

RMI Coronavirus Briefing – 05.11.2020

****LATEST****

Government extends furlough scheme “until the end of March”

The Chancellor today (05.11.2020) confirmed that the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) is to be extended “until the end of March” 2021 and will be accessible to all parts of the UK.

The current terms of the scheme include:

- Eligible employees will receive 80% of their salary for hours not worked, up to a maximum of £2,500 per month
- There will be no employer contribution to wages for hours not worked. Employers will only be asked to cover National Insurance and Employer pension contributions for hours not worked.
- Businesses will be able to claim either shortly before, during, or after running payroll.
- **Claims can be made from 8am Wednesday 11 November.**

The Government has also stated that the CJRS extension will be reviewed in January to “examine whether the economic circumstances are improving enough for employers to be asked to increase contributions.”

Eligibility

- An employer can claim for employees who were employed and on their PAYE payroll on 30 October 2020. (The employer must have made a PAYE Real Time Information (RTI) submission to HMRC between 20 March 2020 and 30 October 2020, notifying a payment of earnings for that employee).
- Neither the employer nor the employee needs to have previously claimed or have been claimed for under CJRS to make a claim under the extended CJRS (if other eligibility criteria are met)

What about the Job Retention Bonus?

The Treasury has confirmed that the Job Retention Bonus will not be paid in February and that they “will redeploy a retention incentive at the appropriate time.”

Further information and guidance

The Government will publish further information on accessing the extended CJRS shortly. Any amendments or updates will be found through on the following GOV.UK website:

UK Gov guidance – [Check if you can claim for your employees' wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme](#)

See also:

Press release – [Government extends Furlough to March](#)

UK Gov factsheet – [Economic support factsheet](#)

MILS Legal – Guidance and Templates

Advice note – Distance selling

Advice note – Carrying over holiday (31.03.2020)

Template – Letter to employee seeking consent to furlough under CJRS

Template – Letter to confirm essential worker status