

SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR FISHING INDUSTRY

SUPPORT INITIATIVE	HELP AVAILABLE
FISHERIES RESPONSE FUND	<p>The government's new £9m Fisheries Response Fund (FRF) will contribute towards the fixed business costs of over 1000 businesses in the catching and aquaculture sectors that have been adversely impacted by the downturn of export and domestic markets for fish and shellfish.</p> <p>Further information and guidance on the fund criteria and eligibility, is now available on MMO's website www.gov.uk/mmo</p>
DOMESTIC SEAFOOD SUPPLY SCHEME	<p>The government's new £1m Domestic Seafood Supply Scheme (DSSS) will fund projects that will help seafood businesses in England increase the supply of local seafood to domestic markets.</p> <p>Further information and guidance on the fund criteria and eligibility, is now available on MMO's website www.gov.uk/mmo</p>
KEY WORKERS	<p>Food production workers are on the list of 'key workers' whose children will be prioritised for education provision.</p> <p>For guidance, please click here or ring 0800 046 8687</p>
SOCIAL DISTANCING	<p>Guidance has been published by the government to advise on social distancing measures that we should all be taking to decrease social interaction between people in order to reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). The government are also advising those who are at increased risk of severe illness from coronavirus (COVID-19) to be particularly stringent in following social distancing measures.</p> <p>For further advice on social distancing, please click here.</p>
COVID-19 RAPID RESPONSE GRANT PROGRAMME	<p>The Fishmongers' Company's Fisheries Charitable Trust (FCFCT) and Seafarers UK, with a group of trusted partners, have developed a fund to assist food charities, fishing and seafood businesses</p> <p>For guidance, please click here</p>
BOUNCE BACK LOANS	<p>New 100% government backed loan scheme for small business. Businesses will be able to borrow between £2,000 and £50,000 and access the cash within days.</p> <p>For guidance, please click here</p>
SELF-EMPLOYMENT INCOME SUPPORT SCHEME INCLUDES: SHARE FISHERS	<p>If you are self-employed or a share fisher earning taxable profit of less than £50k p.a. and are adversely affected by Covid-19 you are entitled to a grant worth 80% of average monthly taxable profit, up to £2,500 a month for three months, or longer if necessary. Taxable profit is income after business expenses have been deducted from annual turnover.</p> <p>If you missed the 2018/19 tax filing deadline in January, you have been given extra time - up to April 23 - to submit a tax return for that year</p> <p>You can receive this grant and continue to do business, or claim Universal Credit and other benefits and still qualify for the grant..</p> <p>You cannot apply just yet – HMRC will contact those eligible and invite them to apply online through gov.uk</p> <p>For guidance, please click here</p>

<p>UNIVERSAL CREDIT</p>	<p>Universal Credit has removed the Minimum Income Floor which makes it easier for self-employed people to access this benefit. Self-employed earners may be eligible for either new style Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) or Universal Credit or both. People can apply for either or both of these benefits online at GOV.UK</p> <p>For more guidance on universal credit, please click here or you can call 0800 328 5644</p>
<p>MORTGAGE / LOANS HOLIDAY</p>	<p>Lenders have agreed with the government to offer a 3 month mortgage or loan payment deferral to those struggling as a result of Coronavirus.</p> <p>For more guidance, please contact your lender if you think you may potentially experience payment difficulties as a result of the coronavirus situation</p>
<p>CORONAVIRUS JOBS RETENTION SCHEME</p>	<p>All UK employers with a PAYE scheme can access support to continue paying part of their employees' salary for those who would otherwise have been laid off. Pays 80% of salary up to £2,500 a month for workers who have been designated as 'furloughed'.</p> <p>For more guidance, please click here or call 0300 456 3556</p>
<p>STATUTORY SICK PAY REBATE</p>	<p>Small and medium-sized businesses will be able to reclaim Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) paid for staff sickness absence due to coronavirus.</p> <p>For more guidance, please click here or call 0300 456 3565</p>
<p>INCOME TAX</p>	<p>Self-assessment income tax payments have been deferred from end of July 2020 to end January 2021. This is an automatic offer with no applications required. No penalties or interest for late payment will be charged in the deferral period.</p> <p>For guidance on time to pay, please click here. You can also find information on income tax deferral for the self employed by click here. You can also call 0300 456 3565</p>
<p>VAT</p>	<p>VAT payments deferred from end March 2020 to end June 2020. This is an automatic offer with no applications required. UK registered businesses will not need to make VAT payments normally due with VAT returns during this period.</p> <p>For more guidance, please click here or you can call 0300 456 3565</p>
<p>HMRC COVID-19 SUPPORT FOR BUSINESS</p>	<p>Businesses with outstanding tax liabilities and in financial distress can receive extra support through HMRC's Time to Pay service. Contact HMRC support and ask to defer VAT/ PAYE and Corporation Tax.</p> <p>For guidance, please click here or you can call 0800 0159 559</p>
<p>CORONAVIRUS BUSINESS INTERRUPTION LOAN SCHEME</p>	<p>This scheme will help businesses who have immediate cash-flow issues. The scheme will be delivered through commercial lenders, backed by the Government-owned British Business Bank.</p> <p>For guidance, please click here or you can call 0300 456 3565</p>
<p>SMALL BUSINESS GRANT FUNDING IN ENGLAND</p>	<p>This will provide a one-off grant of £10,000 to eligible businesses to help meet their ongoing business costs - it applies only if you have on-shore business premises. Local authorities will write to eligible businesses.</p> <p>For more guidance, please click here or you can call 0300 456 3565</p>

BUSINESS RATES RELIEF	<p>Business Rates Relief for small businesses, applicable if the business operates from a property.</p> <p>For more guidance, please click here</p>
INTERNATIONAL SUPPLY CHAINS	<p>If your supply chain has been affected by coronavirus DIT may be able to help you to find alternative suppliers.</p> <p>For more guidance on international supply chains, please click here.</p>
MARKETING INITIATIVES	<p>Food is part of the Critical National Infrastructure (CNI) and sea fishing is a key element of the food chain. Fishers are reviewing their business operations and making the best decisions for them and the safety of their crew as to whether to continue fishing, with appropriate social distancing measures in place, or tie up. There is no compulsion on them either way.</p> <p>If you wish to sell privately, private buyers can purchase up to 30 kg of fish caught from a licensed fishing vessel for private consumption. Restaurants and commercial buyers are required to be registered. Seafish and Defra are currently promoting the Sea for Yourself campaign.</p> <p>For more guidance on marketing initiative please see the government website by clicking here or by visiting Fish is the Dish or Sea Fish. You can also email DEFRA on: Registrationof.BuyersandSellersRBS@defra.gov.uk</p> <p>The Government's advice on social distancing is published here.</p>

WELFARE SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO FISHERS

ORGANISATION	WHAT
Seafarers UK COVID-19 Emergency Fund	<p>In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Seafarers UK charity have created a new Seafarers UK COVID-19 Emergency Fund of £2million, with £500,000 immediately allocated to assist fishing communities across Britain.</p> <p>For guidance, please click here or ring 020 7932 0000</p>
Fishermen's Mission	<p>Offering emergency financial support for the maintenance of the basics of life, and providing pastoral care</p> <p>For further information, please click here.</p>
Seafarers' Advice and Information Line (SAIL)	<p>Part of Citizen Advice Bureau (CAB) offering specialised advice for fishers, including independent, financial advice on benefit entitlement, HMRC issues, debt, charity grants and housing.</p> <p>-</p> <p>For further information, please click here or you can email advice@sailine.org.uk</p>
Seafarers' Hospital Society	<p>Offering health, welfare and advice to merchant seafarers and fishers' families.</p> <p>For further information, please click here or you can email admin@seahospital.org.uk</p>

Big White Wall	<p>A confidential 24/7 online mental health and wellbeing advice and support service provided by the Seafarers Hospital Society.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>For further information, please click here or you can ring 0208 856 3696</p>
Seafarer Support	<p>Guides serving and former UK seafarers and their families towards relevant help in times of need.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>For further information, please click here or you can ring 0800 121 4765</p>
Charity Support Package	<p>Chancellor sets out extra £750 million coronavirus funding for frontline charities</p> <p>_____</p> <p>For further information, please click here</p>