



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

Jo Churchill MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

09 APR 2018

Dear Jo,

Thank you for your letter of 22 March enclosing correspondence from your constituent, Mr Harry Richardson of Suffolk Rescue Service, Unit 1B, Woolpit Business Park, Windmill Avenue, Woolpit, Bury St Edmunds, regarding the Government's announcement to provide a grant scheme for accident rescue charities, such as the Suffolk Accident Rescue Service (SARS).

I am pleased to confirm that officials from HM Treasury and the Department of Health and Social Care have spoken to representatives from the British Association for Immediate Care to discuss how this scheme might be structured. The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) will administer the scheme and I am pleased that they anticipate launching it on the Government's website (gov.uk) in late April 2018. In line with the Government's announcement at Budget, a total of £100,000 will be made available to accident rescue charities to meet the costs of normally irrecoverable VAT.

The scheme will be structured through a two-stage application process.

To begin with, DHSC will seek expressions of interest from accident rescue charities, outlining the value of the VAT they expect to incur on purchases of goods and services that do not normally qualify for VAT relief. This will enable DHSC to measure demand for the scheme and to work with relevant charities to ensure that their applications meet the government's eligibility criteria. DHSC will ask applicants to provide expressions of interest by 29th June 2018. They will then notify organisations whether their expression of interest has been successful in August 2018.

Following the expression of interest process, DHSC will ask successful organisations to ensure that all costs are incurred by the end of January 2019 and to ensure that documentary evidence of expenditure is provided at that time. The intention is to issue payments to successful applicants before the close of financial year 2018-2019.

The grants team at the DHSC will be pleased to assist Mr Richardson with any further queries he may have. They can be contacted on grants@dh.gsi.gov.uk.

Best wishes,
Robert

ROBERT JENRICK