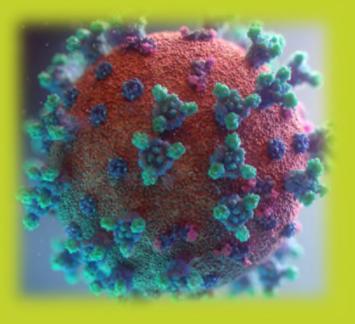
# COVID-19: You, Your Business and Your People – A Webinar Discussing Government Help, Financial Incentives and Motivation



#### Hosted by the MGAA with PKF Littlejohn & GreenKite

Date: Wednesday 8 April 2020 Time: 2pm – 2.45pm





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### **Today's Learning Objectives:**

Delegates joining the session will:

- 1. Understand the current support available to businesses in light of the COVID-19 pandemic
- 2. Appreciate how government initiatives may be able to help their own business
- 3. Identify schemes available for their employees and colleagues.



## During the Webinar...

- All participants are automatically muted
- To ask a question...
- The webinar is being recorded
- Feedback forms





## Today's Webinar...















- Commercial Contracts and Insurance Considerations
- Furlough Leave
- Operational Considerations Under Covid-19



Accountants & business advisers

- Deferral Initiatives
- Funding
- Additional Regulatory Considerations
- Cash flow Management

### **Commercial Contracts and Insurance Considerations**

BI



•Interruption needs to be caused by physical damage; and must cause the loss

- •Many policies expressly exclude SARS 10 years ago
- •Some coverage out there plus extensions to cover contagious disease

#### **Force Majeure**

- •Shorter and less specific Force Majeure clauses seem to cover Covid-19 better?
- •Merely pointing to Covid-19 as a potential FM event is not enough
- •Case law use all reasonable commercial endeavours to perform notwithstanding the FM even

#### **Contract Frustration**

•Covid-19 could be an example of frustration, such as in a partially completed M&A situation

•IT suppliers - call centres unable to cover despite offering cover

#### Property

- •Coronavirus Bill -Landlords prevented from exercising their right to forfeit a lease
- •Rental Holidays
- •Licenses membership fees
- •Business rate holiday for 12 month







### **Furlough Leave**

- Specific Job Retention measure in response to Covid 19 Crisis to protect employees who would otherwise be made redundant.
- Employees must be designated as furloughed; employees should be consulted.
- 80% of wages up to £2500, plus employers NI & min auto-enrolment pension reimbursed from HMRC. Information should be submitted via HMRC Portal. Furloughed wages are subject to Income Tax, National Insurance and pension contributions
- Employees should not undertake any work for their employer. However, furloughed employees may work for another employer.
- There is nothing in the guidance which prohibits rotating furlough leave amongst employees, *provided* each employee is off for a period of at least three weeks.
- Scheme is open to all UK employers that are on the PAYE payroll scheme running as of 28 February 2020
- Company Directors can be furloughed. However, they are permitted to attend to statutory duties. Board minutes and resolutions must be kept recording furlough leave of a director.
- Records must be kept for 5 years



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### **Operational Considerations Under Covid 19**

PRA guidance to firms is to ensure the maintenance of critical business services to ensure firms continue to meet its regulatory obligations to the policyholder.

- Expect to see a continuation of claims services
- Clearly communicate any policy exclusions that may impact cover for any mid-term adjustments or renewals

#### **Operational Resilience**

- Robust systems and controls to continue to operate
- Senior management to manage the impact of Coronavirus
- Act in the best interest of the customers
- Ensure all communications are clear, fair and not misleading

#### How to do this in practice?

- •Working from home workforce
  - o Work towards ensuring they have the right technology to do the job
  - o Ensure they have the right training on the technology to use it appropriately
  - o Provide the capability for them to expense equipment to ensure they meet DSE requirements
  - o Encourage new ways of working either through workload management or reprioritisation
  - o Ensure you understand the constraints for each individual and open up clear lines of communication
- Prioritise accordingly
  - o Undertake a risk assessment across your business of what constitutes a business critical service for your business
  - o Focus your staff on successful delivery of the critical business services
  - o Remove the pressure of non-essential activities/projects and give permission for slippage
  - o Reassess workloads where necessary







## **Deferral Initiatives**

- Tax deferrals
  - VAT
  - PAYE
  - Corporation Tax
- Other
  - Rates
  - Rent etc







## Funding

- Funding landscape update
- Strategy
  - Timing
  - Use of other sources
- Preparing the lending case







## Additional Regulatory Considerations

- Threshold Conditions 4 Adequacy of resources
- Liquidity vs Capital
- Taking on debt
- Constant monitoring
- Additional pressure on Insurer and Client money







## **Cashflow management**

- What are we trying to achieve and what will it look like?
- Teaching Granny to suck eggs
- What support is available?
- What is actually happening?
- What you should do now?







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# Q&A







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