



## Reaching out to small businesses about discretionary grants



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A number of small businesses such as those in shared office spaces, regular market traders, bed and breakfasts and charities may be eligible for discretionary grants under government measures during the on-going coronavirus crisis.

We are calling upon these business owners to act now, to check if they are eligible and to consider applying.

Cllr John Graham, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property, said: "The council has moved swiftly in recent weeks to administer the government schemes that have been put in place to support the many businesses that have been adversely affected by the lockdown measures.

"This additional discretionary scheme aims to help those small businesses that may not have been eligible for the initial grant scheme as, because of the way they operate, they are not rateable.

"Applications need to be made to the council by 16 June so I'd urge anyone who needs more information to check our website and consider applying at the very earliest opportunity.

"Hertsmere Borough Council has already paid out more than £16.5m in government grants under the initial raft of government measures, reaching more than 1,200 businesses, around 91.5 per cent of those that are eligible.

"The council's Revenue and Benefits team has worked tirelessly to allocate these monies and has also been reaching out to those businesses that we have on record who have not yet applied."

For more information about discretionary grants and for further financial advice for businesses, visit [www.hertsmere.gov.uk/covidbusinesssupport](http://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/covidbusinesssupport)

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