

ADMIRAL COVID-19 SUPPORT FOR OUR LICENSEES

March 31st 2020

Dear Licensee,

You have closed your pub on the instruction of the government. This is clearly a very worrying time, from both a health and a business perspective. Please also note:

The current law is clear – pubs should be closed. They are only permitted to provide delivery or takeaway services in accordance with their premises licence, updated planning permission (which allows pubs and restaurants to do so) and the updated Covid-19 guidance issued on the GOV.uk website.

'Lock-ins' are clearly an offence and, in addition to possible fines, pubs could face a licence review leading to revocation.

I want to reassure you that Admiral Taverns is working hard to support you, your family and your business. Therefore **Admiral is offering the following support for all our licensees who fully comply with the government's trading requests and do not endanger their licence:**

RENT

Your rent and associated charges (service, insurance) are now cancelled (rent-free), effective from Saturday 21st March until Thursday 30th April. We will keep this end date under review.

DEBT

All outstanding debt and repayment plans will be suspended until Thursday 30th April, and then reviewed.

PRODUCT REPLACEMENT

We can confirm that in general **unopened kegs** from the following suppliers will be replaced free of charge or credited to your account upon pub re-opening, There will be some qualifying criteria and logistics TBC:

- Carlsberg
- Heineken UK

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- Marstons (will also cover full Casks)
- MolsonCoors (will also cover full Casks)
- Diageo (if purchased after Feb 10th)
- Tennents (if purchased after March 1st)
- Budweiser Brewing Group (if purchased after March 5th)

In addition, we want you to avail of as much **Government and supplier support** as you are entitled to:

- Government grants of either £10,000 or £25,000 are payable to the business rates payor as at March 11, 2020. Please ensure that you are the registered rates payer with your Council (even where your rates bill is Nil)
- From June, taxable grants will be available to cover up to 80% of self-employed average monthly profit (calculated from the last three years' tax returns) up to a value of £2,500 per month.
 - These will be backdated to March, so the June payment will be a lump sum.
 - The grants will be for self-employed people earning less than £50K a year in profit who make the majority of their income through self-employment.
 - Tax authorities will contact you if you are eligible for the scheme.
- Via the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS), the government has promised to support employment by paying 80% of salaries (up to £2,500 per month) where employees would otherwise have been laid off, and are instead 'furloughed'. This support will be paid at end April but backdated to March 1st. This is a formal process which you must properly document.
- VAT payments due have been deferred to end June.
- You can claim back Statutory Sick Pay for employees who have been off work due the COVID-19.
- Sky and BT have both suspended charges for pubs.
- Business rates paid between 21-31st March should be refunded by Local Authorities at your request and no rates will be payable from 1st April.

We also recommend that you regularly review

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19/covid-19-support-for-businesses> for latest government announcements.

I hope this provides some reassurance. Admiral Taverns is determined to support you through this period and we look forward to pubs reopening as soon as the virus is under control.

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ADMIRAL STAFFING LEVELS

Like you Admiral must also take cost-savings measures during this time, and from April 1st 2020, 75% of our staff including BDMs will not be working and will be on furlough (*using the government's CJRS referred to above*). So you may not be able to contact the person you normally deal with. This is uncharted territory for everyone, but we are still here to help and support. So you can either call on 01244 321171 or email enquiries@admiraltaverns.co.uk and you will be directed to an appropriate person/department. We will be doing our best to serve you and appreciate your patience during this time.

FURTHER ADVICE

We have two other CoronaVirus links on our website (via the purple banner). Please also look at our **'General Guidance'** and **'Trading Options'** links. We will try to keep their contents relevant and concise.

Importantly, the former contains Health and Safety (Statutory Compliance) information for you as our licensee customised for the current unique COVID environment. It also illustrates a small number of high quality internet links to the latest advice and status from Government, NHS, key industry bodies and professional advisors (accountants); this information will be helpful in understanding and accessing Government funding.

Best wishes and please stay safe.

Chris Jowsey
Chief Executive Officer