

FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

PRESS RELEASE

April 21, 2020

Businesses urged to claim support grants

Fenland businesses that have not yet applied for a coronavirus business support grant are being urged to put in a claim.

Fenland District Council has so far paid out more than £10million worth of the Government grants to 929 businesses.

But around 650 eligible businesses have still to apply and they are now being urged to act quickly to ensure they get the financial support to which they are entitled.

Leader of Fenland District Council, Cllr Chris Boden, said: "A total of £10.235m has now been paid, with 929 businesses having received a grant of £10,000 or £25,000 directly into their bank accounts. We have had tremendous feedback from the business community recognising the great efforts by the Council's finance team to turn around the payments so swiftly.

"And while we've been encouraged by the take-up so far, there remains a significant number that have not yet claimed. These grants do not need to be repaid so there's no reason for a business not to apply – it is financial help to which they are entitled and will enable them to bounce back once this crisis is over. I would urge any that have not yet claimed to do so as soon as they can."

The grants being administered by the Council are from the Government's Small Business Grant Fund and Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund.

- Small Business Grant Fund:
 - Businesses receiving small business rate relief or rural rate relief, with a rateable value of £15,000 or less, can claim a grant of £10,000.
- Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund:
 - Businesses in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors with property with a rateable value of £15,000 or below can claim a grant of £10,000.
 - Businesses in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors with property with a rateable value between £15,001 and £51,000 can claim a grant of £25,000

Businesses which have received a letter or email from the Council about the grant funding are being urged to respond. Businesses which have not been contacted, but still think they are eligible for a grant, can make a claim by downloading the necessary documentation from the Council's website at: www.fenland.gov.uk/coronavirusbusinessgrants

Any businesses needing help or advice in completing their declarations can contact the Council on 01354 654321 or email: covid19.businessgrants@fenland.gov.uk

Business advice, plus answers to Frequently Asked Questions, is also available on the Council's website at: www.fenland.gov.uk/coronavirusbusinessadvice

ENDS

For more information contact Fenland District Council press office on 01354 622226