

# Alister Jack responds to Scottish GDP figures for July 2020

News story

Scottish Secretary responds to latest Scottish GDP publication for July 2020



Commenting on the [publication](#) of Scottish July GDP figures, Scottish Secretary Alister Jack said:

As the Prime Minister said last night, the struggle against covid is the single biggest crisis the world has faced in our lifetimes.

The UK Government is focussed on stopping the spread of coronavirus and keeping people safe, while doing everything we can to protect the economy.

Through the furlough and self-employed schemes, we directly supported more than 930,000 jobs in Scotland, a third of the workforce. Now, the Chancellor's comprehensive Plan for Jobs is bringing in the Job Retention Bonus, creating new jobs for young people through the kick start scheme, doubling the number of work coaches, and are supporting jobs in the tourism and hospitality sectors through a VAT cut

Background points:

- The UK Government has directly supported more than 930,000 jobs in Scotland, a third of the workforce through the furlough and self-employed schemes.
- Over 1.8 million jobs in the hospitality sector have been supported through the Eat Out to Help Out scheme with more than 6.3 million meals eaten in Scotland.
- The UK Government has loaned more than £2.3 billion to 65,000 Scottish businesses.
- An additional £6.5 billion in Barnett Consequentials has been provided

by the UK Government to the Scottish Government since March 2020.

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