

Moray Business Resilience Meeting

Monday 23 March 2020 (Skype call)

Action Points

Attendees:

Cllr Graham Leadbitter – Moray Council
Richard Lochhead - MSP
Douglas Ross - MP
Fraser Grieve – SCDI
Sarah Medcraf – Moray Chamber of Commerce
Laurie Piper – Moray Speyside Tourism
Gill Neill – Elgin BID
Clare Lock – MBWC on behalf of Donna Harper
Jim Grant – Moray Council
Michael O'Donnell – Moray Council
Stuart Black - HIE
Fiona Robb - HIE
Scott McKnockiter - HIE
Craig Robertson – Business Gateway
David Groundwater - FSB

Apologies: None – all attended

1. Stuart Black opened meeting and thanked everyone for their time, round table introductions followed
2. Terms of Reference all agreed
3. Appointment of Chair – all agreed that Stuart and Jim Grant would share chair position
4. Local Business Updates – key issues
 - a. Clarification of keyworker list – Moray Council will provide information asap
 - b. Grant access and eligibility T&Cs
 - c. Concerns about leaseholders not having access to rates reduction
 - d. Self catering businesses unsure about closing to tourists and permanent residents
 - e. Accuracy of Assessors roll
 - f. Self employed category grants
 - g. Employees under pressure to return to work early – clarification from employers, local and national to encourage workers to stay at home
 - h. Concerns about schools reopening for keyworkers
 - i. Food production designation as key workers to be clarified
 - j. Desire for central Moray information resource to be further considered by Moray Council and HIE

5. Public sector response
 - a. Extra staff going into HMRC to meet capacity
 - b. Food production essential
 - c. Further information on business grants to be provided by Moray Council
 - d. HIE has contacted account managed businesses. HIE working on grant scheme for third sector. Fiona to liaise with sector and feedback

6. Frequency of further meetings agreed to be twice per week. All members to prioritise meeting

7. AOB
 - a. Respond when there are more developments
 - b. Press release from Moray Council relating to keyworkers

Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 26th March 2.00pm – 3.00pm