

Cefnogi Busnesau yng Ngwynedd Supporting Businesses in Gwynedd



 CYNGOR GWYNEDD COUNCIL

Gwynedd Business Support Bulletin 07.01.2022

COVID-19: round-up of recent changes

The Welsh Government has announced today that there will be no further changes to the Coronavirus regulations this week but warned we are all facing a difficult month ahead.

To read today's statement go to:

<https://gov.wales/written-statement-review-health-protection-coronavirus-restrictions-no5-wales-regulations-2020-1>

There have been a number of changes in the guidance and regulations over the holiday period. Here's a quick round-up of the changes:

- Take Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs) regularly and report the results. LFTs are widely available, for more information go to:
<https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Residents/Emergencies/Coronavirus/Covid-19-Tests.aspx>
- If you get a positive LFT result, you must self-isolate immediately but most people will not need to take a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test to confirm the result. For more information go to :
<https://gov.wales/written-statement-prioritising-pcr-testing>

- If you have tested positive for COVID-19 you can leave self-isolation after 7 full days if you have a negative LFT on day 6 and day 7. For more information go to:
<https://gov.wales/self-isolation>
- If you've been in contact with someone with coronavirus but are fully vaccinated you no longer need to self-isolate but must take a LFT every day for 7 days. For more information go to:
<https://gov.wales/written-statement-self-isolation-changes>
- The testing requirements for international travel have changed. For more information go to:
<https://gov.wales/written-statement-international-travel-changes-6>

Appointments for COVID-19 vaccinations, including booster jabs, can now be booked online, go to:

<https://bcuhb.nhs.wales/covid-19/covid-19-vaccinations/covid-19-booster-programme-online-booking/>

COVID-19: Alert Level 2 requirements and regulations for businesses

Here's a reminder of the main Alert Level 2 requirements and regulations for businesses:

- You must continue to undertake a specific coronavirus risk assessment and take reasonable measures to minimise exposure to, and the spread of, coronavirus
- People must work from home where reasonably practicable for them to do so
- A general requirement of 2m social distancing in all premises open to the public and workplaces, where reasonable
- The rule of 6 is in force for gatherings in regulated premises, such as hospitality, cinemas and theatres
- All licensed premises need to take additional measures to protect customers and staff, including table service and collecting contact details for test and trace purposes

- Face coverings are be required in hospitality settings at all times apart from when seated
- Large events are not allowed indoors or outdoors – The maximum number of people who can gather at an indoor event is 30; 50 outdoors
- Nightclubs are required to close

A summary of revised Alert Level 2 regulations is available at:

<https://gov.wales/alert-level-2-summary>

Alert Level 2: guidance for organisations, businesses and employers:

<https://gov.wales/alert-level-2-guidance-employers-businesses-and-organisations>

Alert Level 2: reasonable measures action cards for businesses and organisations:

<https://gov.wales/alert-level-2-reasonable-measures-action-cards-businesses-and-organisations>

COVID-19: Update on financial help for businesses impacted by Alert Level 2 regulations

The Welsh Government have provided a short update on the financial help which will be provided to impacted businesses, including new businesses. To read the statement go to:

<https://gov.wales/written-statement-emergency-covid-financial-support-including-newly-established-businesses>

Three funds will be available from the Welsh Government to support businesses who have been severely impacted by Alert Level 2 regulations:

- Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) linked grants of up to £6,000 (administered by Gwynedd Council)
- Reopening of the Welsh Government Economic Resilience Fund to provide additional help (on top of the NDR linked grant) of up to £25,000 for larger businesses
- A discretionary fund to support businesses who don't pay rates, with grants of £500 – £2,000 (administered by Gwynedd Council)

Registration process for the Non-Domestic Rates linked grants will open on 13 January 2022 and the application process for the discretionary fund and the Economic Resilience Fund will open during the week commencing 17 January 2022. An eligibility checker for the Economic Resilience Fund is now available on the Business Wales website:

<https://fundchecker.businesswales.gov.wales/businesssupport>

Final guidance for the Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) linked grants and discretionary fund are yet to be released. More information will be shared as soon as it becomes available.

More useful information is available from:

Gwynedd Council – Business Support

<https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/businesscovid19>

<https://twitter.com/BusnesGwynedd>

Gwynedd Business Network

<https://www.gwyneddbusnes.net/>

<https://twitter.com/gwyneddbusnes>

Business Wales

<https://businesswales.gov.wales/coronavirus-advice/>

https://twitter.com/_businesswales

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<https://www.facebook.com/BusnesatLlandrilloMenai/posts>

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