

## Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG)



We sent out details of this new grant in the last AVA Newsletter. A number of AVA members have applied, although no-one has received any payments as far as we are aware.

Two members in Scotland have had their applications rejected. One is appealing via their MSP. Several in England have applied and are effectively 'on hold' whilst they await an outcome from their Local Authority.

What is clear is that the Local Authorities aren't!

This despite the guidelines from central Government stating that these grants are for: *"those businesses which – while not legally forced to close – are nonetheless severely impacted by the restrictions put in place to control the spread of Covid-19. . . . businesses which supply the retail, hospitality, and leisure sectors."*

If you have applied – successfully or not – do please let us know.

You can check here whether you are supposed to be eligible: [Check if you're eligible for the coronavirus Additional Restrictions Grant - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-youre-eligible-for-the-coronavirus-additional-restrictions-grant)

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## AVA: ELECTRICAL SAFETY COURSE – online success!



The very first online version of this AVA course took place recently. Despite a few of the inevitable technical hiccups in the first 15 minutes of Microsoft Teams it all went well in the end.

All seven students passed this Part 1 section of the course. With four achieving merits.

Feedback was generally positive, but we have learnt more about managing the course flow and timings and will implement these changes in time for the next course. This takes place on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December. With a further Part 1 course next year on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

Don't forget that, even if on furlough, your staff can take part in training.

More detail on the course can be found here: <https://www.the-ava.com/members/training/engineers-training-programme/>

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## AVA JOBS PAGE

This is a new, free service the AVA is offering to all members.

With the impact of Covid-19 and many businesses having to restructure, there is a great deal of 'fluidity' in the vending market. Especially with some companies having to look at moving roles to part-time or laying off staff members.

So, if you are trying to fill any sort of role within your business, without having to pay agency fees at a time when every additional cost matters, send the job details to [Penny.Rowell@the-ava.com](mailto:Penny.Rowell@the-ava.com) and we will post on the new AVA Jobs page.

Details needed for job posts:

- Job Title
- Full/Part Time/Apprenticeship/Temporary/Internship
- Location
- Company (+logo)
- Brief description (up to 100 words)
- Contact Details: phone/email

This is a temporary page. Hopefully, as things get back to any sort of normal, this page (<https://www.the-ava.com/jobs/>) and our Covid-19 advice pages (<https://www.the-ava.com/covid-19/>) will no longer be needed. It is also simply a page to advertise jobs available – we cannot accept 'Jobs Wanted' posts.

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## EVA AGM & CONFERENCE



The EVA has confirmed the theme of their virtual event "Getting You Back On Track" which will take place on 10<sup>th</sup> December from 9:00am to 11:00am (GMT) [10.00 to 12.00 (CET)].

This year, in addition to the EVA General Assembly meeting, there will be guest speakers covering a range of topics aiming to support you in these challenging times. This event is free for EVA and AVA members.

You can find details and register here: <https://e-v-a.odoo.com/event/eva-agm-conference-2020-getting-you-back-on-track-2020-12-10-15/register>

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## AVA 2021 SUBSCRIPTIONS AND TURNOVER DECLARATIONS

You will have seen the note we sent out four weeks ago about freezing the AVA 2021 subscriptions at the same levels as 2020. We also recognised that because of reduced annual turnover, businesses may fall into a different subscription band and that this will likely have an impact on the AVA operating income. However, the AVA Board will find the means to adapt to the new situation, whilst continuing to focus on delivering high quality support and value to our membership.

**This does mean that we need you to complete the usual confidential vending Turnover Declaration form and return it to us by 11<sup>th</sup> December.**

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If no declaration is received, then the 2021 subscription invoice will be based on last year's declaration. This invoice will be raised and sent at the start of January.

If you need any further information, please contact the AVA Office.

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## AND FINALLY . . . .



This should have been the week of the Great AVA Christmas Luncheon! For obvious reasons this will not be taking place this year.

But rest assured – no matter what the scale or time and place. We **will** be holding a Christmas Luncheon in 2021!

Mark Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 in your diaries.

We will see you there!

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