Scheme	All businesses	Businesses who have had to give some staff a temporary leave of absence can now get support to keep them on the payroll until they are able to return to work. The scheme will cover 80% of salary and employers may make up the remaining 20% but are not obliged to do so. The scheme will be administered through HMRC and exact details are expected soon.	https://bit.ly/39aR3LW
Statutory Sick Pay	Businesses (>250 staff)	Employers will be able to reclaim SSP paid to any staff who are absent from work due to coronavirus sickness or because they have to self-isolate. The payment to employers will be delivered as a rebate with details to be announced following legislation.	https://bit.ly/2WDgKCh
Business Interruption Loans	Businesses	Coronavirus Business Interruption Scheme (CIBILS) is a loan from an accredited lender. Lenders are given a government guarantee on repayments meaning they can lend more freely, but the responsibility for the loan remains with the business/borrower.	https://bit.ly/33JB46f
VAT	All businesses	VAT payments for the next quarter (i.e. the period from 20 March to 30 June 2020) will be deferred, although businesses will have to pay all VAT for the year by 31 st March 2021.	https://bit.ly/2UvM5Ea

		HMRC's Time to Pay scheme remains first point of call for discussions about timing of tax payments. HMRC Helpline: 0800 015 9559	
Annual Accounts	All businesses	All businesses will receive a three month extension for the filing of annual accounts to companies house.	https://bit.ly/2WH0y2N