



10th November 2020

Over £1m of tourism business lost in South of Scotland as direct result of English lockdown & Scottish Tier restrictions

Headline results from South of Scotland Destination Alliance (SSDA) Flash Survey into impact of lockdown in England and the introduction of Scotland's Tiers.

Within a week of new Covid-19 restrictions being introduced into Scotland and England, tourism and hospitality businesses in the South of Scotland have been financially crippled.

November bookings and any prospect of visitors coming to the region have been wiped out. 94% of tourism-related businesses in Dumfries and Galloway and the Scottish Borders have had cancellations with a third of businesses (34%) seeing between 90% and 100% of their bookings disappearing.

Collectively this means a loss of £1,002,500 across all businesses surveyed, an average of £6,680 per business, with some businesses (4%) individually seeing over £60,000 lost. £501,000 (50%) of that total is a direct result of the introduction of the Scottish Tiers.

As a result, almost half (49%) of businesses have closed or are left with no other alternative than to close. Our industry in the South is effectively shut down by Government restrictions in both countries not allowing our main customer base to travel. We are directly impacted by England's lockdown and the Central Belt being in Tier 3 yet as our region is in Tier 2, we are left high and dry with no requisite financial support.

Notes

- Survey was undertaken from Friday 6th to Monday 9th November 2020 – the week when both new sets of restrictions came into force.

- Dumfries and Galloway and the Scottish Borders were in Level 2 at the time of the survey (and still are).
- 83 businesses completed the survey (56% were accommodation providers).