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Dear Client

Below are the recent discretionary grant support details from the Government.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact your usual contact / client manager at Crane & Johnston as we are here to help you through this uncertain and challenging period.

Cornwall has received around £13.5m from the government to use for grants for small businesses.

This amount of money does not allow us to assist every business that is currently struggling, so we have agreed a policy for spending this money. This policy is based on government guidance issued on 13 May 2020.

We will continue to lobby the Government for additional funding so that we can assist even more businesses.

Who are the grants for?

The aim of the discretionary fund is to support small and micro businesses that have been:

- Negatively affected by COVID-19
- Haven't already received financial assistance through other government schemes
- Continue to have high fixed term costs related to property such as rent or mortgage payments

The small business grant policy explains how we will distribute the limited amount of money we have been allocated.

How much are the grants?

We expect that the level of need is far higher than the amount of funding we have.

To ensure that grants are distributed as quickly as possible, standard grants of £10,000 will be available. In very specific circumstances we will consider larger grants of up to £25,000 for those businesses meeting the criteria in the policy.

We have done this to keep the application process as simple as possible. Unless there is a very specific case for it, a standard £10,000 grant will be made available to all.

Which businesses are eligible?

Late on Friday 22 May some changes were made nationally to the Local Government Discretionary Small Business Support Grants scheme.

The changes mean **that Businesses who are eligible for the Self-Employed Income Support Scheme (SEISS) are now eligible to apply for the Local Authority Discretionary Fund.**

Please read all the information below, as well as the policy, for information on which businesses are eligible to apply for a grant.

The government guidance tells us to prioritise support for businesses that fall into four groups. If your business falls into one of these groups, please complete an application form using the link below.

If you own more than one business, you can apply for each business that is eligible.

- Small businesses in shared offices or other flexible workspaces. Examples could include units in industrial parks, science parks and incubators which do not have their own business rates assessment
- Regular market traders with fixed building costs, such as rent, who do not have their own business rates assessment;
- Bed & Breakfasts which pay Council Tax instead of business rates, where the Bed and Breakfast business is the main income/occupation of the business owner. Grants will not be made available to individuals who occasionally rent out a room or their property through platforms such as AirBnB
- Charity properties in receipt of charitable business rates relief which would otherwise have been eligible for Small Business Rates Relief or Rural Rate Relief - i.e. have a rateable value less than £15,000

You can apply for a the small business discretionary grant [here](#)

If your application is successful, we hope to make a payment to you within 7 working days.

What if my business doesn't fall into one of these categories?

If your business does not fall into one of these groups, and you are unable to access any other form of government funding, please complete the expression of interest form using the link below:

You can register an expression of interest [here](#)

We will use this information to understand the level of need for the funds still available to us. We will also continue to request more funding from the Government to support Cornwall's businesses.

Can I apply if I've had a grant from another scheme?

You will not be eligible for this discretionary grant scheme if your business is eligible for cash grants from any other central government COVID related scheme, including:

- Small Business Grant Fund
- Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant
- The Fisheries Response Fund
- Domestic Seafood Supply Scheme (DSSS).
- The Zoos Support Fund
- The Dairy Hardship Fund.

You are also not eligible if:

- You started trading after the 11 March 2020
- If your business is in administration, insolvent or where a striking-off notice has been made

Businesses who have applied for the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme are eligible to apply for this scheme.

If I am turned down for grant, can I appeal?

The Council's decision on whether to offer a grant is final and there is no opportunity to appeal.

Where certain types of businesses that are not eligible, but the expressions of interests show a need, we will suggest to Government that we should be able to use part of the unclaimed budget from the initial grant scheme to support more businesses.