

An update on the latest government announcements related to coronavirus.

At yesterday's press conference the government announced a continuation of the social distancing guidelines for at least a further three weeks (until 7 May). The announcement and further details can be found at: <https://bit.ly/2za94xL>

Today, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has announced that the government-backed loan scheme for large businesses affected by coronavirus has been expanded to cover all viable firms. Now, all viable businesses with turnover of more than £45m will be able to apply for government-backed support. This complements existing support including the Covid Corporate Financing Facility and the Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme. More details of this announcement can be found at <https://bit.ly/loanschemeext>

We are continuing to work to raise awareness of the full range of support available to businesses of all sizes through this period and would, as always, be grateful for anything you can do to share this information through your networks and supply chains. Details of all support measures are available at: <http://bit.ly/2IU02v>

Finally, I would like to let you know that we are encouraging businesses to explore the support available by highlighting case studies of companies already doing so on government social media channels, including @cabinetofficeuk and @HMGNorth, and on the business support sections of gov.uk

We are still looking for businesses to be included, by sharing a short video or some images and text, so do get in touch if you would like to get involved, or know a company that might be interested. Here is an example of the kind of video we have been sharing:

<https://twitter.com/cabinetofficeuk/status/1250412765090648069?s=20>

Thank you for your help and do get in touch if we can assist with any queries.

Helen Clarke