

Financial Support for Businesses and Staff

GRANT SUPPORT

£10k for smallest businesses via local authorities

EMPLOYEE WAGE SUPPORT

Support up to 80% of salaries to a max of £2,500 pm
Only for designated furloughed workers
Submit information to HMRC about the employees that have been furloughed and their earnings through a new online portal

BUSINESS INTERRUPTION LOANS

Loans up to £5m.

TAX PAYMENTS

If <250 employees can reclaim SSP for max two weeks per employee
Time to Pay arrangements available 0800 0159 559
VAT payments deferred for 3 months to 30 June
July Self assessment payment for Income Tax delayed until January 2021

HOSPITALITY AND LEISURE

Business Rate holiday for hospitality and leisure businesses for 20/21 tax year
£25,000 grant if rateable value <£51k, >£15K

ALTERNATIVE FUNDING

Alternative funders are open and looking to lend money

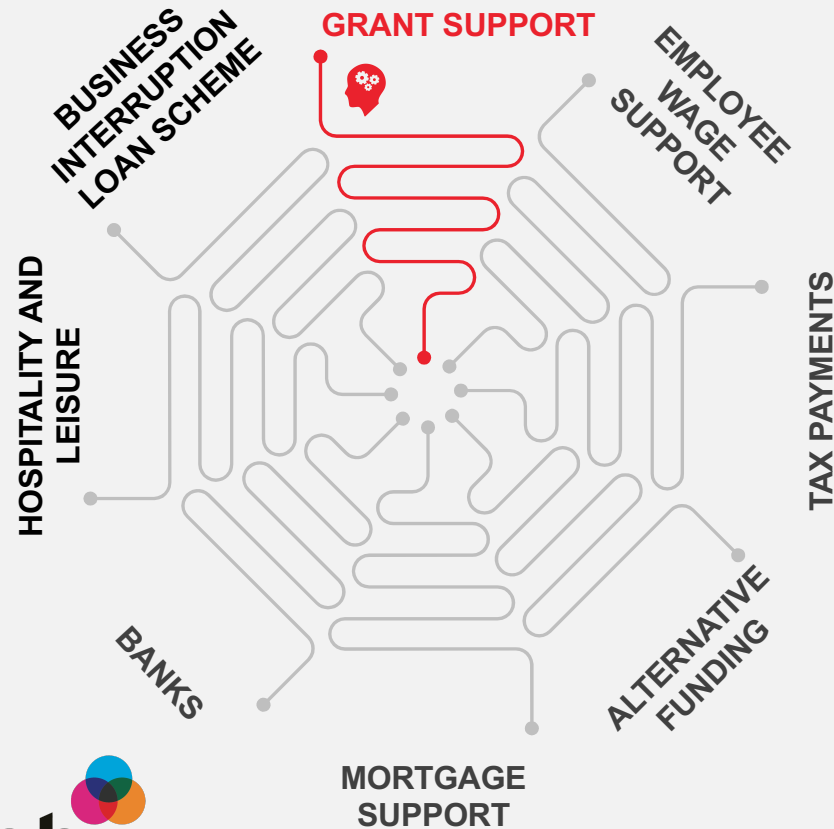
BANKS

The banks have committed to make £14bn available to UK businesses.

MORTGAGE AND RENT SUPPORT

3 month payment holiday on mortgages
3 month cessation on repossessions

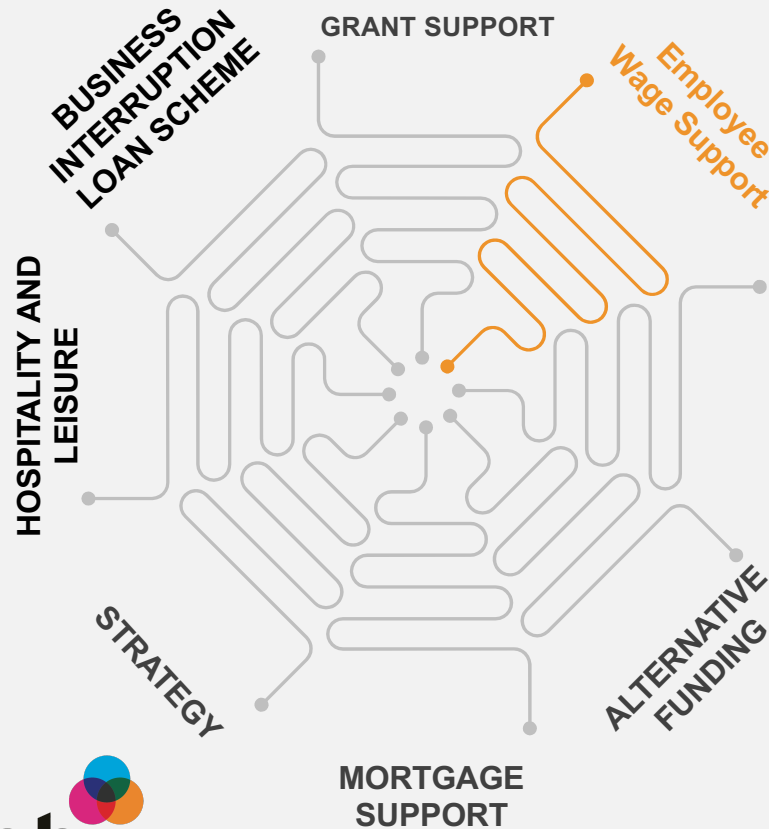
Grant Support



Hospitality and leisure sectors with a cash grant of up to £25,000 per property.

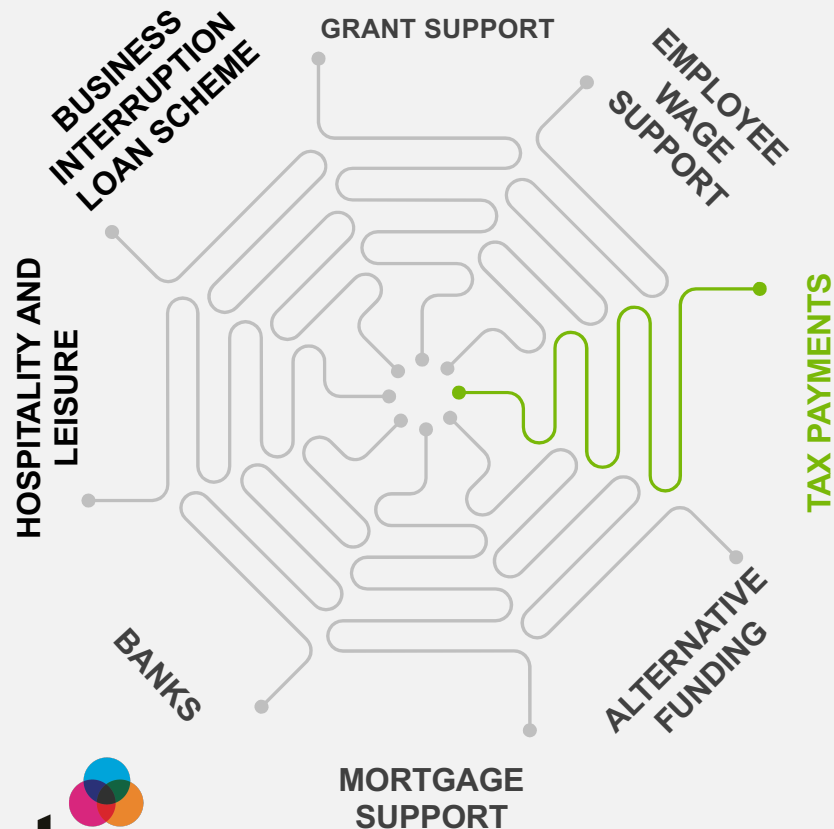
- For businesses in these sectors with a rateable value of under £15,000, they will receive a grant of £10,000.
- For businesses in these sectors with a rateable value of between £15,001 and £51,000, they will receive a grant of £25,000.
- You are eligible for the grant if your business is based in England, your business is in the retail, hospitality and/or leisure sector
- Properties that will benefit from the relief will be occupied properties that are wholly or mainly being used as shops, restaurants, cafes, drinking establishments, cinemas and live music venues for assembly and leisure as hotels, guest and boarding premises and self-catering accommodation
- To access the scheme you do not need to do anything. Your local authority will write to you if you are eligible for this grant.

Employee Wage Support



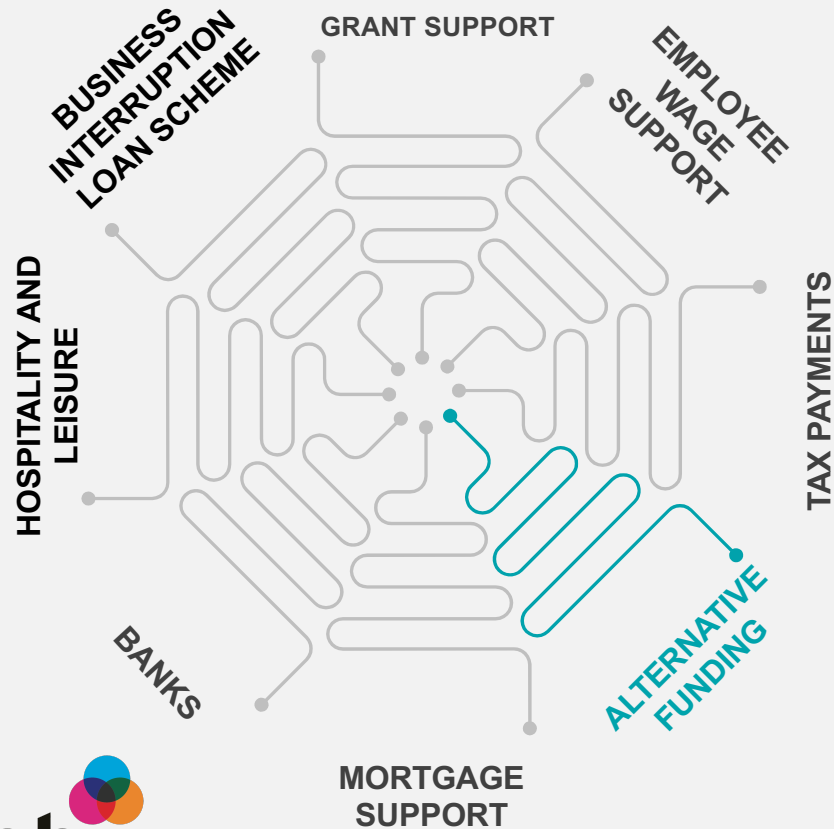
- Under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, all UK employers will be able to access support to continue paying part of their employees' salary for those employees that would otherwise have been laid off during this crisis.
- All UK businesses are eligible.
- To access the scheme
 - designate affected employees as 'furloughed workers,' and notify your employees of this change - changing the status of employees remains subject to existing employment law and, depending on the employment contract, may be subject to negotiation
 - submit information to HMRC about the employees that have been furloughed and their earnings through a new online portal (HMRC will set out further details on the information required)
 - HMRC will reimburse 80% of furloughed workers wage costs, up to a cap of £2,500 per month (including E'ers NI? TBC). HMRC are working urgently to set up a system for reimbursement. Existing systems are not set up to facilitate payments to employers.
- For employees
 - If an employer intends to access the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, they will need to classify them as a furloughed worker. This would mean that you are kept on the employer's payroll, rather than being laid off.
 - To qualify for this scheme, they should not undertake work for you while you are furloughed.
 - The employer could choose to fund the differences between this payment and the salary but does not have to.
 - It is intended for the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme to run for at least 3 months from 1 March 2020, but will extend if necessary.

Tax Payments



- Time to Pay arrangements available 0800 0159 559
- VAT payments deferred for 3 months to 30 June. This is automatic and no application required and repay by March 2021
- VAT refunds paid as normal
- For self employed people the July Self assessment payment for Income Tax delayed until January 2021
- SSP - refund will cover up to 2 weeks' SSP per eligible employee who has been off work because of COVID-19
 - employers with fewer than 250 employees will be eligible - the size of an employer will be determined by the number of people they employed as of 28 February 2020
 - employers will be able to reclaim expenditure for any employee who has claimed SSP (according to the new eligibility criteria) as a result of COVID-19
 - employers should maintain records of staff absences and payments of SSP, but employees will not need to provide a GP fit note. If evidence is required by an employer, those with symptoms of coronavirus can get an isolation note from NHS 111 online and those who live with someone that has symptoms can get a note from the NHS website
 - eligible period for the scheme will commence the day after the regulations on the extension of SSP to those staying at home comes into force
 - the government will work with employers over the coming months to set up the repayment mechanism for employers as soon as possible

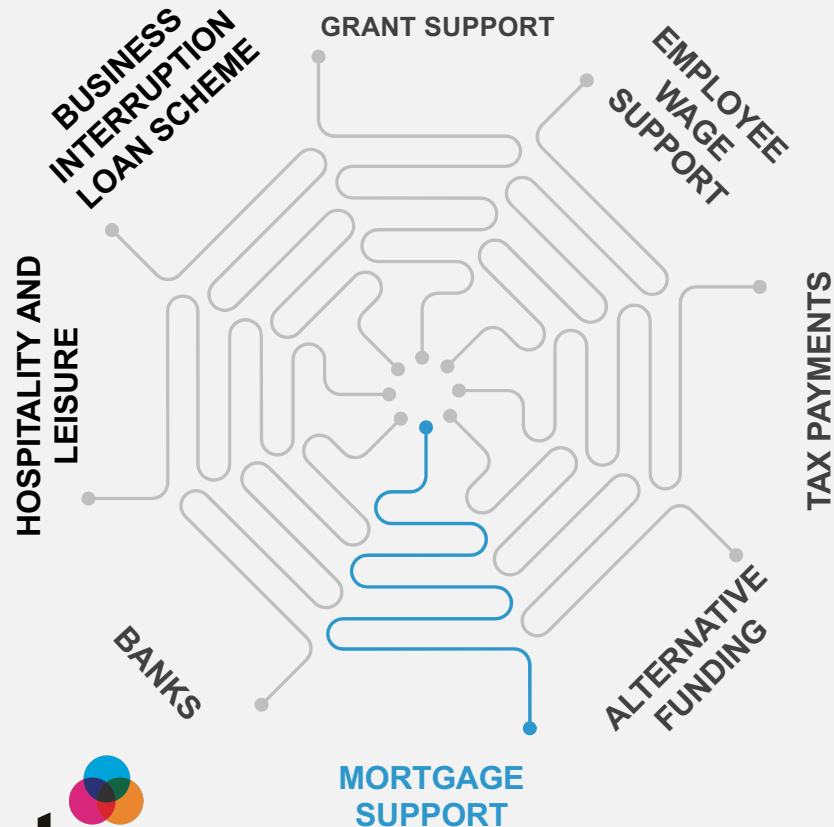
Alternative Funding



Alternative Funders are still open for business and I have heard from several sources that they are actively looking to lend. Investigate areas such as:-

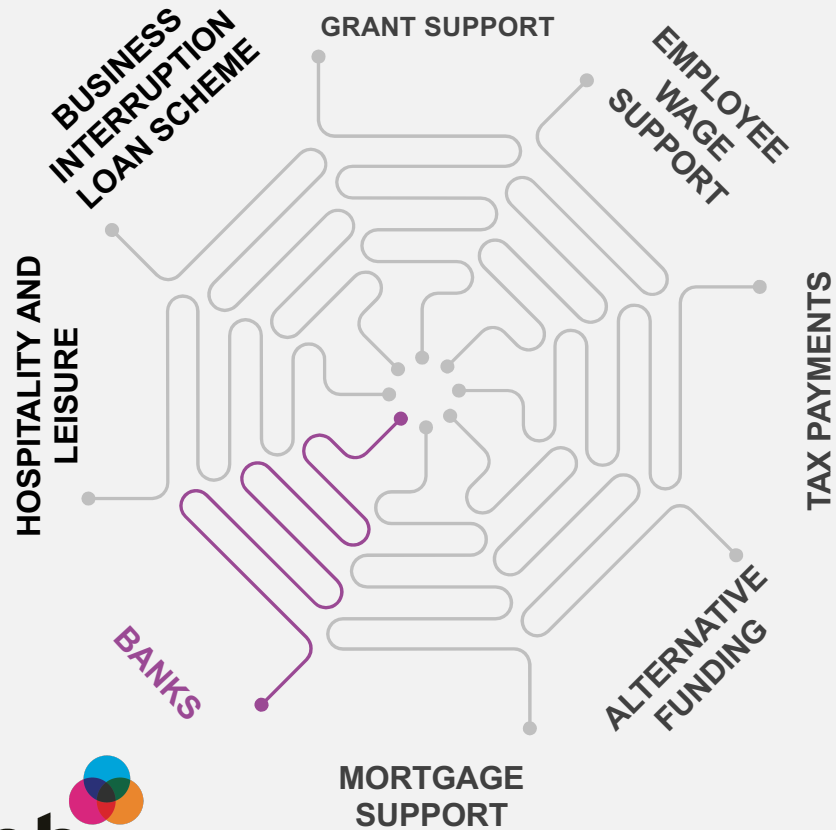
- Crowdfunding
- Crowdsourcing
- Equity Crowdfunding
- Peer to Peer Lending
- Asset Finance
- Supply Chain Finance & Reverse Factoring
- Pension Led Funding
- Merchant Cash Advance

Mortgage and Rental Support



- 3 month payment holidays offered to Help to Buy equity loans
- 3 month payment holidays offered to Buy to Let mortgages
- 3 month payment holidays offered for Residential mortgages
- It is important to remember that you still owe the amounts that you don't pay as a result of the payment holiday. Interest will continue to be charged on the amount you owe.
- You should contact your lender if you think you may potentially experience payment difficulties as a result of the coronavirus situation.
- Your lender shouldn't need any evidence that your income has been affected by coronavirus.
- Interest on your mortgage continues during the payment holiday
- Taking a payment holiday will not impact your credit score.
- We expect lenders to offer payment holidays to borrowers who may experience payment difficulties as a result of the coronavirus.
- If you are behind with your mortgage payments you can still have a payment holiday. You will need to discuss this with your lender.
- If you think you may experience payment difficulties and may need a payment holiday, you should speak to your lender in good time before the next payment is due.
- You can apply for a payment holiday at any time before this guidance is reviewed in 3 months. The payment holiday will not start, however, until it has been agreed with your lender.
- Repossessions - Lenders are temporarily stopping repossession actions
- Emergency legislation will be taken forward as an urgent priority so that landlords will not be able to start proceedings to evict tenants for at least a three-month period.

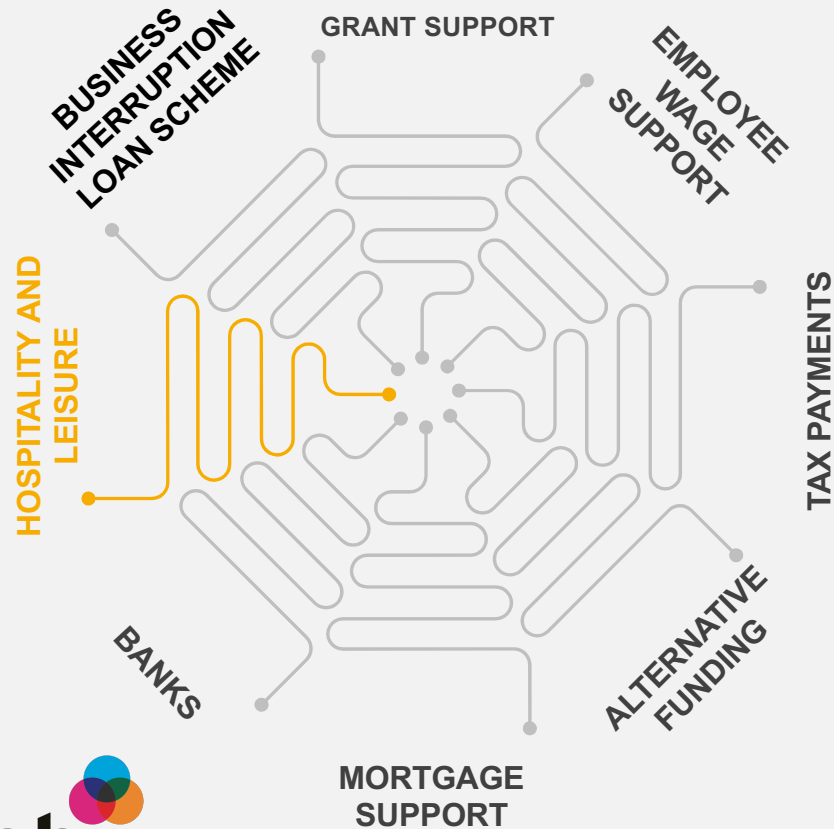
Banks



A number of private lenders are making funds available to small businesses impacted by COVID-19, including:-

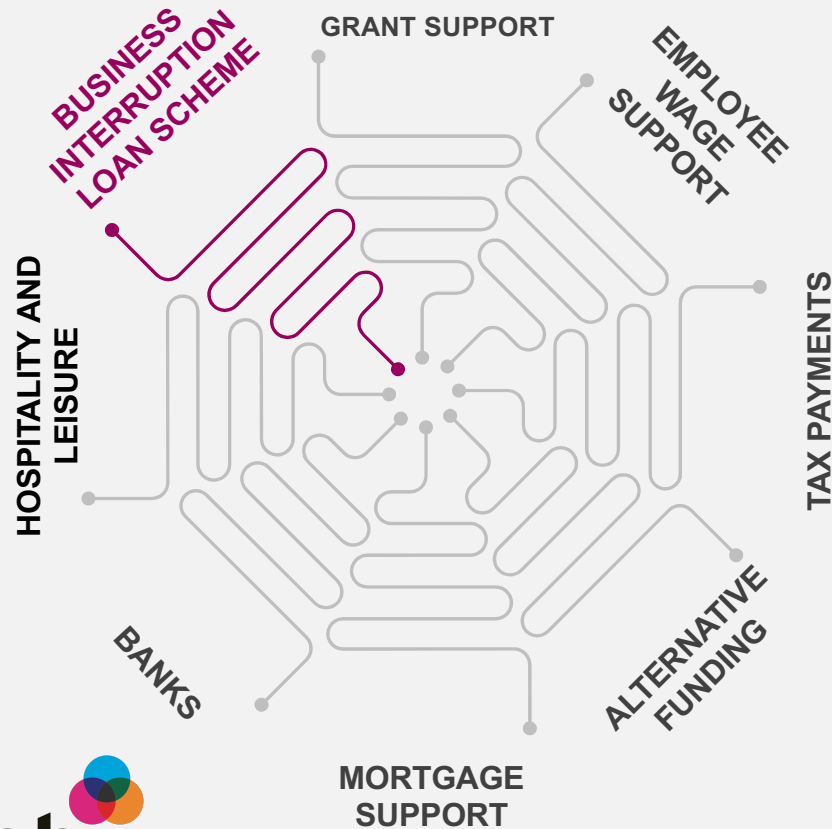
- £2 billion from [Lloyds Banking Group](#),
- £5 billion from [NatWest](#) and
- £7 billion from [Barclays](#)

Hospitality and Leisure



- Business Rate holiday for hospitality and leisure businesses for 20/21 tax year
- £25,000 grant if rateable value <£51k, >£15K
- You are eligible for the business rates holiday if:
 - your business is based in England
 - your business is in the retail, hospitality and/or leisure sector
- Properties that will benefit from the relief will be occupied properties that are wholly or mainly being used:
 - as shops, restaurants, cafes, drinking establishments, cinemas and live music venues
 - for assembly and leisure
 - as hotels, guest & boarding premises and self-catering accommodation
- Access:- There is no action for you. This will apply to your next council tax bill in April 2020. However, local authorities may have to reissue your bill automatically to exclude the business rate charge. They will do this as soon as possible.

Business Interruption Loan Scheme



The Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme, delivered by the British Business Bank,

- The government will provide lenders with a guarantee of 80% on each loan (subject to a per-lender cap on claims). The government will not charge businesses or banks for this guarantee, and the Scheme will support loans of up to £5 million in value.
- Businesses can access the first 12 months of that finance interest free, as government will cover the first 12 months of interest payments.
- Eligibility
 - You are eligible for the scheme if your business is UK based, with turnover of no more than £45 million per year
 - your business meets the other British Business Bank eligibility criteria
- The full rules of the Scheme and the list of accredited lenders is available on the British Business Bank website.
- You should talk to your bank or finance provider (not the British Business Bank) as soon as possible and discuss your business plan with them. This will help your finance provider to act quickly once the Scheme has launched
- The scheme will be available from week commencing 23 March.

- Support for larger firms through the COVID-19 Corporate Financing Facility
 - Under the new Covid-19 Corporate Financing Facility, the Bank of England will buy short term debt from larger companies.
 - It will also support corporate finance markets overall and ease the supply of credit to all firms.
 - The scheme will be available early in week beginning 23 March 2020.
 - More information is available from the Bank of England.