



Professional Association of Self-Caterers UK

COVID NEWSLETTER

28 January 2022 Issue 94

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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

The 2021 news items are now indexed at the bottom of the 17 December newsletter and can be downloaded from www.pascuk.co.uk

COMMENTARY

No real change covering restrictions that affects self-catering. Restrictions on all aspects of life in the UK are coming to an end and people are being urged to go back to work. Outbound travel is opening up and we are seeing a slight softening in bookings coming in for half term and Easter for many Members. This should though be taken in proportion, many of those Members still have good bookings but are keen to fill the last availability over these periods. Post Easter and into the summer bookings remain very strong, with 68% of all Brits planning at least one UK holiday (source Visit Britain). On top of the 'staycation' trend we are also seeing the 'workcation' trend continuing, many are able to work from home, or work from a cottage on the coast, or inland, or in a town and enjoy all the local amenities after work. This is helping drive a younger audience to self-catering, it has of course one major proviso, that the property offers good internet connectivity. We can be quietly confident that 2022 will be good business wise.

Grants (see previous newsletters for details) have seen no real change from last week, except that they have started being issued in England. They remain as divisive as ever, with almost no Members in Wales, and none in Scotland getting any support, despite those two administrations bringing in tougher restrictions over the festive season. A completely unsatisfactory situation which sees almost zero chance of being resolved.

Just as we leave one phase that has dominated our sector for so long, we are entering another, the spectre of massively increasing supply prices. This week has seen hundreds of emails and calls about energy prices and insurance prices and availability.

On energy, rises of 50% - 75% are commonplace and will continue to rise. For PASC UK Members some help and mitigation is available, the PASC UK Buying Club has already helped many members with the energy contracts, including our own at Higher Wiscombe, and those of you on Commercial tariffs can look to do the same. Details of the Buying Club are below, plus details of a Webinar covering this subject. One of the guest presenters on next week's Buying Club Webinar will be Rolec car chargers, who have a 'pay as they use add on' so that guests pay for electricity used. Charging guests for charging their electric vehicles will become the norm this year with rising charges for all energy making this inevitable.

On insurance, we have updated the section below with some more insurers that you can contact, as shopping around is vital, as we are commonly hearing of 100% increase in policy costs.

We are looking to add to the team, currently there is just one and a half of us, and we have put some headlines about the role below, we have some great applicants already, so if you know of anyone, please get them to contact us asap.

We have repeated calls for input, feedback and information about the following:

EV (electric vehicle) charging, for an updated paper on this subject and are looking specifically for mechanisms to enable charging the guest for this service. (See below)

The three Consultations in Wales that affect self-catering. (See below)

If any of you have managed to secure any kind of energy related grants for your business (not home). (See below)

Any information on these gratefully received, send to info@higherwiscombe.com

As always, we wish you all safe and successful trading over the coming months.

Best regards Alistair

HOSTING HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM APPG

On Friday evening last week, we hosted the Hospitality and Tourism APPG at Higher Wiscombe. An APPG is an All-Party Parliamentary Group. They are cross party, and the MP'S elect a Chair from the Members. The role of an APPG is to work with a sector and advise and pressure Government to make change. The elected Chair is Simon Jupp, MP for East Devon, whom we have come to know, and work with extensively during the pandemic.



The Hospitality and Tourism APPG is the largest APPG at the current time, which reflects both the importance of the hospitality sector and the harm inflicted on it during the pandemic.

At the meeting we were able to raise and discuss all the key points affecting wider hospitality, and the issues affecting self-catering within that. There is substantial support for maintaining the 12.5% VAT rate, reform of Business Rates for hospitality and for a sensible and proportionate Statutory Registration Scheme for our sector.

We will continue to provide evidence to this APPG on all key issues affecting the sector and will have regular follow ups with them throughout 2022.

PASC UK IS RECRUITING

We are about to start the process of recruiting someone to help us at PASC UK. Ideally this will need to be someone within range of the office here in East Devon, for training and logistical reasons. This would though primarily be a home-based position.

We desperately need the Business Support role to be filled, to enable the Chair to spend more time lobbying and developing further member benefits.

Starting with a three-month trial and 20 hours per week.

Key technical strengths required are:

- Knowledge of Outlook, Word, Excel, MS Teams/Zoom and editing websites hosted on Wix
- knowledge of using Xero or ability to learn quickly essential
- Knowledge of Photoshop useful but not essential

- Knowledge of Facebook, Twitter and Blogs
- Other programmes as they become relevant

Training and equipment will be provided and remuneration for the right candidate will be in the region of £15 per hour.

Full role specification here: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/vacancies/>

If you know of anyone that might be interested, then please let us know by emailing chair@pascuk.co.uk
Thanks.

CONFIRMED WEBINAR DATES

Webinar 2022 #1

Introduction to the PASC UK Buying Group

Date: Tuesday 1 Feb 2022

Time: 1100-1215

Link to book: <https://bit.ly/3Krhwc5>

The PASC UK Buying Club has been a great success, with over 500 Members enjoying a huge range of benefits. The Buying Club is effectively collective buying power, whereby together we can get better deals than we can on our own. The PASC UK Buying Club does not cost anything to join if you are a paid-up PASC UK Member.

This Webinar is open to all, so that all can see the benefits of joining both PASC UK and the Buying Club.

The list of discounts is growing all the time, examples here: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/buying-club/>

- Alistair Handyside, the PASC UK chair will introduce Gurvinder Patara who runs the Buying Club
- Why you should consider joining... (free to Members, 500+ have joined) and the benefits
- We will present case studies of savings made
- We will have some short presentations from key offers
- Rolec EV Chargers
- Tradepoint Discount Cards
- Followed by Questions to the panel

The Webinar will be recorded and available for viewing from the PASC UK Website shortly after broadcast.

Webinar 2022 #2

Reducing your energy bills if you are on a commercial tariff

Date: Tuesday 8 February 2022

Time: 1100-1215

Link to book: <https://bit.ly/3KrWoSS>

This will be in held conjunction with the PASC UK buying group. Self-caterers are currently seeing their energy bills rising exponentially, some by over 50%. This webinar will introduce the service available from the PASC UK Buying Club that can help you reduce, or lock into lower rates.

The Buying Group has already saved many Members substantial sums on the energy bills. Gurvinder Patara from the Buying Club will cover how they do this, and what they need from individual Members to achieve these savings. Case studies will be presented too.

This Webinar is open to all, so that all can see the benefits of joining.

The Webinar will be recorded and available for viewing from the PASC UK Website shortly after broadcast.

ASK THE CHAIR ANYTHING MEMBERS ZOOM MEETING

We are going to try something new for 2022, hosting private Members only 'ask the Chair anything' zoom meetings.

These will be like the Hampers meetings, in that everyone can see each other, everyone gets to speak and as they are private, they are not recorded. We hope that these smaller sessions will be useful in sharing knowledge and experience.

This will be held on Thursday 10 February at 1100.

You will need to ask to join, sending an email to chair@pascuk.co.uk giving your name, and Business name. Membership will need to be up to date.

It would be useful if you were also to add the questions that you would like to ask, in case we need to research anything, but this is not essential, once these meetings start, the questions just start to flow.

We look forward to hearing with and meeting you, albeit virtually.

EV CHARGING OPTION FOR MEMBERS

We have an EV Charging point supplier signed up to the PASC UK Buying Club. They are called Rolec so PASC UK Members can get discounts by going via the Buying Club or telling Rolec that they are a paid up PASC UK Member. <https://www.rolecserv.com>

This is a British designed and manufactured product and can be supplied in two main versions:

- Free to use
- Chargeable use to the customer via an online back office

Many of you have contacted us to say that now is the time to start charging for EV, if we haven't already. This will become the norm this year with increasing energy prices.



Rolec have a really good system for charging guests for use. First of all, you **must** have internet connectivity at the charging point for this to work. It's delivered by an app. The guests need to have the app on their phone, you can provide them pre visit with a link to download the app, and/or provide QR code by the charger itself.

The guests enter their payment details into the app. And the app controls whether they can use the EV charger or not. Opayo harvest all the charges for you and pay directly into your bank account. They charge 7.5% for doing this, but within the app you can mark up your energy charges to your guests to cover this.

This has many advantages as a system as it can be used by owners of remote properties.

With one in six of all cars registered in 2021 electric or hybrid (this is double previous year, and more than were registered in 2016-2020 combined, (source SMMT <https://bit.ly/3s14YQO>) as business owners we are going to see rapidly increasing demand for this.

Searches for EV charging availability on websites are increasing exponentially. This data kindly provided by Premier Cottages showing a massive uplift in hits on their EV Collection.



Rolec will be presenting their products on the Buying Club Webinar (above) next Tuesday at 1100. This is really good opportunity for you to find out more and see if this might be a solution for your business.

WATER CHARGES IN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND

Water is deregulated in both England Scotland. This means that the charges are set by the water companies. If your Business bills for water in these countries are substantial, it's worth contacting the PASC UK Buying Club as they may well be able to get PASC UK Members a better deal. Many of our rural Members will be on private supply, however, have spoken to several this week where their charges have risen exponentially. Every little helps with all the rising prices.

INSURANCE UPDATE WITH MORE OPTIONS

(ALWAYS A WORK IN PROGRESS)

This week we have seen a massive spike in calls/emails about self-catering insurance policies. Most report huge rises in pricing and some saying cover no longer offered.

Below is a list of primary offers in the sector, with updates as we have them. (Please note Cottagesure updated again below). We have also added a list of players in the market that we don't have direct experience of, to try and give you more options as you shop around for cover.

Every indication is that self-catering insurance premiums are set to rise substantially this year, so worth shopping around.

If you have any good experiences or new providers let us know, and if you have experienced the opposite let us know. Please email chair@pascuk.co.uk and we will update the list below accordingly. Thanks.

Reminder....The first point that we would make is that you choose a policy that is geared to letting short term lets on a professional basis, and not a policy which is no more than a 'tweaked' home insurance policy which so many are. This makes them look excellent value for money, but if the cover is poor if they don't pay out, they are a waste of time.

The second point is to ensure that you have the cover that you are looking for. You won't find the words 'covered for Covid' in these policies going forwards in our view.

Just a few examples of issues here to double check with any provider quoting you, these have come up repeatedly as a reason for no actual cover. If you have things like games tooms, animal petting, anything that the insurer may find unusual, it really is best to ask up front. Could save a huge amount of time.

- Some say no single person use of hot tubs or swimming pool (How on earth could we police that?)
- Some say no Thatched, or adjoining properties
- Some say no streams or ponds on property

So please check for exclusions. No point in paying for a policy that would never pay out.

The main players are as follows. Please let us know if you have a dedicated Self-Catering policy from any others and how they fared during the pandemic, and we'll update this section.

Gallagher's RSA Cottagesure

This is one of the most established policies on the market. Good reputation over a long period. RSA initially refused Covid cover. They lost at the Supreme Court in January 2021, so most claims settled. RSA one of the first to agree not to deduct grants from pay-outs.

UPDATE... RSA have withdrawn underwriting for new policies post 1 Jan 2022. This does not mean if you already have a policy cover has been withdrawn, this is just for new policies starting from 1 Jan 2022. Gallagher's have told us that they expect new underwriting to be in place shortly so that the Cottagesure policy can once again be reoffered. In the meantime, they are offering two alternatives. We will post up on Facebook when Cottagesure is live again and place an update in the newsletter.

<https://cottagesure.co.uk>

Boshers

They do not appear to have paid out at all for Covid related claims, (unless anyone knows different) but have been established for 30 years and previously had a decent reputation.

<https://www.boshers.co.uk/holiday-home-insurance/>

NFU Mutual

NFU Mutual normally have a really good reputation amongst policyholders. They have though had a challenging Covid. Their cheaper Home and Lifestyle policy paid out for Covid, but the more expensive policy did not (unless anyone knows differently).

They were the last major insurer to keep deducting Grants from pay-outs although thankfully they reversed this policy. Their Cancellation Advance Bookings add-on is a really good add on and we are trying to get others to offer similar.

Check Pool and Hot tub cover particularly with these policies as we have heard cases of them not allowing solo use.

<https://www.nfumutual.co.uk/insurance/home-insurance/>

Schofields

Did very well in the pandemic, paid out for Covid (unless you know different) and their underwriters were the first to say that they would not deduct Grants from pay-outs.

<https://www.schofields.ltd.uk>

These four I have heard of but have not listed before as I don't have any Member recommendations on them at this time.

Towergate Insurance

These also have a Glamping policy....

<https://www.towergateinsurance.co.uk/home-and-property/holiday-home-insurance>

J L Morris

Various policies on offer, but not clear if do or don't do complexes.

<https://www.jlmorris.co.uk/uk-holiday-home-insurance/>

Lycetts

They say that they can do bespoke holiday complex cover, I have a call with them this afternoon, so will post an update in next week's newsletter.

<https://www.lycetts.co.uk/insurance-services/rural/estate/holiday-cottages/>

Magenta Insurance

Looks like suitable for single cottages rather than complexes and only up to a value of 1.5 million property value.

<https://www.magentainsurance.co.uk/>

If you have any comments, feedback or think others should be on the list and why? Please email chair@pascuk.co.uk

COLLECTIVE ACTION AGAINST NFU FOR COVIDS CLAIMS

An interesting development has come to our attention this week from a Member in that there is notice of an intended action against the NFU for not paying out under Covid Business Interruption Insurance. Regular readers of this Newsletter may remember that those on the cheaper NFU Home and Lifestyle Policy were able to claim from NFU, but those on their more expensive policy were not.

We do not have details of the basis of the claim but interested NFU policy holders may want to contact Penningtons Manches Cooper, based in London, to see what the basis of the claim is and whether they should consider joining.

<https://www.penningtonslaw.com>

If any Members get positive or negative feedback on this, can they let us know?
chair@pascuk.co.uk

WALES WORKING GROUP REPEAT AND REQUEST FOR INPUT

The Wales Working Groups meets on the 8th February to coordinate responses to these Consultations please send your thoughts and comments in so that they can be part of the considerations. Thanks. Send to chair@pascuk.co.uk

There are three consultations underway that affect Members in Wales. They are listed below. We have established a working group with the Wales Tourism Alliance to try and coordinate a single unified response to each of these. The danger is having separate groups giving conflicting feedback to these consultations, which can mean that Govt ignores them all.

The notes on these will be published so that Members can see the position that we are taking, and hopefully can also feed into the Consultations on similar lines.

Please provide your comments and inputs on these Consultations to us so that we can include them in our discussions. Please send to chair@pascuk.co.uk

A reminder of the Consultations:

1st Consultation: 'Local Taxes for second homes and self-catering accommodation'.

<https://gov.wales/local-taxes-second-homes-and-self-catering-accommodation>

Whilst this Consultation is technically closed (on 17 November 2021), the review is still ongoing and that is being fed into.

2nd Consultation: Planning legislation and policy for second homes and short-term holiday lets:

This is the most urgent one as the Consultation period ends on 22 February.

<https://gov.wales/planning-legislation-and-policy-second-homes-and-short-term-holiday-lets>

Some notes on this....

The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (the GPDO) permits certain **specified changes of use between the specified use classes**. Under current planning legislation, planning permission may be required for a change of use of a dwelling house to use as a short-term holiday let. There is no published definition of what constitutes a material change of use from primary or secondary home to a short-term holiday let. Whether a material change of use has occurred, and planning permission is therefore required, is a matter of fact and degree for the relevant planning authority to consider on a case-by-case basis. **Considerations** that may be material include increased occupancy of the property, frequency of changes of occupants, impact on local amenity and on direct neighbours and local housing need.

Welsh Government's proposals to amend the development management system and planning policy in Wales in three ways:

Amend the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 to create new use classes for 'Primary Homes', 'Secondary Homes' and 'Short-term Holiday Lets'; They would amend Part C of Schedule 1 to the Use Classes Order by:

- Amending the existing use

class C3 (Dwelling houses) to apply where a dwelling house is in use as a sole or main residence for a prescribed period (i.e. Primary Homes); ·Introducing use class C5 (Secondary Homes); · Introducing use class C6 (Short-term Holiday Lets).

Make related amendments to the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 to allow permitted changes between the new use classes for Primary Homes, Secondary Homes and Short-term Holiday Lets. These permitted development rights can be disapplied within a specific area by an Article 4 Direction made by a local planning authority.

Make related amendments to Planning Policy Wales (PPW) to make it explicit that, where relevant, the prevalence of second homes and short-term holiday lets in a local area must be taken into account when considering the housing requirements and policy approaches in Local Development Plans (LDP). Plus, it makes clear where the local planning authority imposes an Article 4 Direction, a condition could be placed on all new dwellings restricting their use to primary residential where such conditions would meet the relevant tests.

3rd Consultation: Local variation to land transaction tax rates for second homes, short term holiday lets and potentially other residential properties - closes 28th March 2022

We have a little more time on this one.

<https://gov.wales/second-homes-local-variation-to-land-transaction-tax-rates-html>

This is what was called Stamp duty up to April 2018. £180K – £250k – 3.5%; 5% above £250k. Property above £40k attracts Land Transaction Tax (LTT) – Welsh Revenue Authority. The proposal is to delegate Powers to Local Authorities (LA) to vary LTT in LA or specific ward areas.

EV CHARGING, CALL FOR INFORMATION INFO NEEDED

Please, please if you have any information that will help us update the EV paper, particularly around charging mechanisms so that the guests pay for the electricity, please let us know.

We are going to revise and update the PASC UK EV (Electric Vehicle) charging paper as soon as we can gather some more information, hopefully with your help.



We are specifically asking for info on apps/systems to charge guests for charging Electric Vehicles

With the huge rises in electricity costs, this may well be an opportunity for those that have Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers but do not currently ask guests to pay for the electricity, to start charging. Lots of emails coming in about this and how to charge the guest.

This isn't something that most can just add to the booking form, unless they have a dedicated charger per cottage. Shared chargers might mean access was limited to a particular guest. Larger cottages might mean that person paying was not charging their vehicle. So, a possibility of guest conflict

So, has anyone got any details of apps/tech solutions that mean that a guest can pay for the electricity that they are using to charge their car? In many cases this will need to be able to be retrofitted to existing charging units.

Please send info to chair@pascuk.co.uk and once the information is checked and gathered together it will be available in an updated Electric Vehicle Charging Paper. Thanks.

ENERGY GRANTS, CALL FOR INFORMATION

With the rising costs of energy many owners, including ourselves, are looking at making changes to the energy systems that we use. This may be for reasons of economy or wanting to reduce the carbon footprint of the business. We are getting an increasing number of enquiries about this and would be really grateful if any Members can tell us if they have managed to secure any grant support for these initiatives. These would have to be grants that would apply to businesses. Please, if you have any information, send it to chair@pascuk.co.uk

WHAT TO DO IF A GUEST GETS COVID AT YOUR PROPERTY? REPEAT

There are some key points here to enable full understanding of what we need to do and why.

1/ There is (unbelievably in our view) no requirement for the guest to notify us if they do test positive for Covid whilst staying with you.

2/ You do not need to tell guests that come subsequently that a guest tested positive for Covid. This has more logic as we should have carried out the Covid Cleaning Protocols which protect, as far is proportionate, subsequent guests.

3/ We do have to have a Covid Risk Assessment by law. This has been covered in many PASC UK Newsletters.

We have seen on hospitality forums lots of incorrect information about what steps we need to take. The most common is still to leave three days between bookings. This has not been necessary since we reopened in July 2020 if cleaning protocols are followed.

The key steps that we must take if we find out that someone has had Covid in the premises are as follows:

- The guest(s) should return home as soon as possible to get back to their NHS support area.
- This does not imply that they should get a refund. If they broke a leg, they probably would not even ask. We are not the insurance policy of last resort for every occurrence. Guests should consider Covid cover in their holiday insurance, it is a known risk. (You must be clear on this, in your communications and booking terms. If you are taking bookings through third parties their booking terms will apply).
- Either the owners or cleaning team should put on PPE and enter the building and open as many windows as soon as practical for as long as possible. Every piece of data suggests that ventilation is the key.
- After ventilation, and either before or on the changeover day, normal Covid cleaning should take place as per the updated Cleaning Protocols (see below).

NEW REVISED CLEANING PROTOCOLS V5

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 12,000 copies of the updated version have already been downloaded, taking the total to more than 135,000.

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 120,000 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

MEMBER BENEFITS SUMMARISED

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, (Cancelation Policies, what to do if Guests gets Covid etc)

We are currently making major investments in supporting you better and all 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. <https://bit.ly/3ptd4RU> Thanks.

BUYING CLUB MEMBER BENEFIT FOR PAID PASC UK MEMBERS

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

More details on the new PASC UK website here: <https://bit.ly/3ptd4RU>

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.

SUPPORT LOBBYING BY JOINING PASC UK

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

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

NEW 2021 INDEX

2021 New Items and which Newsletter they can be found here: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/covid19-newsletters/>

- **Scottish Licensing Legislation passed 21 Jan Newsletter**
- **Update on New Threshold for Business Rates Switch, further information 21 Jan Newsletter**
- **Grants update England 21 Jan Newsletter**
- **Grants update Scotland 21 Jan Newsletter**
- **Grants update Wales 21 Jan Newsletter**
- **Restrictions lifting in England 21 Jan Newsletter**
- **Restrictions lifting in Scotland 21 Jan Newsletter**
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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.