

**From:** HQ

**Date:** Tuesday 7 April 2020 at 10:47

**Subject:** VetALERT 10j/20 - Veterinary Ireland COVID-19 Update - 7th April 2020

## **Veterinary Ireland COVID-19 Update - 7<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

### **SUMMARY**

- **VCI - Extension to CVE Year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020: Click [HERE](#)**
- **SFA Advice:**
  - **Revenue - Advice Update: Click [HERE](#)**
  - **Revenue - Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme FAQs: Click [HERE](#)**
  - **NSAI - COVID-19 Guide: Click [HERE](#)**
  - **COVID-19 Fraud Scams: Click [HERE](#)**
- **Veterinary Ireland COVID-19 Website - Click [HERE](#)**

Please be aware that this is a rapidly developing situation, with relevant information being updated on an ongoing basis.

Members are advised to log on to the [HSE.IE](#) and [GOV.IE](#) COVID-19 update pages on a regular basis.

Take care and God bless

Peter Bishton  
Deputy Chief Executive

### **VCI EXTEND CVE YEAR TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

The Veterinary Council of Ireland (VCI) has announced an extension to the end-date of the CVE Year 2019-2020, **from 31<sup>st</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020**.

This has been done by the VCI in order “*to relieve pressure on Registrants, and to allow an opportunity for postponed events to take place*”.

This means that Registrants now have an additional six months in which to earn the required **20 CVE Credits**.

In addition, the VCI has confirmed that any excess CVE Credits earned by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 can be carried forward into 2021.

For any queries in relation to this extension of the CVE Scheme, Veterinary Ireland members are advised to contact the VCI direct at [cve@vci.ie](mailto:cve@vci.ie).

## **SFA ADVICE - UPDATES**

The Small Firms Associations has advised on further aspects of COVID-19 in relation to businesses.

### **Revenue - Advice update**

Revenue has updated its [advice](#) and taken further actions to assist SMEs with cashflow and trading difficulties arising from the impacts of COVID-19. It has announced that:

- **Tax Returns:** Businesses experiencing temporary cash flow difficulties should continue to send in tax returns on time, even where payment is not immediately possible. Where key personnel are unavailable to compute the tax returns due to the COVID-19 virus, businesses should still file on a 'best estimates' basis. Any subsequent amendments can be completed on a self-correction basis without penalty.
- **Interest:** The charging of interest on late payments is suspended for March/April VAT and April PAYE (Employers) liabilities. This is in addition to the earlier announcement that the charging of interest on late payments is suspended for January/February VAT and both February and March PAYE (Employers) liabilities.
- **Debt Enforcement:** All debt enforcement activity remains suspended until further notice.
- **Tax Clearance:** Current Tax Clearance status will remain in place for all businesses over the coming months.

There is a range of other supports available for business at this time, details of which are available on [gov.ie](#).

Revenue understands the unprecedented situation facing businesses at this time and have provided guidance and advice on their [COVID-19 Information](#) webpage to assist taxpayers, and their agents, experiencing a range of difficulties caused by the impacts of the COVID-19 virus.

Revenue will continue to closely monitor the evolving situation regarding COVID-19 and will issue further updated guidance for businesses when required and particularly in time before return and payment due dates.

### **REVENUE - Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme**

Access the updated Revenue FAQs for the temporary wage subsidy scheme: Click [HERE](#).

### **NSAI - COVID 19 Guide**

The National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) has published a 'Workplace Protection and Improvement Guide' outlining preventative measures businesses can take to prevent the spread of Coronavirus: Click [HERE](#).

The Guide contains:

- Practical business guidance on physical distancing, home working, staggered work and what to do if an employee is symptomatic;
- NSAI helpline (**01 807-3800**) and health and safety advisors available to support businesses improve Covid-19 related prevention and recovery measures in the workplace;
- €2,500 consultancy vouchers for workplace improvement measures available from Local Enterprise Offices, Enterprise Ireland, IDA Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta.

## **COVID-19 Fraud Scams**

The Banking & Payments Federation (BPF) is leading a fraud awareness initiative to assist businesses to protect against ongoing COVID-19 related telephone and internet scams - further details can be found at [FraudSMART.ie](https://www.fraudsmart.ie).

## **COVID-19 - BEWARE OF SCAMS**

An Garda Síochána has warned to be aware of the potential for fraudsters to exploit the spread of Covid-19 to carry out scams, either on-line or in person, especially on-line Phishing (getting recipients to divulge personal details, including passcodes), social engineering scams (exploiting the charitable nature of people) or fraudulent selling (where sub-standard goods are sent or are not received at all).

For full details and an information sheet go to the [Gardai website](https://www.garda.ie) or click [HERE](#).

In addition to the fraud scams being highlighted by An Garda Síochána, [An Post](#) are also advising of several scams being circulated with a text message telling customers they have a mail item that is being held because of an overdue payment. The customer is asked to click on a link to have the mail item released. These scam texts may purport to be from An Post or another carrier, and often carry the relevant provider's logo and are designed to look like a genuine customer contact. In many cases the layout or language used in the messages are an indication that they are not genuine. For further information Click [HERE](#).

## **COVID-19 - Taking care of your Mental Health**


During the COVID-19 Emergency, it is equally important to look after your mental health as it is your physical health. The following links provide assistance and information:

- [Veterinary Assistance Programme](#)
- [Vet Support Ireland - Dedicated Covid-19 Support Page: Click HERE](#)
- [yourmentalhealth.ie](https://www.yourmentalhealth.ie)
- <https://www2.hse.ie/wellbeing/mental-health/minding-your-mental-health-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak.html>



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