

**BERA E-NEWSLETTER 9<sup>th</sup> July 2020 – www.bera.co.uk**

Dear Member

Please see below today's update.

Keep well,

Regards

Ron

### **Summary of the Government Announcements**

The Culture Secretary has this evening made several announcements on the reopening of performing arts and leisure centres:

- **Performing arts can now take place** outdoors from 11 July with a socially distanced audience present
- This means that outdoor theatres, opera, dance and music can resume from Saturday so long as they take place outside and with a limited and socially distanced audience.
- Any other gathering in an outdoor space must not be any larger than 30 people.
- The Government will also work with the sector to pilot a number of small indoor performances with a social distanced audience to help inform plans about how to reopen indoor venues.
- **Outdoor pools to reopen from 11 July and indoor gyms, swimming pools and sports facilities, including gyms, to reopen from 25 July**

It has also been announced that from Monday 13 July, beauty salons, nail bars, tattoo and massage studios, physical therapy businesses and spas across England will be able to reopen.

- Only services that do not involve work in the highest risk zone – directly in front of the face – should be made available to clients.

- This means that treatments such as face waxing, eyelash treatments, make-up application and facial treatments, should not be provided.

Following the Chancellors announcement yesterday, a number of guidance documents have been published:

Guidance has been released providing additional information on the Eat Out to Help Out Scheme including:

- Registration
- Businesses that are eligible
- Sales that are eligible
- Eligibility for 'on-premises' consumption
- Specific examples
- Offering the discount

New guidance sets out which businesses can temporarily reduce the rate of VAT on supplies relating to hospitality, accommodation, or admission to certain attractions.

Guidance outlining which attractions are eligible for the temporary reduced rate of VAT from 15 July 2020 has also been published today.

The Recovery Advice for Business scheme went live today:

- It will give small firms access to free, one-to-one advice with an expert adviser to help them through the coronavirus pandemic and to prepare for long-term recovery.
- Advice offered will include bespoke, specialist assistance from accountancy, legal, and advertising to marketing, recruitment and digital to help businesses adapt to difficult circumstances and to recover.