



14th April 2020

Dear all,

Please find below an update for all Visit Staines BID members:

Covid-19 Government Support

HMRC webinar from 9th April 2020

This is informative and easy to follow, and whilst most of the information is out there, it serves as a good 'belt and braces' to the various Government job retention schemes. The key point from the webinar was the announcement that the furlough portal will be open on the 20th April. Watch at:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/viewRecording/4864872066551336963/1410821159120813831/jim@jerestaurants.co.uk?registrantKey=6193787999390382862&type=ATTE NDEEMAILRECORDINGLINK>

Business led innovation:

Funding competition (Deadline 17 April at 12pm) Business-led innovation in response to global disruption UK registered businesses can apply for a share of up to £20 million to respond to new and urgent needs in UK and global communities during and following the Covid-19 pandemic. Proposals that meet the criteria can claim 100% of your project costs up to the maximum of £50,000. These will be paid in advance of the project start date. More information at: <https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/583/overview#summary>

Job retention scheme:

Some important changes to the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme to understand. Follow the link for guidance: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme?utm_source=22073d98-c3f4-47e3-b012-3fa9f1a81e4e&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate#payroll-consolidation

Self-employed payments from government:

The Chancellor announced a self-employed income support scheme, which will cover up to 80% of self-employed workers' average taxable monthly profits. The monthly profits will be judged on average profits over the past three years, and monthly payments will be taxable and capped at £2,500 per month.

To qualify for this you must have filed a tax return for 2018/19 - you've got until 23 April to do so. This means you must have been self-employed prior to 6 April 2019. If you were due to file a 2018/19 tax return but missed the deadline this year, you'll have until Thursday 23 April to submit your tax return and then you can still access the scheme. However, if you only have a few months' self-employment on your 2018/19 return, this will be counted as your total profit for the year – the Government won't pro-rata it based on your monthly profits.

Staines Business Impact Survey

Thank you to the businesses that have completed our business survey. If you have not already done so, please take a few minutes to complete so that we have a greater understanding of how your business has been directly affected by Covid-19 and how we can help you going forward: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/mybusiness_corona

New Website

We have now launched the new Visit Staines BID website at www.visitstaines.co.uk and we will shortly be launching the Business Directory on there with links to your own online platforms.

There is also a page on the new website for 'Business to Business Offers' so if you would like to offer a discount or offer to the 320 businesses in Staines-upon-Thames town centre please let me know and we will publicise for you. Similarly if you have an offer for the thousands of employees in the town centre such as a discount on haircuts / coffees / food / gym membership – please let us know and we will publicise.

NHS Window Stickers For Your Business

Blackstone Printing, based in Ashford, have joined Visit Staines as a voluntary BID member. They have done a fantastic job with their new 'Thank You NHS' window graphics for various shops including Blowers Barbers on Church Street (see attached photo) and they would like to offer the same service to all shops and businesses in Staines-upon-Thames. If you would like to transform your shop windows to say 'Thank You to the NHS' or display a smaller window sticker please contact Ashley on Tel 07479 844 411 www.blackstoneprinting.com

Opening Times

Each day on the Visit Staines Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages we publish a list of the Opening Times of Visit Staines BID businesses that are open to the public or offering a takeaway or delivery service. If your business is not on the list below and is open to the public or offering takeaway / delivery please let me know so that we can add you.

Marks and Spencer Mon- Sat 8am -6pm. Sun 10.30-4.30pm. 1st hr elderly, vulnerable. Tues & Fri 1st hr N

Iceland Mon-Sat 9-6pm. 8am-9pm elderly, vulnerable. Last hour NHS. Sun 10-4pm.

Wilko Mon-Sat 9am -5pm. Sun 10.30-4.30pm.

Poundland Mon-Sat 8am - 5.30pm. Sun 10.30 - 4.30pm.

WH Smith & Post Office Mon-Fri 9-3pm. Sat 9-12.30. Sunday closed.

Boots including Pharmacy Mon-Sat 9-5pm. Sun 12-4pm.

Sunset Pharmacy Mon-Friday 9-6.30pm. Sat 9-1pm. Sun closed.

Vitamin Shop Mon-Fri 11-5pm. Sat 11-4pm. Sun closed.

Holland and Barrett Mon-Sat 10-4pm. Sun 10.30-4.30pm.

Grape Tree Mon - Sat 10am -5.15pm. Sun 11- 4.15pm.

Pets Corner Mon-Sat 9-5pm. Sun 10.30 - 4.30pm.

Metrobank Mon-Fri 10-4pm.

Santander / HSBC / Barclays / Nationwide / Lloyds Mon-Fri 10am-2pm.

Natwest Mon-Fri 10am-1pm.

Specsavers Mon - Sat 10-4pm - emergencies only.

High St Market Wed / Fri / Sat - for food only.

Cousins Fruit & Veg home delivery. Text 077653 45122.

Halligan Meats home delivery. WhatsApp only 07469 702759.

Takeaways

Grand Grill Takeaway kebabs, mixed grills, chicken, chips Mon-Sat 4pm-10pm, deliveries only.

Roshni's Indian Restaurant deliveries & collection.

Caffe Gusto Delivery through Deliveroo, Uber Eats or direct.

Thames Side Brewery Thurs-Sat 4-7pm. Takeaway only.

Staines Food Court: Taste of Sichuan, Dim Sum Inn, Chicken ChickKing & Eat Japan. Order through Deliveroo, Uber Eats, Just Eat.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Michelle Baker

Visit Staines BID Manager

Staines-upon-Thames Business Improvement District (BID) T/A Visit Staines

e. Michelle@visitstaines.co.uk

w. <http://www.visitstaines.co.uk/>