

Request 7301 – Tax and revenues, business rates – Covid-19

(SCDC) Business Grants during Covid-19

- 1). Please confirm how much funding has been received by the local council from central government to support Small Business Grants Fund (SBGF) scheme in England during corona virus?
- 2). How many hereditaments has the local authority identified may be in scope to receive the Small Business Grants Fund (SBGF) scheme? Please provide the relevant BA reference numbers?
- 3). How many Small Business Grants Fund (SBGF) scheme payments have been made to hereditaments to date (please confirm the date of extract)?
- 4). Please confirm the total amount of money that the local authority in England has distributed for Small Business Grants Fund (SBGF) scheme to date (please confirm the date of extract)?
- 5). A list of NNDR Business Rates accounts who were in receipt of small business rate relief or rural rate relief or whom subsequently became entitled to such relief as of 11 March 2020 for all incorporated companies within the authorities billing area, including the following information:
 - i). The name of each incorporated company in respect of which account is held.
 - ii). The properties address in which the account relates to.
 - iii). A write to address and write to company name, if applicable.

Response

Please be aware that the funding from Central Government for grants covered both the small business grant fund and the retail, hospitality and leisure fund, and was not split per type. Therefore, in line with this, the answers provided cover both grant schemes.

Questions 1-4: Details of these are published nationally and can be found [on the Government grant funding pages](#)

Questions 2a & 5i,ii,iii: We have reviewed this part of your request and consider the release of this level of detail as regards businesses in this unprecedented situation could have a substantial negative impact on those businesses and their commercial activity, therefore we consider that exemption Section 43(2) of the Act applies, in that 'information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).'

We are obliged to consider the public interest in applying this exemption, and given the impact on owners, employees, and businesses themselves that are being affected by this very difficult situation, we believe the public interest remains in currently upholding the exemption, and therefore are unable to supply this detail at the current time.