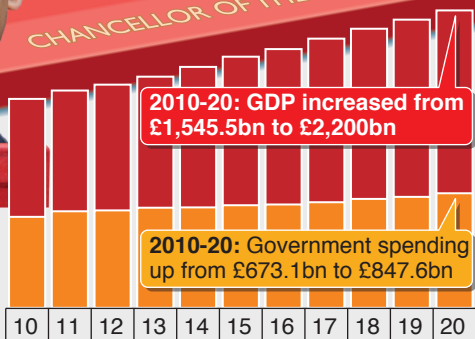




Budget for coronavirus and infrastructure

CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER



Key points

Chancellor Rishi Sunak announces £30bn fiscal stimulus to fight coronavirus

Central bank: Main interest rate cut by Bank of England from **0.75%** to **0.25%** to help mitigate economic impact of coronavirus

Coronavirus: **£5bn** emergency response fund to support NHS and other public services. NHS will get whatever funding it needs

Statutory sick pay: To be paid to all those who choose to self-isolate. Businesses with fewer than 250 employees will have all sick pay refunded by government for up to 14 days

Hardship fund: **£500m** fund to help vulnerable people

Business interruption: Small businesses affected by coronavirus to get loans of up to **£1.2m**

Business rates: Abolished for firms in retail, leisure and hospitality sectors with rateable value below **£51,000**

National Insurance: Tax threshold to rise from **£8,632** to **£9,500**

Women's sanitary products: 0.5% tax to be abolished from 2021

Infrastructure: **£600bn** to be spent on roads, rail, and industry over next five years. Investment in broadband worth **£5bn** to help expand rural connectivity. New carbon capture "clusters" to be built by 2030, at cost of **£800m**. Affordable housing programme expanded with extra **£12bn** of funding

Duties: Alcohol, tobacco and fuel duty to be frozen for 10th consecutive year. Business rate discount for pubs raised from **£1,000** to **£5,000**

Non-recyclable plastics: Tax of **£200** per tonne from April 2022

Flood defences: Investment doubled to **£5.2bn** over next six years

