



## **AIM E-News** **27 March 2020**

### **A WORD FROM AIM DIRECTOR, EMMA CHAPLIN**

Like you, the AIM team is currently working hard to respond to these extraordinary times.

Our focus is on providing resources that make sense of the deluge of information and advice out there. To this end our [Coronavirus Resources pages](#) are updated daily, so keep an eye on those and our [social media channels](#), too.

Be assured we're also pushing hard on all fronts to advocate for the independent sector. We instigated regular discussions with the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, Arts Council England and more some weeks ago and both Andrew Lovett (AIM Chair) and I are making the case, daily, for the support our members urgently need. Please do continue to tell us what support you need; we are here for you and your suggestions inform our advocacy.

We're also rethinking all our 2020 work and our plans to support you through this as best we can. The first change is the development of range of [free online consultancies](#) available now, so please do take advantage of these.

And above all, look after yourselves and your loved ones. Together we will get through this.

Emma

### **CORONAVIRUS SUPPORT RESOURCES**

The AIM website is being continually updated with the latest information and advice on how you can navigate the current situation. Updates added this week include:

- A summary of the government's financial support and what this means for the museum sector
- An update on support for the self-employed
- Financial advice for individuals from The HR Dept.
- Details of free Online Advice Surgeries

- Updated links to additional resources

We'll continue to update these pages as the situation evolves, as well as tweeting the latest news, advice and support available.

[Check out the resources](#)

[Follow us on Twitter](#)

### **FREE ONLINE SURGERIES**

AIM is now accepting applications from members for an hour's consultancy with our Prospering Boards consultants. They can offer support with the issues your museum is facing right now as a result of the Coronavirus situation and, looking to the future, help in rethinking how you might need to adapt and change. Thanks to Museums and Galleries Scotland, and the Northern Ireland Museums Council these are now also open to museums in those countries too.

Some example feedback to date:

*" ...it was very useful and much appreciated*

*...our conversation very useful and helpful - thank you for the time.*

*Alongside the benefit of a 'sanity' check on our thinking it was very useful to explore ideas...*

*...we are approaching the future with determination to continue to deliver our mission and achieve our vision*

*...thank you for your kind words on our effort to date. It was a comfort to have the call with you and to learn that we have been searching and researching in the right places."*

[Find out more and how to apply here.](#)

### **CORONAVIRUS JOB RETENTION SCHEME**

AIM has received lots of enquiries this week about the government's [Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme](#) whereby UK Gov will cover the salaries of 'furloughed' employees. We've sourced a range of related advice – updated this morning - and this can be found on our resource pages.

[Read the latest](#)

### **HELP NEEDED: JOB RETENTION SCHEME – ADVOCACY SURVEY**

We appreciate that you may still be assessing the best way forward, but we are collecting indicative (and anonymised) data to inform advocacy on the new Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme via a two-minute survey. We'll be closing the survey on Monday 30 March at 12noon.

[Complete the survey](#)

### **CHARITY FINANCE GROUP**

Our partners, Charity Finance Group (CFG) are running a webinar this coming Monday 30 March 1-2 pm on 'Coronavirus and your charities finances.' There will be opportunity for Q&A so if you have a question you would like answered during the webinar email

[policy@cfg.org.uk](mailto:policy@cfg.org.uk)

[Register for the webinar](#)

[CFG Coronavirus Resources](#)

## **ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND ANNOUNCE £160m FUNDING PACKAGE**

Earlier this week, the Arts Council announced a £160m emergency response package to support individual artists, freelancers and cultural organisations. The intervention is designed to complement the financial measures already announced by the Government to help the wider economy.

[Read the full announcement here.](#)



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