

Scottish hospitality and tourism businesses

£104m support package lifeline

Scottish hospitality and tourism businesses with a rateable value of over £51k will now be able to apply for funding support for the first time, as part of a **£104 million package provided by the Scottish Government**.

The funds form part of the £185 million package previously announced by Finance Secretary Kate Forbes, with **The Scottish Government confirming they will consider additional support in light of the heightened restrictions announced that are set to come into force from Boxing Day**. Businesses required to close by law are currently able to claim up to £3,000 every four weeks through the **Strategic Framework Business Fund**.

Just over £50 million is earmarked for businesses who have not received support from the **Pivotal Enterprise Resilience Fund** or **Hotel Support Programme**, particularly those with a rateable value above £51K, with additional support available to smaller businesses impacted by restrictions. **A further £19.2 million will be used to provide one-off grants for hospitality businesses.**

Scottish Tourism Recovery Taskforce

The funding follows recommendations from the **Scottish Tourism Recovery Taskforce (STRT)** who undertook lengthy discussions within the industry to understand where support was needed the most.

According to **Tourism Secretary Fergus Ewing**, “The COVID-19 crisis has shattered previously successful businesses and we are committed to doing everything possible to get them back on their feet. These funding streams seek to throw a lifeline to some sectors that we know are particularly vulnerable and may not have access to help from other sources.”

VisitScotland will be administering some of these funds. We will announce when the applications are open in due course.

Other areas set to benefit include:

£11.8 million for international inbound, coach tourism and domestic tour operators

£7 million for self-catering

£5 million for visitor attractions

£2.5 million for outdoor tourism

£2.3 million for hostels

£2 million for ski centres

£1.5 million for travelling show people ineligible for other support

£1.2 million for sector and destination organisations

£1 million for B&Bs and guest houses excluded from the latest Non-Domestic Rates scheme



Further details and opening dates will be announced in due course. If you require further advice on this issue, please email info@thomsoncooper.com or call 01383 628800.