



Government Measures on Closing Businesses and on Key Workers

Which businesses have to close?

On Monday 23rd Government announced that it was asking more businesses to close. These closures will be reviewed after three weeks. Police will have the power to force businesses to shut if they do not comply with Government instructions.

The full Government guidance on which businesses must close can be found [here](#).

All businesses in the retail sector must close, unless they are food shops, health shops, pharmacies, petrol stations, bicycle shops, home and hardware shops, launderettes and dry cleaners, car rentals, pet shops, corner shops, newsagents, post offices, and banks.

Restaurants, cafes, workplace canteens, pubs, bars and nightclubs must also close, with the exception of for takeaway and delivery.

Hotels, hostels, B&Bs, campsites, boarding houses for commercial use and caravan parks/sites for commercial use must also close, except where they are providing accommodation to people whose primary abodes are not available or where people are living permanently in the caravan sites.

Other non-residential institutions, like libraries and cinemas, must close, alongside other leisure businesses, like museums, galleries and gyms. Enclosed spaces in parks like playgrounds, sports courts and pitches, and outdoor gyms must also close.

What if my business is not mentioned in the Government guidance?

The Government has only explicitly said that the businesses mentioned above must close, but it has also urged people to stay at home, with the exception of travelling to work only if necessary and if this work cannot be done from home.

Whether or not businesses that have not been explicitly instructed to close close remain open is up to the discretion of the business owner but they must take into account government advice. Businesses that employ key workers (see below) should remain open if possible. This includes all those involved in food production, processing, distribution and delivery.

If businesses do choose to remain open, they should ensure that social distancing and hygiene measures are enforced. This means that workers should wash their hands regularly and remain 2m from each other at all times. If a worker falls ill, particularly if they have a cough or fever, they should not come into work for at least 7 days.

Who are key workers?

Key workers are those who have jobs the Government have deemed essential to fighting the Coronavirus. These workers can continue to send their children to



school. If you are not classified as a key worker, you must educate your children at home.

A full list of jobs classified as key workers can be found on the [Department for Education's website](#). Key workers include 'those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery'.

Also included are 'those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating', to ensure that supply chains continue to work.

Those who are essential to the provision of oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage), information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies are also classed as key workers, as well as those working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications, postal services and delivery, payments providers and waste disposal sectors.

Examples of key sectors and key workers*

Sector	Key worker or exemption
Operation of a farm business	
Food production	Farmer, farm worker, delivery driver of raw materials
Animal welfare	Farmer, farm worker, veterinarian, veterinarian assistant
Construction of agricultural units	Site worker, civil engineer, project manager
Repairs and maintenance	Agricultural engineer, telecom engineer
Delivery of inputs	Delivery driver
Delivery of oil and diesel	Delivery driver
Supply of product to processor, wholesaler or retailer	Delivery driver, warehouse worker, food processing worker
Woodland management	
Maintenance of woodland	Forestry workers,
Game management	
Rearing of gamebirds	Gamekeepers, hatchery workers

*All workers must comply with the Government regulations on social distancing and outdoor gatherings

- ⇒ Please contact your CLA Regional Office if you are a key worker and are encountering difficulties due to the interpretation of the rules, eg by Local Authorities.