



The NHS has produced some posters that can be displayed in your washrooms/toilets around handwashing. Feel free to download and use across your premises.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877529/Best_Practice_hand_rub.pdf

One of our local business, Inktech Innovation, is a manufacturer of printing inks for food packaging and uses a lot of ethanol in their manufacturing process. They have been able to set aside 1000 litres of ethanol for production of hand sanitiser. They are producing this next week and the formulation is in accordance with one recently published by the WHO. It is a thin solution (like water) that can be rubbed onto hands or put into an appropriate bottle and sprayed onto surfaces as a disinfectant.

They would like to offer 5 litres free of charge to Rochdale local businesses who may be struggling to buy sanitiser or who are having to pay ridiculous prices online.

5 litres is equivalent to 100 "pocket size" gel bottles or 10 of your typical home use pump action dispensers.

This will be on a first come first served basis and will be collection only from their Rochdale site (there will be a dedicated space in our car park from which the pick ups can be made)

After the initial free 5l if anyone wants more they are welcome to contact them for a price. Please use this dedicated email address to contact them: sanitiser@inktechinnovation.co.uk

The Council has already paid out more than £20m in grants under the COVID 19 government support scheme. But we know there are many business out there who have still not submitted an application form. The process is straightforward and payments are made fairly quickly if the business is eligible.

Some comments from businesses who have already completed the application form:

My reaction was one of surprise at the ease of completing a 2 page form together with a copy of the latest zero rates bill – and we then received the money in 3 days. Well done to the council for keeping it simple on this occasion.

Submitted my application last Tuesday lunchtime, it took a matter of minutes to complete. The funds were in our account by late afternoon on Thursday. Very impressed by both the ease and the speed of the system. Well done and thank you to all involved.

We have successfully received the Business Grant and would encourage all eligible businesses to apply.

2 simple steps – click on the link from the RDA Business Matters regular update or on the Council website, fill out the basic word document and attach a copy of your rates bill.

24 hours later the funds were received in our account.

No red tape, no complicated forms.

The application process was straight forward, no red tape or difficulties, on being sent the application email, completing the simple form (5 minutes) submitting with a copy of our latest rates bill, we received the funds cleared into our business bank account within 48hrs.

So if you haven't already done so, or have clients that you think may have not done so, please share <http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/business-and-industry/business-advice-and-support/Pages/business-grants-and-loans.aspx>

Do you have an adult bike you no longer use? Would you be willing to donate it to Positive Cycles who are working with TfGM to provide refurbished cycles to local NHS staff? Bikes will be collected and social distancing rules will be followed. If you can help, please email martin.sutton@positive-steps.org.uk The cycles will be distributed across Rochdale, Oldham and Bury.

Regards

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