

# UK Government confirms an additional £155 million for Scotland

UK Government minister Douglas Ross said:

“The UK Government is doing whatever it takes to help people across the UK during the coronavirus crisis.

“This extra £155 million follows additional funding from the UK Government for council workers who are at the forefront of local efforts in keeping people safe and keeping public services open for those that need them the most.

“The new money for Scotland is on top of the substantial coronavirus funding package that has already been announced, meaning that Scotland will receive a total cash boost of more than £3.4 billion to help tackle coronavirus.

“We know that the current measures will remain in place for a further three weeks and people are facing many challenges. I would like to thank everyone who is following the advice to stay at home, as we protect our NHS and save lives.”

Other UK Government support available to people in Scotland includes:

- The UK military providing both the Scottish Government and the NHS with additional specialist skills and expertise
- The UK-wide PPE strategy meaning our heroic front-line workers in Scotland have the protection they need to tackle the coronavirus pandemic.
- The UK Government expanding testing capacity right across the UK with centres opened recently at Glasgow, Aberdeen and Edinburgh airports.
- A £330 billion package of loans and guarantees to help UK businesses survive the economic fallout from coronavirus including:
  - Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme enables any employer in the country to contact HMRC for a grant to cover 80 per cent of the salary of retained workers up to a total of £2,500 per month.
  - Self-employment Income Support Scheme pays self-employed people, who have been adversely affected by Coronavirus, a taxable grant worth 80% of their average income over the last three years, up to £2,500 per month, for at least three months.
  - deferring VAT and Income Tax payments so VAT-registered businesses can defer any payment due between 20th March 2020 and 30th June 2020 until a later date if they want and self-assessment tax bills due by 31st July 2020 can be deferred until 31st January 2021.
  - A Statutory Sick Pay relief package will repay employers the current rate of SSP that they pay to current or former employees for periods of sickness

due to coronavirus starting on or after 13th March 2020.

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## [UKG provides extra £50M to tackle Coronavirus in Northern Ireland](#)

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home)
- If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people at all times
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home

Do not meet others, even friends or family.

You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.

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## [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): letter from the Secretary of State to the local government workforce](#)

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## [Hong Kong protests: Foreign Office statement, 18 April 2020](#)

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## **Bangladesh charter flights to return stranded Brits**

Four charter flights from Bangladesh to the UK will take home up to 850 British nationals to the United Kingdom.

The charter flights will depart for London from Dhaka on 21, 23, 25 & 26 April, with accompanying transfers from Sylhet.

We have invited British Nationals in Bangladesh who wish to return home to express an interest. Priority is initially being given to vulnerable passengers, most at risk from the effects of coronavirus, including the elderly and those with underlying health conditions.

Foreign Office Minister of State, Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon said:

We are in a truly unprecedented situation, and I know people are concerned about getting home to their loved ones.

Foreign Office staff in the UK and Bangladesh have been working tirelessly with the Bangladeshi authorities to help British travellers who want to come back to the UK and these flights mean people can now do that.

Our staff will continue to support those Britons who remain in Bangladesh throughout this crisis, and beyond.

The British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Robert Chatterton Dickson said:

I am pleased to confirm the first charter flight from Bangladesh to bring British travellers back home, especially for those most vulnerable and those most in need. Our team continues to work hard to arrange a safe journey back home for as many people as possible. The British High Commission Dhaka will remain in operation and continue to provide consular support to any British nationals who remain in Bangladesh and require assistance.

Those who wish to register for a flight, but have not already done so, should visit the [Bangladesh travel advice page on GOV.UK](#).

## **Further information**