



Professional Association of Self-Caterers UK

PASC UK NEWSLETTER

29th April 2022 Issue 107

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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 ITEMS COVERED IN PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

The 2022 news items are now indexed at the bottom of the 17 December newsletter and can be downloaded from www.pascuk.co.uk

COMMENTARY

Firstly, this week we need to start with two apologies. Yesterdays Private Members Zoom meeting was limited by our Zoom account to 100 participants. We had well over 160 registered. We did not realise that there was a limitation on the Zoom account that we have, (it costs almost £1000) so any Member after the 100th login was barred from entry.

We apologise for this oversight and will be asking those that were blocked to attend if they can attend the next available meeting dates. These will be offered exclusively to those that were blocked out.

We have though decided that we will stick with the 100 maximum, it's important to keep these as 'meeting's not 'webinars' where Members can get the chance to speak and comment, and see and hear other Members. We will be careful in monitoring this in future.

Next week's meetings will be a Welsh Members Meeting, to update on what's happening in Wales, plus an invitation to those that missed out on yesterday's meeting for a reprise of that meeting. Details below.

The major element of our work at the moment is to continue to try to mitigate the impact of the 182-day letting threshold in Wales. For Welsh Members there is a full update below. and getting the large 'Body of Evidence' that was prepared spread as far and wide as possible.

Full report on what's happening in Wales below.

We are repeating this paragraph as we are still inundated with calls and emails regarding PRS PPL and their phone manner, which on some occasions is really poor.

If you are NOT currently paying the licence, and you are called by them, just say **that it has been agreed between PASC UK, the ASSC and PRS PPL that you are not to be contacted at this time, whilst the situation is resolved.** Full explanation and an update below, we, along with the ASSC (Association of Scotland's Self-Caterers) are pressuring to get this sorted as quickly as we can.

The Members meeting yesterday highlighted how patchy bookings are for Members at the moment, when polled a third were up, a third were 'middling' and a third were down.

The latest Visit Britain consumer sentiment tracker (set up as a direct response to the Covid pandemic, to monitor what potential holidaymakers were thinking about while booking trips) makes for interesting reading. <https://bit.ly/3vtj5AO>

Perceived 'barriers' to booking a holiday have put catching Covid into 5th place, behind personal

finances, UK weather, rising cost of holidays/leisure and general health. (See slide 16) on above report.

We really need a reasonable period of sunshine and increase in temperature. We hope to have some hard analytical data next week to share with you.

We are also launching an insurance initiative shortly. We are getting repeated calls and emails from Members about how challenging getting the right cover at anything like the right price can be now. We will be looking for as much information and feedback from Members as possible on this, see more detail below.

Please keep the feedback coming in, as you can see from this week's newsletter it really does impact on which pieces of work get prioritised.

PASC UK WEBSITE AND TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

This week all the hard work done by our new Member of staff, Justin Sutherland, has finally come to fruition and April Subscription renewals have been sent out by the back-office System and not individually by Lorna and me. Most of this week's new Member applications have also been fully automated. This will save a huge amount of administrative time and free up more Member Support and Lobbying.

Important note on the Members area. This is the next piece of work, to start populating the Members area of the website. You will all get a password option with renewals and joining. All you can do in the Members area today is update and correct your account details and change your password. Over the next days and weeks, we will be putting more and more content in the Members area and will let you know as that happens. Thanks for patience on this.

Password Invitation. If you are getting a renewal or paying your joining invoice you will get an invitation to change your password. You do not have to do this now; it does though come from us. You will need a password to update your subscription details and to enter the Members area that we are launching in the next few weeks.

LOTS OF GOVT CONSULTATIONS AFFECTING SELF-CATERING TO LOOK OUT FOR

Over the coming weeks PASC UK will be providing guidance notes on how Members might respond to these Consultations. Here are a few of the most recent ones that could affect our businesses and need to have an eye kept on them.

FAKE REVIEWS

Here's the link to the formal Government announcement

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/reforming-competition-and-consumer-policy/outcome/reforming-competition-and-consumer-policy-government-response>

And Press Release on it

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-rules-to-protect-consumers-hard-earned-cash>

Comment:

New legislation will be needed for this and there will need to be a public consultation first so we would expect that 1 April 2023 will be about the earliest that this could be introduced and even that would be a push.

It is worth noting that posting fake reviews is already meant to be illegal under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations which ban the use of misleading claims or endorsements. What the new legislation will do is clarify and spell this out in relation to fake reviews so that there is no ambiguity in future.

ONLINE SALES TAX CONSULTATION

HMT is undertaking a consultation on a new Online Sales Tax. Not to be confused with the Digital Services Tax is a tax on revenues from certain digital services, including social media, search engines, and online marketplaces, this proposed tax aims to address the imbalance between business rates paid by online retailers versus the level of business rates paid by “bricks and mortar” retailers and part of attempts to support high street businesses and preserve vibrant town centres.

While the focus of the consultation is looking at how such a tax could and should be applied to businesses that sell goods, the consultation does stray into asking whether such a tax should be applied to businesses that sell services which, **if it happened**, would have a considerable impact most tourism businesses that conduct sales online.

We will be sending in a response that highlights that the majority of tourism businesses are “bricks and mortar” businesses and, as such, applying this tax to their online sales would therefore amount to double taxation.

We will provide some guidance notes on this by the deadline to aid responses.

The consultation closes on 20th May and the consultation document is available on the following link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1057267/OST_condoc.pdf

OFFICE OF TAX SIMPLIFICATION: REVIEW OF PROPERTY INCOME

Full details of this consultation can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/review-of-property-income-survey-and-call-for-evidence>

We have a meeting with the Office of Tax Simplification, organised by the Tourism Alliance, and will try and find out what, if any opportunities or threats there are to the current FHL rules

The Call for Evidence is open until 5 June, and we will be providing some guidance notes on this to Members in advance of the deadline.

AWARD WINNING MEMBERS UPDATE

This week the finalists in the Visit England Awards have been announced and two out of three in the Self-Catering category are PASC UK Members.

Self-Catering Accommodation of the Year



- Glynn Barton, Cornwall. <https://glynnbarton.co.uk>
- Pitt Farm Holiday Cottages, Devon. <https://pitt-farm.co.uk>

Huge congratulations to them, and we wish them all the very best at the Awards Ceremony.

Next week we will reveal some more winners, plus a case study on how one Member (Member 001, PASC UK's very first ever Member, has benefitted from these awards over a nearly 30-year period.

We will also be having a Members workshop on how to prepare and enter the various awards schemes, as well as short case studies on why they can help boost your business. There will be plenty of time allowed for questions to the panel.

The Private Members Meeting for this will be on the 17 May at 1100.

We will be having a guest presentation from Services for Tourism who organise good proportion of the regional tourism awards at this meeting. If you wish to take part, please send an email to chair@pascuk.co.uk and put Awards Meeting in the subject line and your business name in the body of the email.

This meeting will be recorded.

MEMBERS MEETINGS NEXT WEEK

There will be the following Private Members Meetings next week.

Wales Members, update on 182-day lobbying and activities.

This will be at 1000 on Wednesday 4 May.

We will have guest updates from Suzy Davies Chair of the WTA and Adrian Greason-Walker, the Director of the WTA as well.

It will be limited to 100 Members max. Paid up PASC UK Members only. First come first served. If we are oversubscribed, we will call another as quickly as possible.

Those wishing to take part should send an email to chair@pascuk.co.uk with **Wales Meeting** in the subject line and business name in the body of the email.

General Private Members Meeting, priority for those who were blocked out yesterday.

This will be at 1200 on Wednesday 4 May. This will be by private invitation only to begin with, to make sure all that missed out yesterday get priority. There may be some spaces left, so if you did not attend yesterday, and were not blocked by the 100 limit, please send an email to chair@pascuk.co.uk saying **General Meeting waiting list**. I will let you know as soon as possible

whether we can accommodate you. Mathematically, even if everyone who was blocked yesterday attends, there will be 35 spaces.

The format of these meetings is very different from the Webinars that you are familiar with. These are meetings, everyone can see each other, and everyone gets an opportunity to speak and ask questions. They are available to paid up Members only. They are private, so not recorded and are run to Chatham House Rules.

UPDATE ON LOBBYING IN WALES 29 April

Our key emphasis this week has been to try and get as many responses as possible sent to officials, to try and get the appalling impact of the 182-day threshold understood by all parts of the Welsh Government.

We believe that some chinks of light are beginning to show. Whilst we have not seen any confirmation that the threshold will be reduced to a sensible level, lots of MS's, including some from Plaid Cymru, are admitting that the 182-day threshold may be too high. That DOES NOT mean that there is automatic acceptance of the 105-day proposal but there really is a discernible change to the language coming back from MS's and officials. We will continue to push at this on a daily basis.

There was a debate on Tourism in the Senedd this week on Tourism, although the 182-day threshold did feature, it got a bit hi-jacked by the Tourism Tax debate, which although critically important is not as pressing as the 182-day threshold.

This can be viewed here: <https://www.senedd.tv/Meeting/Archive/d5c95642-222d-458f-98e7-54bdb89d7e24?autostart=True>

When opening this page, there is an agenda on the right, click on **Welsh Conservatives Debate – Tourism** and it will take you to the start. The cut off is not quite perfect, so wait for a few seconds for the previous session to end.

As we reported last week, we added several further stands of work across the PASC UK, WTA and UKH Cymru team.

Press Coverage

We have engaged a press specialist in Wales to write a series of releases, which urge the Welsh Government to reconsider. Some examples are included below, and more are coming through daily.

We are also being asked for businesses who are willing to speak to the media and have provided these as requested after checking Members are happy to take part.

<https://www.westerntelegraph.co.uk/news/20089337.wales-tourism-alliance-uk-hospitality-cymru-issue-warning/>

<https://catererlicensee.com/back-us-dont-tax-us-says-ukhospitality-cymru/>

https://nation.cymru/news/tourism-chiefs-call-for-rethink-of-new-rules-for-self-catering-holiday-accommodation/?fbclid=IwAR2q5Qzc_DcW_ANyHFRcu9mp6HMAsOah8kcp5oUrv3WmHfG5u5fF5h3oqb0

<https://www.tivysideadvertiser.co.uk/news/20093634.new-proposals-mean-closure-many-holiday-operators/>

<https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/most-welsh-holiday-cottages-could-23796238>

<https://www.express.co.uk/travel/articles/1601716/wales-tourism-holiday-let-second-homes-council-tax-anti-English-reactions>

<https://www.southwalesguardian.co.uk/news/20093634.new-proposals-mean-closure-many-holiday-operators/>

<https://www.northwalespioneer.co.uk/news/20092237.aberconwy-ms-calls-government-protect-holiday-firms/>

Lobbying your MS

We have also engaged our lobbying firm, very much in the same way that PASC UK did with them to successfully get the Cottagesure Policy added to the Business Interruption Court Case and in getting Treasury to rule that Government Grants could not be deducted by insurance companies.

Each MS is receiving a personalised letter by email, in Welsh and English asking them to look at the evidence and to look at the offered solution. Each of these letters will conclude with case studies (with detail redacted) from their own constituencies. We are getting these from all the case studies provided by you. We have offered the MS the opportunity to speak with the case-study provider (subject to owners' approval) and we can put the business directly in contact with them.

This is a large logistical exercise but the personalisation and the adding of truly relevant case studies on their patch should get them thinking.

Petitions Committee

We launched the Petition on the 182-Day Threshold. This was set up Suzy from WTA is setting it up, and we have two Members providing the back-up addresses.

We needed 250 signatures to get it looked at by the Petitions Committee and have blasted past that. Might 10,000 now not be so far-fetched? There are 6-8000 businesses in Wales so with partners signing the Petition too, it's not impossible.... That would lead to a Senedd debate... over to you all to share and promote widely.....



Petitions

Petition

Agree 105 day occupancy, not 182 days, to distinguish holiday let businesses from second homes

As part of its tax policy to limit the number of second homes, Welsh Government wishes to better distinguish between legitimate furnished holiday lets and second homes. The draft Order, despite contrary advice from its own consultation, raises the level of occupancy required for business status from 70 to 182. This is unachievable for most FHLs, which will either close or be reclassified as second homes as a result. We propose a threshold of 105 days, a 50% rise, in line with HMRC definitions.

[More details](#) ▾

[Sign this petition](#) >

1,930 signatures

[Show on a map](#)

10,000

If you go to the Petition, and click on this link you can see where the votes are being cast:

<https://petitions.senedd.wales/petitions/245159/map?view=constituencies&count=signatures>
Wales Tourism Week

We still do not know when the Welsh Government will try and move forwards on this change. We do know that all the work done on providing evidence has slowed it down. It's possible that this may still be able to be lobbied against this time next month. We hope so, as that means we will have the additional platform of Wales Tourism Week.

We have an invitation to attend the Senedd on the evening of the 18th May to meet with MSs on the single subject of Tourism and will be there in numbers with colleagues from all the other associations. The key policies that we are united against are the 182-day threshold and the introduction of a Tourism Tax.

PASC UK Pledge Fund

Last week over 50 Welsh Members attend a private zoom meeting to discuss the above and what more can be done. During the meeting we asked for Welsh Businesses to contribute any amount, whatever they can, £50, £100, £250 to help fund the activities above.

The response from these businesses was just outstanding, and we raised just over £2500 from this single call to action.

From repeating the request in last week's newsletter, we are now approaching £5,000.

Please don't leave it to the few on this to help fund this battle. If this affects you then please contribute what you can afford. The funds are ring-fenced to spend on the 182-day threshold campaign.

All you need to do is send an email to chair@pascuk.co.uk with your Business Name and how much you wish to contribute. Our new back-office system will then raise an invoice for you.

What steps can you still take?

- 1/ A Body of Evidence against the 182-day Threshold
- 2/ Next Steps for Owners and Agents
- 3/ Next Steps for PASC UK
- 4/ Fund-raising support

To cover in turn.

1/ A Body of Evidence against the 182-day Threshold

This is the document that we were asked to produce by Welsh Government Officials, to include case studies to substantiate what we were telling them about the impact of the 182-day threshold.

It can be found at the top of the reports page at <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/reports/>

We would ask that you circulate this as widely as possible. It has been presented to the Welsh Government and Officials.

2/ Next Steps for Owners and Agents

We would urge every single operator in Wales to download the Five Point Plan for Welsh business owners to follow. This will tell you how to find the ways to contact MSs, Ministers and Councillors so that you can contact them.

The Updated Plan is also available on <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/reports/>

The more of you that do this, the more likely we will see a reduction in the threshold.

Thanks.

3/ Next Steps for PASC UK

We will in parallel continue to lobby Ministers and Officials and point out the unintended consequences of this measure. Some of the actions that we will be taking with partners is detailed at the beginning of this section.

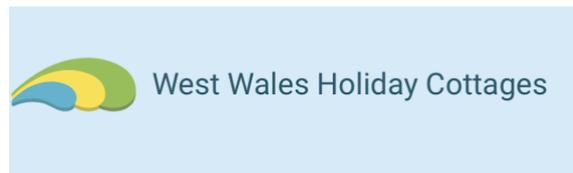
Our theme will be that the change in threshold should be to 105-days let, which was the PASC UK and other Associations position submitted to the original consultation on this matter. An increase from 70-days received the majority of support from that Consultation, with most common suggestion being 105-days let.

Please remember, in everything that you respond to the Welsh Government or Councils or Officials, remind them that only 9 respondents suggested 182-days, or put another way, they have accepted the views of 0.9% of respondents to the Consultation.

4/ Fund-raising support

The self-catering agents have stepped up already along with PASC UK and added 27 days of additional lobbying time. Members have contributed almost £5000 to the fighting fund.

We would like to thank these for their support. This is another really good example of the sector working together. Thank you.



And a business has contributed to this fund as well 😊

Cefnsuran farm holidays, Cefnsuran, Llangunllo, Knighton, Powys, LD7 1SL

The agencies can be contacted via their websites:

www.sts-holidays.co.uk

www.westwalesholidaycottages.co.uk

www.classic.co.uk

www.travelchapter.com

PASC UK Owner Member

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

WALES TOURISM TAX UPDATE

We will have a report on this next week. There have been some meetings and we will have some notes to share with you. The direction of travel is clear unfortunately. This is not about 'whether' a Tourism Tax should be introduced, it's about 'how' it will be introduced. Deeply concerning, more next week.

PASC UK INSURANCE FOR SELF-CATERING BUSINESSES INITIATIVE

Due to the numbers of calls and emails over the last few months about holiday let insurance, PASC UK is going to undertake a piece of work to try and create an insurance report. The objective of this report is to save you time when seeking cover for your business.

An increasing number of insurers are refusing cover for some items, or refusing cover entirely to Members, often at the very last minute, and three times in the last three weeks we have been trying to help Members find last-minute (and expensive) alternatives.

Things that are causing the most headaches are swimming pools, hot tubs, annexes, thatched properties, ponds, play areas, playrooms, animals on site and more.

We are looking to create a grid, with all the relevant insurers down one side and across the top, all these kinds of headings to show if the insurers cover them or not.

This will save you time when looking for competitive quotes and we will use the grid to pressure insurers to 'tick more boxes'.

We will be asking them for evidence in why, suddenly, they are introducing further exclusions.

If you have any thoughts on this, or have any contributions or experiences of any kind, please let us know by sending an email to chair@pascuk.co.uk with **Insurance Paper** in the subject line. Thanks.

HAMPERS PAPER UPDATED.

The PASC UK Hampers paper has been updated. We have had several questions about whether you can provide your own fresh eggs in your hampers, and yes you can, and the updated paper explains how.

Many of the Members on the Zoom yesterday were unaware of this paper, which was written to help you protect your business and your guests, especially as Natasha' Law came into effect, and we all have legal steps we must take.

The Hampers Paper can be found here: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/reports/>

THIRD PARTY SERVICES AT OUR HOLIDAY ACOMMODATION

It was also apparent that many Members who have third party services at their property have not seen the paper on how to protect yourselves from claims resulting from any incidents.

The paper covers:

- Outside chefs
- Entertainment providers
- Bouncy Castles
- Etc.

Anything going wrong with any third-party provider could invalidate your insurance.

The paper can be found here: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/reports/>

PRS PPL UPDATE 15 APRIL WHAT TO SAY TO THEM REPEAT AND UPDATE

We continue to try and resolve the on-going situation with PRS PPL. We are doing this with the ASSC (Association of Scotland's Self Caterers) as their Members are equally affected.

This week we have been working with the ASSC on how to try and escalate this. We have been in professional courteous dialogue with PRS PPL for over a year now.

Our asks are pretty simple:

- We want a self-catering tariff.
- We want an FAQ sheet on why we have to pay it and under what circumstances.
- We want their staff to be polite on the phone.

These are hardly outrageous requests. Over the next week or so we will try and come up with a way to try and move this forward. We appreciate that Members are frustrated and angry about particularly the tone of the cold calls.

We don't dispute that most of us may need to pay something, (see bottom of this article for exemptions) as music is being played in a commercial setting. We get email after email from owners saying it is private residential, and we don't think it is. That would apply to your house, when you have friends around, when you can also give them alcohol if you wish. When you charge for people to stay it moves to commercial and licences are needed.

Having said that we currently do not have a self-catering tariff and are expected to pay bills that they have calculated from another tariff which we do not think is appropriate as it's impossible to calculate what the correct charge would be. No one else we can think of can invoice you an amount of money without an explanation about how the fee was arrived at.

Last year we were promised by PRS PPL that this would be rectified, as well as dealing with the appalling telephone calls that some of you suffer. We were also to get a tariff, and guidance and explanation about why, in law, this needs to be paid, specific to self-catering.

It has been over a year, and we have just received short, updated guidance notes, which we do not think is remotely adequate, and still no self-catering tariff.

Last year they also asked us to tell you that those paying would get a credit if it later transpired that you had overpaid, when the self-catering tariff was finally released.

Our own invoice has arrived, just over a year from when we finally got them to engage with the ASSC and ourselves. And yes, you guessed it, we still run a hotel and there is no explanation about how the amount on the invoice has been arrived at. In the notes from PRS PPL they also seem to be proposing that if any business does not pay the invoice on time, then a 50% surcharge is immediately applied. We are checking into the legality of this surcharge, the like of which we have never seen before.

We are therefore disputing our invoice saying that we would not pay this, and are prepared to go to court over this, backed by PASC UK, and see if an invoice for a hotel can apply to self-catering business with no explanations as to how the amount was calculated.

We received this response.

Our respective legal teams are working on providing clear guidance for your members on the requirements for a licence. Unfortunately, this is taking longer than I would have hoped.

The team at PPLPRS have been told not to actively approach currently unlicensed self-catering operators but it is not always clear until they actually make contact that a venue is a self-catering operation rather than say a small guesthouse.

If you have any specific queries from members, please provide me with the details and I will be happy to review them with the team at PPLPRS.

So, if you get a call from them, tell them that it has been agreed between PASC UK, the ASSC and PRS PPL that you are not to be contacted at this time, whilst the situation is resolved.

If you have a problem, or the call is aggressive or rude, please contact me at chair@pascuk.co.uk and we will pass on your comments. We will NOT pass on details that enable PRS PPL to identify you.

These are the current exemptions as written by PRS PPL, please note that you have to comply with ALL the criteria to be exempt. So, for example if you have two properties, in two places however small they are, both are liable.

Are there any circumstances when fees are not charged?

Discretionary Charging Policy:

PPL PRS Ltd charges for music in hotels and other holiday accommodation businesses.

However, PPL PRS Ltd chooses not to charge a royalty for the use of music (including TV and radio) in holiday accommodation premises meeting all of the following criteria:

- The premises has **3 guest bedrooms or fewer**
- The premises is the **sole holiday (or self-catering) accommodation business** operated or owned by the proprietors
- The premises is either a self-catering premises or is also the **domestic residence** of the proprietors
- **Facilities are only available to resident guests (and, in the case of holiday premises, the proprietors)**

EV CHARGING. UPDATED PAPER AND NEW GRANT REPEAT

We have updated the EV Charging paper and it now includes the following Grant. This Grant is available throughout the UK, provided that you meet the criteria as stated.

The EV Charging Paper is available here. <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/reports/>



On 29 March 2022, the Government updated their grants policy to enable holiday and short stay accommodation to apply for a grant of £350 per charging unit. There are conditions that need to be met, and it won't necessarily be given to all applicants unless they are able to meet the criteria.

Details here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/workplace-charging-scheme-guidance-for-charities-and-small-accommodation-businesses>

The criteria are as follows:

The scheme is open to applicant organisations that fulfil all of the following criteria and can prove this using the [evidence required](#). Your organisation must:

- be either:
 - a registered charity
 - an accommodation business with 249 employees or less
- have received – or have currently pending at the time of application – less than €200,000 of public support in the last 3 financial years (meaning the previous 2 financial years plus the current financial year) and satisfy the [state aid requirements for de minimis aid](#)
- declare a need for EV charging equipment (you do not need to possess a plug-in EV)
- be located in England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland (applicants in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man are not eligible)
- have dedicated off-street parking. The parking facilities must be clearly associated with the applicant's premises and be either on-site or a reasonable distance from the place of work. There is no restriction on who may use the parking, be it customers, guests, visitors, staff or others
- own the property or have consent from the landlord for chargepoints to be installed at all the sites listed in the application

Evidence required

To prove your business is an ongoing concern, you need to use your Companies House reference number.

If you do not have this, you may use a VAT registration number.

If you have neither of these, you may use an HMRC registration letter.

Charities not in possession of any of this documentation can upload a copy of their registration to the Charity Commission or a letter from a principal regulator by using the upload field reserved for the HMRC registration letter.

If you are unable to provide any of these documents, we will be unable to issue you with a voucher.

If you are unsure about the eligibility of your organisation, contact the DVLA at workplacechargingscheme@dvla.gov.uk.

We appreciate that many of you may not meet this criteria and with the help of the Tourism Alliance have gone back to Olev to ask if the criteria could be extended, so that more, small independent Self-Caterers could participate.

Their answer at the moment is as follows:

When we designed the extension to the workplace charging scheme to small accommodation, we did consider the impacts of applying the current registration rules to them and that many businesses may not be able to apply. This was one of the hard decisions we had to make. As the scheme develops, we will monitor its uptake and if it is succeeding in stimulating investment in EV charge points. Within this we will consider extending the eligibility criteria. Whether we do will depend on the ease at which we could implement such a change and its likely impact. I'll keep you posted on this.

Which, when translated means, if the uptake is slower than anticipated, they'll broaden the criteria. We will let you know if there is any change.

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, (Cancellation 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 2021/2 INDEX

2021 New Items and which Newsletter they can be found here:

<https://www.pascuk.co.uk/covid19-newsletters/>

- **Business Interruption insurance Claims update – Furlough Deductions 15 April Newsletter**
- **Fund-Raising for lobbying in Wales Update 8 April 8 April Newsletter**
- **Registering to Vote in the Local Elections in Wales 8 April Newsletter**
- **Compensation for Power Cuts Reminder 8 April Newsletter**
- **More on Energy Contracts 8 April Newsletter**
- **Spring Statement Update 1 April Newsletter**
- **Reminder New Electric Vehicle Charging Paper published 1 April Newsletter**
- **Declaring Grants on Tax Returns 1 April Newsletter**
- **New Consultation on Review of Property Income 1 April Newsletter**
- **Notes on Membership when selling your Business 1 April Newsletter**

- Tourism Surveys to seek out at Welsh Councils 1 April Newsletter
- Deadline for Wales Consultation into varying Land Transaction Values 25 March Newsletter
- 2022 Market Data on bookings so far 18 March Newsletter
- What happens if a guest gets Covid at your property? Repeated in most newsletters pre-18 March
- New Revised Cleaning Protocols V5 Repeated in most newsletters pre-18 March
- New PASC UK Website Live
- Major announcement in Wales for Holiday Lets and Business Rates 4 March
- PASC UK Comment on Welsh Government announcement 4 March
- Self-Catering Agency Members Zoom Meeting Dates announced 4 March
- NFU Action group for Covid Claims Repeat 4 March Newsletter
- Storms and Guest Cancellations 25 Feb Newsletter
- Impact of rising costs on self-catering prices 25 Feb Newsletter
- Update on closed Wales Self-Catering Consultation 25 Feb Newsletter
- Removal of Covid Restrictions in England 25 Feb Newsletter
- Recording of Reducing Commercial Energy and Utility bills Webinar Repeat 18 Feb Newsletter
- Recording of PASC UK Buying Club Webinar Repeat 18 Feb Newsletter
- Some tips for those on residential energy supplies 18 Feb Newsletter
- PASC UK Recruitment Update 18 Feb Newsletter
- PASC UK Renewals 18 Feb Newsletter
- Update on most pressing Welsh Government consultation 18 Feb Newsletter
- Wales Working Group, and self-catering Consultations in Wales 18 Feb Newsletter
- How to try and locate business support grants in England 18 Feb Newsletter
- Business support from local Enterprise Partnerships 18 Feb Newsletter
- Insurance Update with more options and info 18 Feb Newsletter
- Collective action against NFU for covid Claims Update 18 Feb Newsletter
- Wales Working Group on Consultations feedback needed 18 Feb Newsletter
- Lifting of remaining restrictions in England 11 Feb Newsletter
- Welsh government marches on with Tourism Tax 11 Feb Newsletter
- Welsh Government bans smoking in Self-Catering 11 Feb Newsletter
- Wales Working Group, and self-catering Consultations in Wales 11 Feb Newsletter
- Govt urged to CUT vat, save £4.6bn and Level up. 11 Feb Newsletter
- Welsh government marches on with Tourism Tax 11 Feb Newsletter
- Welsh Government bans smoking in Self-Catering 11 Feb Newsletter
- Mental Health Support 4 Feb Newsletter
- Collective action against NFU 4 Feb Newsletter
- Specialist Holiday Let Mortgages 4 Feb Newsletter
- Hot Tub Ambulance Chaser Claims 4 Feb Newsletter
- Covid insurance policy for guests 4 Feb Newsletter
- Hosting Tourism and Hospitality APPG 4 Feb Newsletter
- EV Charging option for Members 4 Feb Newsletter
- Check your Photographs to avoid unnecessary costs 4 Feb Newsletter
- Reporting Taxable Grants 4 Feb Newsletter
- Water Charges in England and Scotland 4 Feb Newsletter
- EV Charging, call for information 4 Feb Newsletter
- Energy Grants, call for information 4 Feb Newsletter
- 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**
- Restrictions Lifting in Wales **21 Jan Newsletter**
- New Threshold for Business Rates Switch **14 Jan Newsletter**
- Update. Insurance Companies in the Self-Catering Sector **14 Jan Newsletter**
- Business Rates Reminder for England **14 Jan Newsletter**
- Swimming Pool Safety Toolkit **14 Jan Newsletter**
- Self-Employment Income Support Guidance Updated **14 Jan Newsletter**
- PASC UK 2022 Business Awards **14 Jan Newsletter**
- Real Data on booking performance Q4 2021 and forward bookings **14 Jan Newsletter**
- Example of Coronavirus Travel Insurance **14 Jan Newsletter**
- Visit England 'Good To Go' Scheme updated **14 Jan Newsletter**
- Be Positive with Pricing **14 Jan Newsletter**
- Update on Covid Restrictions in England, Scotland and Wales **7 Jan Newsletter**
- Update on Grants in England, Scotland and Wales **7 Jan Newsletter**
- Welsh Government Consultation on Planning Legislation for Holiday Lets **7 Jan Newsletter**
- Welsh Government call for accommodation for vulnerable groups **7 Jan Newsletter**

INDEX OF PREVIOUS NEWSLETTER CONTENT

Can be found on Newsletter 17 Dec here: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/covid19-newsletters/>

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.