

Hi there,

We hope that you are keeping safe and well.

You may have seen that the Government have made some changes to the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) which shifts more of the cost from Government to the employer, these include:

- From August employers will have to contribute the costs of Employer's NICs and Pension contributions.
- From September employers will also have to contribute 10% of furloughed employees' pay.
- From October the employer's contribution will increase to 20% of employees' pay.

Implementing the PayStream furlough scheme has been an extremely difficult and costly exercise for us. Not least because we made sure that our eligibility criteria included as many affected umbrella workers as possible, but also because we have:

- continued to pay Apprentice Levy on all furlough payments, none of which is recoverable under the CJRS,
- utilised 35 team members, who would have otherwise been furloughed themselves, to implement and operate a furlough scheme, and
- processed thousands of payments at our own cost, at a time when business volumes are significantly down with no charge on any furlough payments processed.

Scheme end date

Many of these costs are normally absorbed within the supply chain and included in the contract rate, so these would be incremental costs for us. And given that we made the decision early on to support as many contractors as possible, the numbers associated with these additional costs could be in the millions.

For this reason, regrettably, it's not financially viable for us to continue with the scheme beyond the 31st July 2020, meaning the final payment will be made to you on 14th August 2020.

Further help and support

We appreciate that this has been a stressful time for you which is why we have worked hard to ensure you receive as much financial support as possible during this time. However if after July you are still unable to obtain work due to COVID-19 there are other financial measures that may be available to you. Please see our [COVID-19 HelpHub section](#) for more information on [Universal Credit](#), the ['new style' Employment Support Allowance](#) and other [general financial help and support](#) that's currently available.

In the meantime if you have any questions regarding this please don't hesitate to contact our Furlough team via email at furlough@paystream.co.uk.