



Module 9

9 July 2024

Module 9 Provisional Outline of Scope

This module will identify the broad range of economic interventions taken by government across all nations of the United Kingdom in response to the pandemic, such as:

- i) support for business, jobs and the self-employed, including the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme, loan schemes, business rates relief and grants;
- ii) additional funding for relevant public services;
- iii) additional funding for the voluntary and community sector; and
- iv) benefits and sick pay and support for vulnerable people

The module will consider how economic support was in fact delivered by the UK Government, the Devolved Administrations and Local Government by conducting an examination of some of the key interventions. In doing so, it will consider issues including:

- 1) How was economic decision making structured and undertaken by the UK Government, the Devolved Administrations and Local Government? To what extent was there an open exchange of economic information, forecasting and expert advice? In particular who was providing economic advice and how was that advice received, considered and shared within the UK Government, the Devolved Administration and Local Government? How effectively were the structures and systems for economic decision making across those Governments aligned and with what effect? How wide was the consultation as to the range of economic measures considered or implemented?
- 2) How were the interventions made by the UK Government, the Devolved Administrations and Local Government funded? In particular, how were the allocated funds identified or generated?
- 3) By what criteria and with what policy objectives were individual economic interventions identified and developed? In particular how was the timing of interventions determined and communicated across the UK Government and the Devolved Administrations? What consideration, if any, was given to the equality of impact of the economic support delivered as between particular groups including those who were at greater risk or otherwise vulnerable?

- 4) How were mechanisms for delivery identified, developed and implemented? How effective and successful were such mechanisms? How was success defined, evaluated and / or monitored? How was it ensured that support was appropriately targeted and effective? How, if at all, was the equality of the impact of support delivered monitored and were steps taken to reduce any disparities?
- 5) How were decisions taken to end the support provided and what criteria determined the timing of the cessation of support?
- 6) What steps were taken to safeguard public monies and manage financial risk? What steps were taken to reduce or prevent fraudulent and erroneous claims? Were those measures adequate and appropriate?
- 7) Was there any variation in the support offered across the United Kingdom? If so, how and why did that variation come about and did any identified departure from a UK wide approach of support, reduce or increase the efficacy of the support offered?



© Crown copyright 2024

This publication is licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0 except where otherwise stated. To view this licence, visit nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3

Where we have identified any third party copyright information you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holders concerned.

This publication is available at <https://covid19.public-inquiry.uk/documents>

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us contact@covid19.public-inquiry.uk.