

Protecting job and livelihoods

The Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) will continue with a fourth and a fifth grant. The Chancellor announced that more than 600,000 people, many of whom became self-employed in 2019-20, may now be able to claim direct cash grants under SEISS.

In addition, the business rates holiday in England has been extended by an additional three months. That means 750,000 retail, hospitality and leisure properties in England will pay no business rates for three months from 1 April when combined with Small Business Rates Relief, with further relief available for the rest of the year.

Grant funding will be available to businesses in England through a new **£5 billion Restart Grant scheme** to help the high street, providing up to £18,000, bringing the total spent on business grants to **£25 billion**.

A new Recovery Loan Scheme will also be launched to replace the existing government guaranteed schemes which have supported **£73 billion of lending to date and close at the end of March**.

A new mortgage guarantee scheme will enable homebuyers to secure a mortgage up to **£600,000 with a 5% deposit**, and an extension to the temporary cut in Stamp Duty Land Tax to September will support the housing market and protect and create jobs.

