



The Federation of Racecourse Bookmakers Limited

Coronavirus Additional Restrictions Grant — Eligibility

On 12th November the Government published further Guidance for businesses to check if they are eligible for the Coronavirus Additional Restrictions Grant. The key points arising from this latest Government Guidance are as follows:-

- The Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) supports businesses that are not covered by other grant schemes or where additional funding is needed.
- ARG provides Local Authorities with grant funding to support closed businesses that do not directly pay business rates.
- Larger grants can be given than those made through the earlier Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed).
- Local Councils can determine which businesses to target and determine the amount of funding from the ARG.
- Local Councils have the freedom to determine the eligibility criteria **BUT** are expected to help those businesses which are *severely impacted by the restrictions* including businesses in the “**leisure sectors**” (our emphasis) and businesses required to close but which do not pay business rates.
- Two categories of business are excluded: those in administration, insolvent or struck off; and those that have exceeded the permitted state aid thresholds. Members’ businesses therefore appear to be eligible in the first instance.
- Businesses must visit their Local Council’s website to find out how to apply. Some Local Councils expressly state that Grants will be paid for businesses in ‘leisure and *sports facilities*’ and ‘*entertainment venues*’.

16th November 2020