

## **TIER UPDATE 7 September 2021**

(The TIER updates are not as frequent now.)

- **Government Plan for Health and Social Care**

The big story today (and for the next week or two) is the launch of the Government's plan for Health and Social Care that was launched today.

From a business perspective one of the main things to note is that the Employment Allowance, which discounts the smallest businesses' employer NICs bills by up to £4,000, will also apply to the Levy. According to Government figures, this means that the smallest 40% of businesses (that's about 640,000 micro-businesses and SME businesses) will not pay any additional levy. The Government also estimates that the next 40% of businesses (665,000 more) will have to pay an additional £450 per year. Their analysis is that 70% of the business contribution will come from the largest one per cent of businesses – those with at least 250 employees.

While this means that while many tourism businesses will not be impacted by the increase in national Insurance, it also means that large tourism and hospitality businesses will be disproportionately impacted due to being service businesses where a large proportion of their costs are related to staff. This also means that the cost will fall disproportionately on the tourism and hospitality businesses that have been impacted the most by the pandemic and whose recovery will be the longest.

A copy of the policy document is attached

- **NHS Covid Pass Guidance Updated**

The Covid Pass Guidance has been updated to state that children under 18 do not have to demonstrate their COVID-19 status for entry to domestic events or venues in England. Children aged 16 or over can get an NHS COVID Pass for travel but should follow the entry requirements of the country they are travelling to.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-covid-pass>

- **City Of Culture Application Guidance**

DCMS has published the full application guidance for the 2025 City of Culture competition.

Destinations considering bidding have until 26 January 2022 to submit their full and final bid.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-city-of-culture-2025-full-guidance-for-long-listed-bidders/uk-city-of-culture-2025-full-application-guidance>