

Appendix Three

Additional Restrictions Grant (Discretionary Policy): Approved Version 3:

Date: 15 November 2021

Background Government Guidance

The Council is required to have in place a local discretionary scheme to support those affected by required closure but not on the Business Rates list. The fund is 9,524,793 and can be spent up to 31st March 2022. Where this is fully utilised by 30 June 2021 a further 2,664,125 will be provided.

The Council's Discretionary Policy will comply with the government guidance. This policy is written in accordance with guidance published in April 2021 and as version two updates the policy that was established on 16 November 2020. This version three has been updated following version five of the guidance in July 2021.

ARG Version One

The ARG version one was successful in supporting over 800 businesses. The ARG grants have been made since early December 2020 supporting over 800 businesses. At that time the second national lockdown was underway with government expecting to relax the lockdown before the end of the year. The expected relaxation did not happen and England entered another (third) lockdown from 5 January to 12 April 2021 when non-essential retail reopened. Each assessment under the ARG varied according to needs of each business. Therefore, the period that grants covered varied from business to business as did the amount of funding. For each grant, the Council made a reasoned assessment of each business and its application at the time with the award was made in accordance with the Council's policy. See <http://democracy.brent.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=5284>

ARG Version Two – Brent Back to Business. See [Decision - Additional Restrictions Grant: Version Two - Brent Back to Business \(Recordable Officer Decision\)](#)

ARG Amendment Three

Amending version two to state:

- i. Applications to version two "back to business" closed on 29 October, with the Council then awarding top-up payments to existing recipients of schemes one and two of ARG.
- ii. Wider business support will be provided through approved schemes to deliver support to Brent businesses together with the Council's support costs.