

Additional Restrictions Grant now open to domestic businesses and Tameside taxi driver licence holders

CHANGES to the Additional Restriction Grant (ARG) scheme mean that domestic businesses and those who hold a Tameside taxi licence may now be eligible for a one off payment of £1,500.

INTRODUCTION

Tameside Council have changed the eligibility for the Additional Restrictions Grant meaning that domestic businesses and those who hold a Tameside taxi licence may now be eligible for a one off payment of £1500. The scheme also remains open for applications from commercial based businesses ineligible for the LRSG (Closed); (Closed) Addendum; and (Sector) schemes.

ELIGIBILITY

Domestic Businesses

Tameside domestic based businesses trading on 22 October 2020 with fixed business costs, that can be evidenced, and that have been impacted by COVID19 may be eligible for the payment.

Domestic based business would include all types of businesses operating from non-commercial premises for example: self-employed, sole traders, limited companies, public companies, limited liability partnerships or community interest companies.

Examples of domestic businesses that could be eligible for the ARG grant (not exclusive)

- Driving instructors
- Mobile hairdressers
- Event industry businesses (DJs, musicians)
- Personal Trainers
- Market traders not on the Tameside regular trading list
- Cultural businesses delivering events
- Professionals based at home (e.g. accountants, architects)
- Allied trade (e.g. builders)

For domestic based businesses, the ARG cannot replace income but can cover fixed business costs. Evidence of costs will be required when applying for the grant, for example:

- business insurances
- public liability insurance
- professional indemnity
- professional body fees
- proof of trading in the relevant period

Tameside Taxi Driver Licence Holders (including private hire and hackney carriage drivers)

Tameside Taxi Licence holders would be eligible for the grant payment, this includes Taxi drivers who have a Tameside licence but do not live in the borough.

Taxi drivers who are residents but hold their licence with another Local Authority would only be eligible if they declared they had not received funding from another Local Authority scheme.

EVIDENCE REQUIRED

We require businesses to demonstrate that they meet the eligibility criteria and applicants will be asked to provide the following:

- Evidence to confirm the business was trading from Tameside premises on 22 October 2020:
 - a bank statement for the applicant business showing business related transactions (MANDATORY)
 - other document demonstrating active trade continuing up to 22 October 2020 with an explanation of how it is relevant.Any document provided must be dated within, or applicable to, the period October 2020.
- For businesses trading from a domestic setting: evidence of fixed business costs, separate to domestic/residential costs; such as insurance, legal and accountancy fees, trading licences, utilities, equipment rental, software licenses and commercial vehicle costs. Fixed costs do not include stock, domestic property or employee costs. Tameside taxi licence holders must provide their current licence reference number
- For businesses trading from commercial premises:
 - Confirmation of the number of employees based within Tameside premises of the business e.g. monthly employee payment summary (please ensure any summary has personal details redacted and only shows aggregate number of employees based within Tameside premises).
 - Lease, rental or business mortgage agreement to evidence Fixed Property Costs (rent) if trading business has no rateable value liability or Business Rates Reference Number of rateable value details if applicable
- Bank statement provided must confirm the bank account details provided for receipt of grant award payment are related to the applicant business.
- Passport or driving licence as proof of identity.

MANAGING DEMAND

ARG is a fixed pot and will continue to use the first come, first served approach which is the common approach across ARG in GM. This is currently utilised for Tameside's ARG and LRSG (Open) schemes and enables the Council to pay businesses immediately on completion of assessment and eligibility checks, and provides assurance to the business on a minimum award level. This also reduces delay in providing support to businesses.

The pot ringfenced for domestic based businesses and Tameside taxi licence holders (£1.8m) will enable 1,200 awards. There is no detailed analysis available which provides accurate splits between commercially based and domestically based businesses to predict demand however we do anticipate a high number of applications. With this in mind we encourage potential applicants to visit the website to review the eligibility guidance before applying as soon as possible.

TIMELINES

The timeline for the scheme is:

- Applications opened to commercial based businesses – Thursday, 10 December 2020, 4pm. At 12 noon Friday 26 February 2021 the application form will be amended to allow applications from domestic based businesses and Tameside taxi licence holders.
- Payment of grants – From 17 December awarded and paid out on a first come, first serve basis.
- Applications close – when funds are exhausted or on 31 May 2021, whichever is earliest

APPLICATIONS

Applications for the grant can be made online at <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/coronavirus/businessgrants>

Anyone unable to apply online can request a printed copy by emailing tamesidegrants@tameside.gov.uk or by calling 0161 342 8355