



MARSTON'S

Financial guidance

Introduction

It's easy to feel worried or uncomfortable during periods of change, but there's a lot of support out there.

We're here to help you as much as we can, so we've put together some useful financial guidance and where you can go for extra support.

Whilst we cannot provide you with financial advice. The following guidance and resources could help you manage your finances during this difficult time.



Marston's Sharesave scheme

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Sharesave

What is the Marston's Sharesave scheme?

- Sharesave is a secure and flexible savings scheme that helps you save for the future. It's exclusively available to Marston's teammates and is managed by our share registrar Equiniti Limited ('Equiniti').

How does the current Coronavirus situation impact the Sharesave scheme?

You have three options for existing schemes:

- You can continue making payments to the Company Sharesave scheme for the remainder of your current Sharesave savings period. These will be taken from your monthly/weekly pay as normal;
- You also have the option to take a payment break of up to 12 months (or weekly equivalent). This will extend your savings period by the same number of payments that you postpone. For example, if you stop paying for 6 months, your last payment would be in December, rather than July; or
- You can also withdraw your savings at any time, but you will lose the right to buy shares at the end of the scheme.

If you choose option (a) you don't need to do anything else. If you choose either option (b) or (c) you will need to contact the Payroll team to stop or postpone your deductions. You will also need to inform Equiniti directly. Their number is 0371 384 2273. However, they are currently receiving an extremely high volume of calls and they recommend that employees complete the online 'Contact request form'. A member of their team will contact you directly. The contact form is available [here](#). Given the current situation, we're deferring the Sharesave invitation for new schemes, which would normally launch in May.

Mortgage payments

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Mortgages

- If you own a property and have a mortgage, some providers are offering a “mortgage holiday”.
- This is a break of an agreed amount of time, where you do not have to pay your mortgage if you are concerned about your financial situation as a result of Covid-19.
- You do still have to pay interest during the mortgage holiday, unless otherwise specified by your provider.
- When your mortgage holiday ends, your payments may increase, as you do still have to pay back the full amount you borrowed on your mortgage.
- Any mortgage holiday must be agreed with your lender first. This means you need to contact your lender and make a formal agreement as to how long you wish your 'holiday' to last.
- If you are having trouble meeting all or part of your mortgage or loan payments, you should contact your lender immediately. Missing or being late with payments on money you've borrowed can have serious implications for your credit rating. Ask your bank how they could support you.
- For more information, take a look at the FCA website - <https://www.fca.org.uk/consumers/mortgages-coronavirus-consumers>

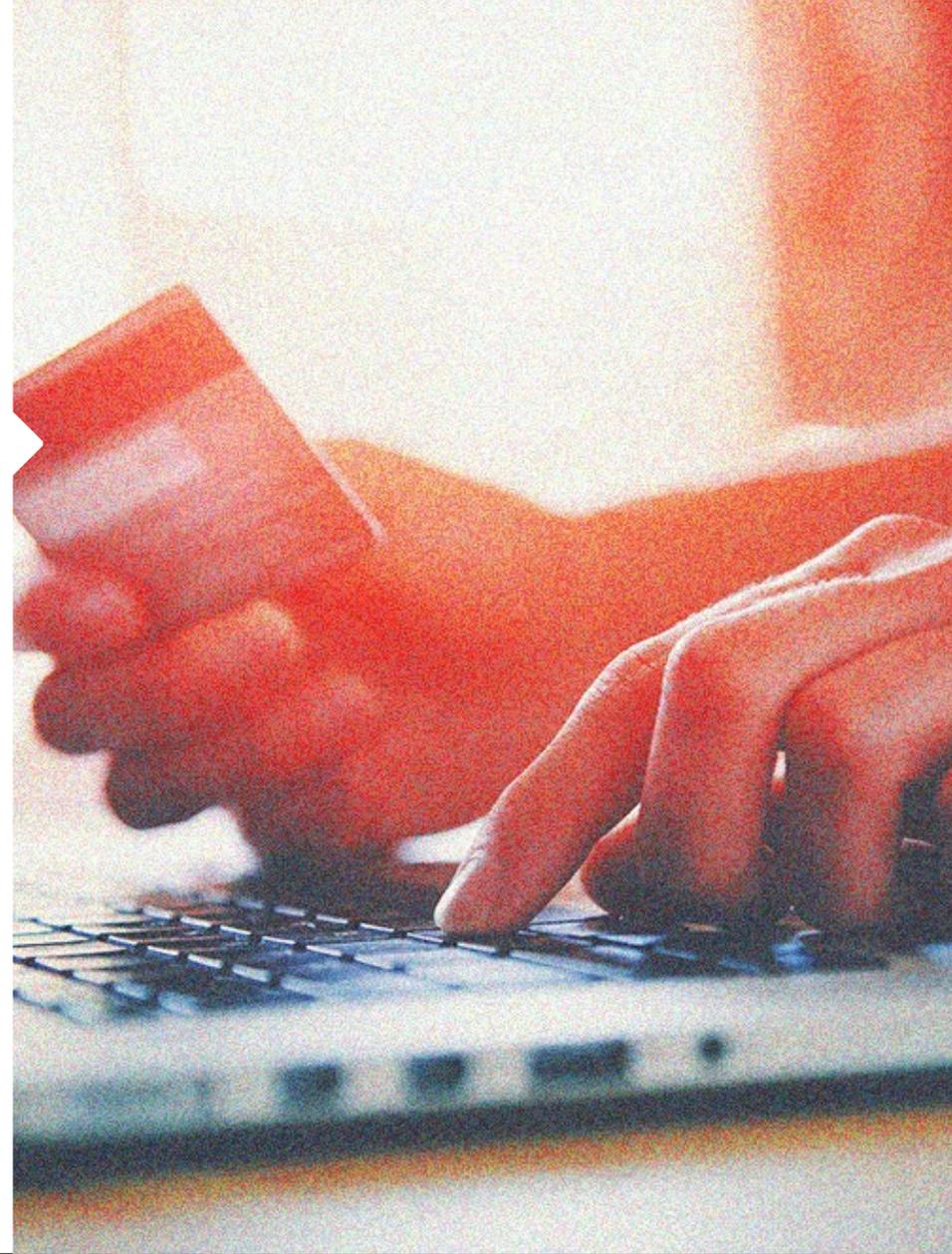
Credit cards

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Credit cards

- Many banks and credit card companies are giving support to people struggling to repay personal loans and credit cards.
- This support could include; payment holidays; waived missed payment fees; temporary increases in credit card borrowing limits; increased cash withdrawal limits; and refunds on credit card cash advance fees.
- Most providers have their own dedicated Coronavirus support pages. Contact your lender for further advice on how to access their support.



Advice for renters

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Renters advice

- If you'll struggle to pay rent during the coronavirus outbreak you should speak to your landlord as soon as possible to let them know your situation and work out a repayment plan.
- The Government has said landlords in **England** and **Wales** will need to give three months' notice before starting eviction proceedings. (It's worth noting though that this change won't affect eviction proceedings already underway).
- Private landlords are also now eligible for a three-month buy-to-let mortgage payment holiday if their tenants are experiencing financial difficulties. Technically they needn't pass this on to their tenants, but morally they should, and most will, so speak to your landlord if you need help.
- For more information and government advice: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/government-support-available-for-landlords-and-renters-reflecting-the-current-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>



Council tax

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Council tax

- You may be eligible to apply for a reduction in council tax payments, the government has given local authorities additional funds to grant a reduction.
- It is up to the local authority of each individual council to decide whether residents in that borough will receive help in paying council tax or receive full council tax relief during the coronavirus pandemic. This document outlines the governments stipulations - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/874867/COVID-19_Council_Tax_Hardship_Fund_Guidance.pdf
- To find out if you are eligible, please contact your local authority (local council). Information can be found online.

Useful resources

Whilst we cannot provide you with financial advice. The following links could help you manage your finances during this difficult time:

- [Click here](#) for information on how to find and choose a regulated financial advisor
- Call the Money Advice Service on 0800 138 7777 for free and impartial money advice (Monday -Friday 8am-6pm). Or send an enquiry to enquiries@maps.org.uk
- Advice on coronavirus and managing your money:
<https://www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/en/articles/coronavirus-and-your-money>
- [Hastee's](#) financial wellbeing centre in partnership with the Money Advice Service and The Money Charity features articles & guides across a range of topics such as budgeting, savings, debt and pensions.
- [Click here](#) for a useful help-sheet with advice on mortgages and rent during the Coronavirus crisis
- Some water and energy companies have stepped up efforts to help customers who have lost their jobs or had their incomes cut during the coronavirus crisis. Get in touch with your supplier for support with immediate or short-term issues paying bill.



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