

# FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

## PRESS RELEASE

August 12, 2020

### Final call to apply for business grants as total value of grants paid out reaches almost £20m

Fenland District Council has launched a final appeal to businesses affected by the coronavirus pandemic to apply for two government grants before the final deadline.

So far the Council has distributed £19.6 million to more than 1,800 businesses through the Government's Small Business Grant Fund, the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund and the Local Authority Discretionary Grant Fund.

The second and final round of the Discretionary Grant Fund closed on July 27, with almost 60 small businesses including beauty therapists, community and church halls, caterers and construction firms, receiving funding totalling over £206,000 last week.

But time is running out to apply for the Small Business Grant Fund and the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund as the application deadline is Friday, August 28.

Cllr Chris Boden, Leader of Fenland District Council and Portfolio Holder for Finance, said: "It's brilliant to see how much funding has been distributed to so many businesses across the district to help them through these incredibly difficult and challenging times.

"But I must encourage businesses who think they might be eligible for the remaining two grant funds and haven't yet applied to do so before they close; this is our final call."

The grant schemes are:

- Small Business Grant Fund – grants of £10,000 for businesses receiving small business rate relief or rural rate relief, with a rateable value of £15,000 or less.
- Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund - grant funding for businesses in the retail, leisure and hospitality sector that do not receive small business rate relief and have a rateable value below £51,000, specifically:
  - £10,000 for businesses with a rateable value of £15,000 or less; or
  - £25,000 for businesses with a rateable value between £15,000 and £51,000

Eligibility is based on the rateable value as at March 11, 2020.

For more information and to apply, visit: [www.fenland.gov.uk/coronavirusbusinessgrants](http://www.fenland.gov.uk/coronavirusbusinessgrants)

Businesses that require help to complete an application form or have queries regarding the grants, can contact the Council at: [covid19.businessgrants@fenland.gov.uk](mailto:covid19.businessgrants@fenland.gov.uk) or phone 01354 654321.

**ENDS**

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