



Professional Association of Self-Caterers UK

COVID GUIDELINES NEWSLETTER

6 August 2021 Issue 70

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SUPPORT GUIDELINES

We still get 50+ emails a day, plus 20+ phone calls, so we have to reiterate the support rules please.

- **Paid up** Members get phone and email support. Please put property name in Subject line
- Non-Member emails will get dealt with after Members emails
- We cannot respond to questions on Facebook and Linked in
- Please read the most recent Newsletter before calling/emailing
- Recent Newsletters are on the website

The email address to use in chair@pascuk.co.uk Many thanks, your support with this would be much appreciated.

PASC UK SOCIAL MEDIA

Please follow PASC on Twitter [@PascUK](#) AND on Facebook [@pascukltd](#)
This is where the latest news between newsletters gets posted.

WHERE TO FIND PREVIOUS ITEMS COVERED IN PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

To try and shrink the newsletter in advance of the new style that will be launched with the new website, pretty much anything that has not changed, is not in this newsletter. So, if you need to find out about how much the Restart Grants are in England, or the Business Rates grants in Scotland, or what 'self-contained' means in Wales we ask you to refer to previous newsletters. **These are now indexed at the bottom of this newsletter in preparation for forming part of FAQ's on the new website.** You can download them from www.pascuk.co.uk

COMMENTARY

Subject to the Welsh Government announcing today that they are lifting restrictions from Saturday 7th August, we will, for the first time since 23 March last year, be a sector free of restrictions. 70 Weeks of uncertainty, change and more legislation affecting the sector than we could have ever imagined.

International travel is also opening pretty quickly now and should expect to see some of the incredibly high demand for our sector beginning to cool. All forecasts are that it will be a great shoulder period from the end of the school holidays to the end of October half term, but perhaps not quite as manic as it has been for many.

Since the last Newsletter we have launched the new website, and the verb 'to propagate' could also mean watching paint dry. Waiting for it to go live across all platforms was tedious in the extreme. More info on the website below.

We have though managed to make up the Membership Packs with the newly arrived Pink Books and all outstanding packs will be despatched no later than tomorrow. Please note Pink books and Membership Packs are for paid members only.



The updated Self Catering Covid Cleaning Protocols have been broadly welcomed and so far over 2,000 copies have been downloaded. More detail below.

We are though, facing challenging times, there is real toxicity in the air as regards Second Homes, lack of affordable rental property, and what is frequently termed 'casual airbnbs'. This is bound to impact on what Governments propose. Here are a couple of recent news articles on this.

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/tory-anger-as-second-homes-in-holiday-locations-force-out-key-workers-wv6pqwlrn?shareToken=806701043e267f6be71636369749e091>

<https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/tens-thousands-sign-petition-stop-5543461>

We are seeing this reflected across the UK, the Scottish legislation is imminent and draconian, if you are in Scotland you MUST read the section below on this, as the deadline for input into the Consultation is next Friday, the 13th August.

In Wales we are still working with other organisations to respond to the Welsh Governments 'three-pronged approach' to the Second Home crisis. More on that next week.

Finally, England, the consultation into Statutory Registration should launch in November according to our contacts in DCMS. We are seeing strong language from normally passionate free market Conservatives that the second home/housing crisis/lack of rental properties must be addressed.

The battle lines are clear and trying to feed into these processes and minimise unintended consequences for professional self-catering businesses will a priority. It remains baffling that the various Governments should choose to do this now, everyone knows that this is a truly weird summer, and may never be repeated, but they choose to do this just as businesses open and start to try to recover.

The National Self-Catering report will be critical to this and it is just having final checks and some graphics added and it'll be ready to go.

PASC UK continues to be rated as a reliable source of info, this report below shows where hospitality businesses of all sorts, not just self-catering, in SW England get their information from.

Key results – Business information & support by county

- Businesses were asked where they accessed information and support for their business since lockdown 1. The results by county are shown in the table below.

	Cornwall & IoS	Devon	Dorset	Somerset
Local Authority	57%	59%	58%	47%
Visit Cornwall	63%	2%	-	-
Visit Devon	-	26%	-	-
Visit Dorset	-	-	46%	-
Visit Exeter	-	6%	-	-
Visit Somerset	-	-	-	34%
Destination Plymouth	-	5%	-	-
English Riviera BID Company	-	30%	-	-
Visit Exmoor	-	1%	-	22%
BCP Council Tourism	-	-	8%	-
The Professional Association of Self-Caterers (PASC)	68%	28%	14%	47%
South West Tourism Alliance (SWTA)	24%	17%	16%	13%
B&B Association	-	9%	5%	3%
UK Hospitality	15%	15%	12%	13%
British Holiday & Home Parks Association (BHHPA)	9%	4%	14%	9%
Visit England/Visit Britain	32%	32%	33%	25%
LEP/Growth Hubs	8%	5%	8%	6%
I didn't access any information/support for my business during lockdown	1%	5%	12%	9%
Other	15%	9%	11%	13%

We said last week that we would be launching two surveys, one for Welsh owners, that is still a work in progress as the wider groups involved need to agree questions. This should be complete shortly.

The second one was a survey on whether we would accept having to only allow guests with vaccine passports if it meant that we could stay open. Sadly, we had some trolling on that from anti vaxers so will hold surveys like that back until they can be Members only.

We have not been able to finalise dates and times of future Webinars this week due to the work on the website, the protocols and dealing with Members support. Apologies for that, and we will get on with them asap.

Once again, thanks again for your continued support, we really appreciate it.

Stay safe.

THANKS, CROWDFUNDING, THE FIGHT GOES ON....

Last week our colleagues at the Cottagesure Action Groups, which PASC UK curated and funded, kindly sent a note out to all Members asking them to join PASC UK if they hadn't already. Many did. The victory in the Supreme Court should remind us all that although we are a diverse industry of small businesses, collectively we can win against the odds. Over 2000 self-catering policyholders were beneficiaries of that victory, so thanks for all the kind words. The majority of these RSA Cottagesure claimants have now satisfactorily made their Covid Business Interruption insurance claims.

One element of that whole process was that early on we felt that we might need to Crowd Fund in order to embark on what would be a David vs Goliath battle. On asking for support last we received pledges of well into six figures within a week. In the end we did not need to do it, as we had great legal and insurance contacts to advise us all the way, but it shows just what we are capable of when we work together.

We all know we have some battles ahead and knowing that we can call on extra support when needed is just brilliant. Thank you.

NEW REVISED CLEANING PROTOCOLS V5 UPDATE

The review of the **Self-Catering Covid Cleaning Protocols V5** is complete. All three Country specific versions are available under the Covid-19 Tab on the new website. England, Scotland and Wales are covered.

Between the old website and the new website over 2,000 copies have already been downloaded.

We are extremely grateful to the ASSC (Association of Scotland's Self-Caterers), who spotted an opportunity to get an expert review done and pushed this through.

(Please note, there will be an updated version for Scotland coming out in the next few days. It does not change any of the Cleaning protocols, just a minor change to Scottish Government guidance on what to do if a guest gets Covid whilst on holiday. Watch out on Facebook for updates, <https://www.facebook.com/pascukltd>)

It is a positive review with sensible changes and written in any easy-to-understand way. We strongly recommend that they are read in their entirety, so that the whole context and the necessity to write an updated risk assessment is fully understood.

We are providing a single document for **Self-Catering Covid Cleaning Protocols V5** in each of England, Scotland and Wales.

This includes

- The Cleaning Protocols
- The Risk Assessment
- Cleaning checklist
- FAQ's

As always with the Cleaning Protocols, these are free to all. Earlier versions have been downloaded from the PASC UK website over 115,000 times and have done much to convince Government of the sectors commitment to Covid security.

Some key changes:

- Owners should follow current Government guidance on issues such as physical distancing and face coverings
- Properties that have been cleaned and disinfected in line with the protocols should be available for immediate occupation, and there is no requirement for leaving properties fallow for 72 hours
- Individual operators should decide on whether guests should strip the beds / laundry themselves. If operators/cleaners remove them (following protocols on good handling

of linen, not shaking, PPE if required), then it could be argued that this may actually be more “controllable”

- A common-sense approach should be taken to the washing of crockery/cutlery, based on what cleaners find when assessing property at changeover
- PHS does not recommend Steam/UV-C light/ULV fogging between guests as standard practice
- And much more....

The Protocols can be found on www.pascuk.co.uk

NEW PASC UK WEBSITE LAUNCHED

The new PASC UK website has gone live. There are still a few lingering issues with images on some Chrome versions, this will be remedied. The functionality is all there for all versions.



[About](#) ▾ [Membership](#) ▾ [Advice & Support](#) ▾ [COVID-19](#) ▾ [Resources](#) ▾ [Webinars](#) [Partners](#) ▾ [Contact Us](#)

THE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SELF CATERERS UK



PASC UK's sole purpose is to lobby the Government on behalf of professional self-caterers.. These are small businesses where the self-catering business is a primary income stream for the owners. There are currently some serious threats to this sector, including poorly implemented statutory registration schemes and the lack of a level playing field across the sector, in terms of both regulation and taxation. Most of these are caused by Government action – or lack of. PASC UK is well connected and well-placed to try and address such issues.

You should find it easier to navigate, and every page has been updated to cover the current state of play on all aspects of PASC UK activity.

Some parts are still a work in progress, the FAQ's section and the Trade Directory being the main ones. The FAQ's will start being populated from mid-August with content from previous newsletters.

The Members only section, along with providing Members with passwords, and Member only content and benefits will happen in August.

Downloads have begun in earnest from the new website with over 700 Revised Cleaning Protocols to Weds evening. Any thoughts/comments/observations about website please send to chair@pascuk.co.uk

GUIDE AVAILABLE ON WHAT TO DO IF GUESTS GET COVID AT YOUR BUSINESS IN ENGLAND (REPEAT)

This report has now been downloaded over 1700 times since last week so repeated here.

PASC UK has written a guide to try and explain the various issues associated with guests being pinged, getting told to self-isolate and reporting that they have tested positive whilst with you. It also covers guests having to pay if they stay to isolate. This is key element that PASC UK fought hard for last year with the NHS and DCMS. This has been key to getting 99% of guests reporting that they had Covid whilst on holiday to return home. The guide has all the information on this plus an NHS poster that you can display, see below.

What you need to do if you fall ill with COVID-19 symptoms whilst visiting

If you develop COVID-19 symptoms during your visit, do not ignore or try to hide your symptoms. It is important you act quickly to help yourself and protect those around you. It is your responsibility to stay safe and keep others safe.

COVID-19 symptoms are:

- A new, continuous cough
- High temperature
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

If you feel unwell and experience any COVID-19 symptoms you must:

- Stay indoors and self-isolate
- Arrange a test using your holiday address

Do not ignore your symptoms: self-isolating and getting tested quickly is the best way that you can stay safe and protect others.

You **MUST** notify your accommodation provider.

If you need medical advice while you wait for your test results please contact your regular (home) GP or call 111.

If you are staying or travelling with others, they must also self-isolate and take appropriate action based on your test result.

How do I book a test?

- Online: www.nhs.uk/coronavirus
- Call: 119

Please use the address of your holiday destination:
INSERT HERE

Test results are issued by text or email so you do not need to wait for your results if you are due to return home before your result may arrive. You must return home the most direct way and do not use public transport.

What should I do if my test is positive?

If you feel well enough to travel and do not need to use public transport, you should return home as quickly and directly as you can.

If you feel so unwell that you cannot travel or cannot avoid public transport, you should continue to isolate and call 111 for further advice.

It is important that you do not use public transport. You must also tell your accommodation provider that you have tested positive.

If you are unwell and cannot return home, you will be expected to pay all costs to your accommodation provider.

My test was negative, can I stay?

Stay and enjoy your visit as planned but if you need medical assistance please call your own regular GP or 111.

Who to contact if you're unwell?

- If you are ill and need medical advice, call 111 or your own GP
- In the event of a medical emergency, call 999

Produced in partnership with the COVID-19 Health Protection Boards of Devon & Torbay, Cornwall & Isles of Scilly, Dorset, Somerset and Plymouth



The Guide is available to all readers of the Newsletter and can be found here: www.pascuk.co.uk

As more questions come in, we may add to this document by adding FAQ's at the end of the paper. If changes are made, we will let you know via Facebook and in the newsletter

NATIONAL SELF-CATERING REPORT IMMINENT REPEAT

We will be able to announce the launch date of this report in the next few days, watch out on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/pascukltd>

Over the last ten months we have been working with the ASSC (Association of Scotland's Self-Caterers) and SuperControl to prepare the most comprehensive report on the UK self-catering sector that has ever been undertaken.

We are at the proof-reading stage and adding infographics. We expect to publish this in the next two weeks.

The report breaks down the sector in detail and will give us significant tools and data for our lobbying of National Governments. This comes at a critical time, with the Governments of England, Wales and Scotland all looking closely at our sector currently.

The PASC UK contribution to this report will be the largest single financial commitment we have made and is matched by the contribution from the ASSC. Without a massively larger contribution from SuperControl this report could not have been commissioned, it is a vast amount of work, so huge thanks to SuperControl for supporting this hugely important document.

- **Social Impacts of Coronavirus**

The results of ONS's ongoing weekly research on the social impacts of coronavirus have been published. The results are for the week to 25th July and the key findings are:

- A third of people still think that it will take at least a year for things to get back to normal (same as last week)
- 6% of adults reported that they were self-isolating at some point in the last seven days – 9% for people aged 16-29 which indicates the impact of the “pingdemic” on tourism and hospitality staff
- 89% of people still consider it important to wear facemasks when in shops while 88% are still consider it important to maintain social distancing
- For the first time, over 50% of people met with someone indoors this week - which is good news for indoor venues
- The percentage of people solely working from home continues to fall (22% this week) but the number of people solely travelling to work remains at just under 50%

These findings continue to indicate that the public are exercising a cautious approach to the reopening following the move to Step 4 and that businesses need to continue to reassure customers that they are undertaking covid-safe measures.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandwellbeing/bulletins/coronavirusandthesocialimpactsongreatbritain/30july2021>

FUTURE WEBINARS

No progress on these this week whilst focus has been as described in commentary, expect progress shortly.

We have commenced inviting speakers and planning for the following Webinars, as these were the most popular when the poll closed. Further announcements shortly.

- Updated Cancellations Policies
- Five Things to increase Return on Investment
- Targeting new Markets sectors, Access, Dogs, Babies

ENGLAND UPDATE

No changes in England, this is the last English Guidance update, effective 20 July, reminding us to have an up to date Covid Risk Assessment.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

1. **Complete a health and safety risk assessment that includes risks from COVID-19.** You can find more information on risk assessments and HSE guidance. Don't forget to share your risk assessment with staff.
Risk Assessments: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-covid-19/events-and-attractions#risk-1>
HSE Guidance: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/working-safely/risk-assessment.htm>
2. **Turn people with COVID-19 symptoms away.** This includes both staff and customers.
3. **Provide adequate ventilation,** making sure there is a supply of fresh air to enclosed spaces where there are people present.
4. **Enhanced cleaning** particularly of those surfaces that are touched a lot as well as prompting good hand hygiene to staff and customers.
5. **Allow people to check in at your venue,** although no longer legally required, displaying an NHS QR code and being able to take details for customers to voluntarily check in will help to support NHS Test and Trace to reduce the spread of the virus.
6. **Communicate and train** to keep your staff, customers and contractors up-to-date with safety measures.

Businesses should also read the full relevant guidance manual as set out below.

The Government has published a set of guidance notes on GOV.UK:

- **Hotels and guest accommodation**
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-covid-19/hotels-and-guest-accommodation>

It is no longer mandatory to display a QR Code, and record guest details post 19 July.

The Government does say that we are encouraged to continue to display the QR codes at our properties and collect the guest data although this will no longer be a legal requirement.

See here: <https://bit.ly/3ifilXU>

It is still a requirement to do a Covid Risk assessment. A Template is available on the PASC UK website at www.pascuk.co.uk

It's hard to see how such a Risk Assessment could be written if the business is not following the Covid Cleaning Protocols. These are also available on the same part of the website and the subject is covered in more detail above.

Watch <https://www.facebook.com/pascukltd> for ongoing updates between newsletters.

SCOTLAND UPDATE.

It has been confirmed that Scotland will go beyond Level zero on Monday 9th August. This means that restrictions on group sizes in self-catering in Scotland have finally been removed.

Full details below.

[Briefing: FM Statement on Covid-19 Restrictions – 3rd August 2021](#)
[Introduction](#)

- The First Minister announced that Scotland would move ‘beyond Level 0’ in terms of the further easing of Covid-19 restrictions from Monday 9th August.[1]
- However, a number of mitigation measures will remain in place “in line with the cautious approach” taken by the Scottish Government.

What Will Change from 9th August

- The move beyond Level 0 mean the lifting of most of the remaining legally imposed restrictions, such as physical distancing and limits to the size of social gatherings.
- However, on physical distancing, while the law will not stipulate this, the Scottish Government will continue to advise keeping a safe distance from other households and avoiding crowded places.
- No venues will be legally required to close.
- There are a number of changes to self-isolation rules:
- Adults identified as close contacts of someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 will also no longer be automatically required to self-isolate for 10 days.
- Anyone double-vaccinated with at least two weeks passed since their second dose and who has no symptoms will be able to end self-isolation if they return a negative PCR test.
- The same conditions will also apply to anyone aged between 5-17 years old, even if they have not been vaccinated. The requirement to take a PCR test will not apply to children under 5.
- Test and Protect will also implement revised guidance for under 18s, meaning that the blanket isolation of whole classes in schools will no longer happen and a targeted approach, that only identifies children and young people who are higher risk close contacts, will be adopted.

Mitigation Measures

- Face coverings will remain mandatory in the same indoor settings as happens now – and are likely to be mandated in law “for some time to come”.
- Test and protect will continue to contact-trace positive cases. There will be an ongoing requirement for indoor hospitality and similar venues to collect the contact details of customers.
- There will still be “appropriate outbreak control measures” such as travel restrictions and localised restrictions where necessary.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-update-first-ministers-statement-3-august-2021-1/>

Watch <https://www.facebook.com/pascukltd> for ongoing updates between newsletters.

SCOTLAND SHORT TERM LICENSING ACT. URGENT ACTION REQUIRED

There have been major developments in Scotland this week as we approach the deadline for input into the Scotland short-term licensing act.

Remember, the deadline for responding into this Consultation is the 13 August 2021, just a week away.

Before we update you on what's been happening, we would urge every business in Scotland to look to see how the proposed legislation would affect you. The least it will do is increase your operating costs, the worst it could do it's force you to close your business.

We would also strongly recommend joining the ASSC (Association of Scotland's Self-Caterers) who are leading on this for the self-catering sector in Scotland. <https://www.assc.co.uk/join-us/>

Here is an update from the ASSC.

Several of Scotland's leading tourism organisations have resigned from the Scottish Government's Working Group on Short-Term Lets, claiming that it has failed to fulfil its remit and branding it not fit for purpose.

Representatives of the **Association of Scotland's Self-Caterers, the Scottish B&B Association, Airbnb and the UK Short Term Accommodation Association** have quit the group en masse citing its inability to address concerns the industry has raised over proposed new measures.

Industry figures have also accused the Scottish Government of deliberately "*shifting the goalposts*" on its policy intentions and acting with disregard towards the sector, which has suffered immense hardship throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Earlier this year, the Scottish Government withdrew its licensing proposals ahead of the election as they were widely recognised as not being fit for purpose, and they committed to respond to stakeholder concerns through the Working Group.

However, the tourism bodies have highlighted the lack of significant changes in the legislation impacting traditional self-catering and B&Bs, as well as homesharers, despite representatives of both sectors acting in good faith, as grounds for quitting the group. In fact, additional provisions have been added to the legislation, with some guest houses now being caught up in the plans.

Further, they have also accused the Government, which is now on its third consultation on short-term lets in four years, of acting with "*cavalier disregard and indifference*" towards the sector's concerns about the impending restrictive licencing scheme and of ignoring their proposals for a more workable, proportionate and cost-effective mandatory programme of registration.

Nearly half of self-catering operators are expected to leave the sector should the plans come into force, thereby jeopardising the recovery of Scottish tourism from the pandemic.

All the organisations involved in the walk-out have been responsible, willing, and positive parties to the discussions, providing key industry insight and evidence-based analysis, but have been met with obtuse responses and a reluctance to engage, the latest of which represents the final straw for the industry.

The Act is the most draconian of any proposed for self-catering in the UK, and research carried out by our colleagues, the ASSC (Association of Scotland's Self-Caterers) showed that nearly half would close their businesses if this Act goes through unchanged.

This is a summary from the ASSC...

There are many reasons why owners will close –

- **Uncertainty over licence being granted:** councils will have very subjective grounds to refuse licence – and could grant licence then refuse renewal. Appeals against refusal would involve substantial legal costs and more uncertainty.
- **Owners will have to make advance bookings made during the licence application period conditional on licence being granted** (which will put off guests) or risk being sued if they don't and licence not granted – and this will be repeated every 3 years when licence has to be renewed.
- **Increased bureaucracy and hassle:** disproportionately affecting small business owners who are the backbone of Scotland's tourist economy.
- **Investment uncertainty:** owners will be reluctant to invest in major repairs, replacements and improvements as they won't know whether licence will be granted or renewed.
- **Unknown and open-ended licensing costs, estimated as £1k plus** – councils have to recover their costs from the scheme and operators will face additionally paying Council for inspections.

If you have a business in Scotland, we urge you to take part in lobbying against this Act.

Please follow the three steps recommended by the ASSC.

1. Respond to the Scottish Government's consultation by **Friday 13 August 2021** using the following link: <https://bit.ly/3kJGSHu>
2. **Contact your regional and constituency MSPs in the first instance and then local authority councillors highlighting the problems with the regulations (copy and paste your consultation response) and explaining the likely impact on your business and local supply chain etc.** You can find your MSPs using the postcode checker tool on the Scottish Parliament website: <https://bit.ly/3zsDjK7>
3. **In the correspondence above, please copy the ASSC in: communications@assc.co.uk**

If following the consultation, the Scottish Government decide to proceed with their regulations, an updated Licensing Order will be introduced in the Scottish Parliament and considered by a parliamentary committee before the Order is voted on by all MSPs. You will be invited to raise your concerns directly with the Committee – the ASSC will advise on the procedure and deadline when appropriate.

Finally, you can find updates on this here: <https://bit.ly/3iAE9xp>

We wish all owners all the very best as they face this unnecessary challenge at this difficult time.

WALES UPDATE

We fully expect that the First Minister will announce on Friday 6th August that Wales will move to Alert Level Zero on Saturday 7th August. Whilst this is astonishingly late notice of restrictions lifting, it will come as hugely welcome news to those with larger properties. Keep an eye out for last minute updates.

Watch <https://www.facebook.com/pascukltd> for ongoing updates between newsletters.

CHANGES TO SELF-ISOLATION REQUIREMENTS IN WALES

The Welsh First Minister has announced that, from 7th August, all adults who have been fully vaccinated will no longer have to self-isolate if they are identified as close contacts of someone with coronavirus. In addition, those aged under 18 will also be exempt from the need to self-isolate if they are identified as close contacts of a positive case.

<https://gov.wales/changes-self-isolation-fully-vaccinated-adults>

WELSH STATEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

The Welsh Government has released a statement saying that while they regret the UK Government's decision to relax quarantine requirements for vaccinated European and US visitors on 2nd August, it would be ineffective to introduce separate arrangements for Wales. As such, they will be aligning with the other UK administrations and implementing this decision for Wales.

However, they continue to caution Welsh residents against international travel for non-essential reasons this summer.

<https://gov.wales/written-statement-international-travel-changes-2-august-2021>

WELSH GOVERNMENT THREE-PRONGED APPROACH ON SECOND HOMES UPDATE

See last 23 July Newsletter for background on this. We should be able to send out the Survey to collect feedback on this over the next week.

Reminder: This plan was published on the Welsh Government website recently. It is more wide-reaching and coming sooner than many expected.

It is a three-pronged approach (their words).

- support - addressing affordability and availability of housing
- regulatory framework and system - covering planning law and the introduction of a statutory registration scheme for holiday accommodation; and
- a fairer contribution - using national and local taxation systems to ensure second homeowners make a fair and effective contribution to the communities in which they buy.

They plan to roll out the pilot area this summer and will include work on a registration scheme for all holiday accommodation and a consultation on changes to local taxes to manage the impact of second homes and self-catered accommodation, will also begin over the summer.

Details here: <https://bit.ly/3yDzG3B>

More next week and please if you are in Wales, let us have your thoughts on this to chair@pascuk.co.uk

MEMBER BENEFITS SUMMARISED REPEAT

With the imminent launch of the new website, and the lifting of restrictions across the sector we will be focusing on Membership. To carry out the lobbying work that we do on behalf of the Sector we need funding. 90% plus of this funding comes from Membership Subscriptions.

Members will get.

- Access to Telephone Support
- Prompt email support
- Access to Members Benefits and Discounts. (Buying Group Membership details below)
- Members only Webinars, (Including ask the Chair sessions)
- Book Surgery Appointments with the Chair
- Specific Discounts on key products
- PASC UK Guides to reducing Business Rates
- Hard Copy of the Visit England Pink Book
- Special Interest Papers (EV Charging, Third Party Services at Holiday Lets, Privacy and Cookie Policies etc)

What will be available to non-members?

- The PASC UK Covid newsletters
- Email support when available. (Members support comes first).
- Free Webinars
- Cleaning protocols
- Some General interest Papers, (Cancellation Policies, what to do if Guests gets Covid etc)

We are currently making major investments in supporting you better and all of this cost's money, these include.

- A new Website
- The largest ever National Report on Self-Catering in the UK, broken down by country
- Sponsorship of the Visit England Pink book, to help promote the safe and legal aspects of our sector
- Membership fees to the Tourism Alliance, UK Hospitality and Wales Tourism Alliance
- Surveys and reports to use data-based arguments to win support for the sector

If you have not yet joined PASC UK, please consider joining NOW. Details below the Buying Club information. Thanks.

BUYING CLUB MEMBER BENEFIT FOR PAID PASC UK MEMBERS REPEAT

We are really pleased to announce a partnership with Purchasing for Business.

More details on the new PASC UK website here <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/1112-2/>

This is a Buying Club, it's free to join if you are a paid up PASC UK Member. There will be no additional fee for Members to join the Club.

UPDATE ON COMMERCIAL TV LICENCES FOR SELF-CATERING

Still some questions coming in on this one. Most complexes that we know, from 2-50 units, apply for the Commercial Licence and get one. When we opened Higher Wiscombe about 17 years ago, the Regional Tourist Board provided a list of things to do, including sign up for one of these licences. We have done this every year since.

I have now spoken with them and we should probably apply under the Hospitality Area TV licence.

<https://www.tvlicensing.co.uk/check-if-you-need-one/business-and-organisations/hospitality-aud11>

The actual fee paid is the same and covers up to 15 Units at £159 and when we contacted them, they said either was fine as licence fee was the same.

There appears to be no reason at all to prevent owners with two units or more on one site qualifying for a reduced rate TV licence in our view.

SUPPORT LOBBYING BY JOINING PASC UK REPEAT

There is a huge amount of work and lobbying to do to help support you all in the self-catering sector. We don't ask very often, however, if we are to fight on so many fronts, we simply need more funds. There are thousands of you that have had the benefit of this newsletter and the lobbying done on behalf of the sector.

We are now asking that as many of you as possible join PASC UK. The fight is on so many fronts, and we get much better results when we engage proper legal advice and proper PR firms to assist with campaigns. Memberships to other organisations that provide common lobbying, information feeds and support also cost many thousands of pounds a year.

Membership fees are as follows: All per annum.

- Single cottage £70
- 2 – 4 Units £125
- 5 – 10 Units £200
- 11 + Units £300

For companies like cleaning firms, or industry support companies, Trade Membership is £200, and you will get a listing in the Trade Directory on the new website.

Members get telephone support and priority email support.

You can join here, simple form, takes 2 mins, and you'll get an invoice, payable by BACS or Credit Card.

Just click on this link to go to the joining page: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/join-us/>

Thank you

UPDATED FINANCIAL SUPPORT FINDER

The Government has updated its online tools for businesses and employees to use to determine what support is available.

For businesses, support covers:

- Business loans
- Tax relief
- Cash grants

More information here: <https://bit.ly/3gxFq8K>

For employees, support covers:

- what to do if they're feeling unsafe where they live, or they're worried about someone else
- paying bills, rent, or mortgage
- getting food or medicine
- being made redundant or unemployed, or not having any work if they're self-employed
- what to do if they're worried about going into work
- self-isolating
- having somewhere to live
- mental health and wellbeing, including information for children

More information here: <https://bit.ly/2TLVomz>

RECORDINGS OF PASC UK WEBINARS

These can now all be found on the new website at: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/webinars/>

HOW TO REDUCE YOUR BUSINESS RATES BILL

Many of you have been waiting for me to finish updating the Business Rates paper that enables you to make a self 'check' on your Business Rates Bill.

Please bear in mind:

- The Business Rates Papers are only available to paid up Members.
- The reduced rates negotiated by PASC UK only apply to England and Wales
- The reduced rates negotiated by PASC UK for self-catering are only currently available to Businesses that have 3+ units on one hereditament.
- It will take a while to work through the backlog as each Members needs to have a run through, before applying their "Check".
- We will be in touch directly to arrange these short sessions.

Our apologies that this has taken longer than anticipated.

PASC UK MEMBERS LOGO



Please only display if you are a fully paid up Member. You can get a copy by sending an email to admin@pascuk.co.uk Thanks.

MEMBER RENEWALS

Huge favour to ask of regulars, when you get your renewal through please pay it. The logistics of chasing waste hugely valuable time that could be spent doing far more useful things for all. If you don't want to renew, all you have to do is say so.

ABOUT PASC UK

Full details of all the activities that PASC UK undertakes can be found on the new website, under the About Tab on the homepage. www.pascuk.co.uk

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These can be found on www.pascuk.co.uk

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- VAT Deferral Penalties **30 July Newsletter**
- Legionella **30 July Newsletter**
- Update on Review in England on Second Homes and Business Rates **23 July Newsletter**
- Wales Update (Who can stay currently) **23 July Newsletter**
- Welsh Government Three-Pronged Approach on Second Homes **23 July Newsletter**
- Guidance on Fifth SEISS Grant Updated **23 July Newsletter**
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- Scottish Government to push ahead with Short-term Licensing Legislation **9 July Newsletter**
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- Business Rates in England and Wales, Form VO6048 14 May Newsletter
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- Waste Transfer Rules, and yes it applies to each and every one of you 7 May Newsletter
- Health and Safety Executive Checks and Visits 30 April Newsletter
- Which? Magazine review Covid Secure Schemes 30 April Newsletter
- Covid Secure Business Poster see 23 April Newsletter
- SEISS Repayment Guidance updated 23 April Newsletter
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- Deferred VAT Guidance, further update 23 April Newsletter
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- **UPDATE** QR Codes and Recording guests contact details in England See 16 April
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- Revised Cleaning Protocols See 16 April
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- FCA Business interruption Policy Checker and FAQ **see 26 March**
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- PASC UK Awards **see 26 March**

Wishing each and every one of you all the best during these trying times, and please Stay Safe.

Best regards

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DISCLAIMER

We are in completely uncharted territory here, and any suggestions that we make are merely that and you should carefully consider your own business policies, and if necessary, consult with your Professional Advisors. PASC is your lobbying Association, not a legal service. In addition, please be very wary of some of the advice given on internet communities, blogs and social media. There appear to be thousands of experts out there where my understanding is that there are very few.

To that end, any information you get from any source you must double check. I will always try and put the actual link to the information in the newsletters so that you can read and assess yourselves. These are unprecedented times, please take exceptional care.

