

## Coronavirus Update – Friday 28 August 2020

*“After almost six months and an incredible 85 updates on coronavirus, Build UK like many businesses in the industry is looking ahead to what happens next. Whilst there are still coronavirus-related issues to deal with, construction is well placed to move forward with the support of Government to deliver an ‘infrastructure revolution’ and play a leading role in the economic recovery.*

*“On 1 September, Build UK will celebrate its 5th birthday since bringing together the construction supply chain, and there are plenty of issues requiring our collective approach, from the end of the Brexit transition period to a fundamental review of the CITB Levy system and the roll out of the Common Assessment Standard. From next week onwards, we will be publishing two Build UK updates a week on Tuesdays and Fridays; however, the one on Friday will be for Build UK members only. I hope you all have a lovely bank holiday weekend.”*

### **Suzannah Nichol, Build UK Chief Executive**

Following the introduction of the new points-based immigration system on 1 January 2021, businesses that want to employ workers from outside the UK will need a [sponsor licence](#). The Home Office has published an [introduction for employers](#) providing an overview of the new system and setting out the steps they can take to prepare. Visit Build UK’s [‘Are You Ready for Brexit?’ website](#) for the latest information, and you can also [sign up](#) to receive regular updates from the Government.

In anticipation of reducing the Levy by 50% next year, CITB is forecasting a drop in income of £166 million over the next two years, which will have a significant impact on the grants available for training and qualifications. CITB has confirmed that from 1 October 2020 the [Plant Additional Unit grant](#) will be withdrawn and the [Degree-Placement Work Experience grant](#) capped at £10,000 per employer before being withdrawn completely from 1 October 2021.

CITB is also looking to reduce its own costs and has started a [formal consultation](#) with trade unions and employee representatives which is expected to result in 110 redundancies, as well as the amalgamation of its partnerships and apprenticeships teams.

The [Construction Talent Retention Scheme](#) is now live to match employers that have job opportunities with individuals looking for employment in the industry. If you are an employer, you can list any of your vacancies for free and play your part in keeping hold of the people and skills the industry has invested in.

Businesses should continue to follow the most up-to-date [Government guidance](#) and for the latest updates please follow Build UK on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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