



NATIONAL LEAGUE SYSTEM: CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

UPDATE 9 - 27 MARCH 2020



NATIONAL LEAGUE SYSTEM UPDATE:

In this update:

- Up to date information regarding Government Financial Support

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

The Government announced on March 20th that it will pay 80% of the salary of staff who are kept on by their employer, covering wages of up to £2,500 a month.

NLS clubs have a variety of different employees and we have been working with Government to understand how to access this programme for clubs. DCMS has told The FA that the Job Retention Scheme is designed to support the sports sector and that clubs should review the guidance and apply.

We are in ongoing dialogue with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport as well as HM Treasury for clarity on specific matters however the guidance released by Government will be of use to clubs

Below is information currently confirmed by the Treasury.

Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme:

KEY FACTS:

- Employer grant of up to 80% of salary at a cap of £2500
- £2500 is to include all employment costs

- It can be backdated to March 1st
- Employees will need to have been employed on February 28th
- Furlough means that an employee is on 'leave of absence' and so cannot work
- As this is an employer grant, the employee can be furloughed at more than one job and the £2500 applies to each employer

Further guidance can be accessed here and clubs are strongly encouraged to visit this website and assess if this applies to them: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme>

Treasury support currently announced for businesses:

Clubs are asked to review the current Business Rate relief/grants as below:

- Grant funding of £25,000 is available for hospitality and leisure businesses with property with a rateable value between £15,000 and £51,000
- A 12-month business rates holiday for all retail, hospitality and leisure businesses in England will be introduced.
- Government have defined Leisure Facilities to **include**: sports grounds and clubs, sport and leisure facilities and clubhouses.
- **Attached to this email is the latest Government guidance.**

Also, the Treasury has announced:

- The gov't is bringing forward legislation to allow SMEs to reclaim statutory sick pay paid for sickness absence due to COVID-19
 - Employers with fewer than 250 employees will be eligible (further information to follow)
- Clubs in financial distress with outstanding tax liabilities may be eligible to receive support with their tax affairs through HMRC's Time To Pay service
 - Please call the dedicated helpline: 0800 0159 559 who can help with any tax deferrals and revised payback schedule
- Clubs that have insurance for both pandemics and government-ordered closure should be covered. However, the impact of government advice on mass gatherings in terms of insurance is yet to be confirmed
 - Please check your individual insurance policy

Clubs are encouraged to visit the government's [support for businesses](#) page or contact your local authority which will be issued with guidance to help businesses in their area.
