

Information regarding the spread of Covid-19 with regards to the insurance intermediaries

7 of April 2020

Due to the spread of the new corona virus, the Swedish Insurance Brokers Association (SFM) have compiled some information of interest for the insurance intermediary market.

- Numerous economical support packages have been presented by the government but many still awaits to come into force (full list here: <https://www.regeringen.se/sveriges-regering/finansdepartementet/statens-budget/ekonomiska-atgarder-med-anledning-av-covid-19/>). A selected few:
 - Temporary discount for fixed rental costs in exposed industries. The support means that the landlord who lowered the fixed rent for tenants during the period 1 April to 30 June in certian, not yet, exposed sectors will be able to seek support to offset part of the reduction. Total sum of support 5 billion SEK. "Exposed sectors" to be clarified during april. (<https://www.regeringen.se/artiklar/2020/03/stod-for-sankta-hyror-i-utsatta-branscher/>)
 - The companies possinlity to defer tax includes three months' tax payments and is submitted for a maximum of 12 months. In the case of deferral of VAT reported year-round, deferment can be granted for a maximum of one fiscal year and for a maximum of 12 months. (<https://www.regeringen.se/artiklar/2020/03/forslag-om-likviditetforstarkning-via-skattekontot/>)
 - Lowered social security contributions for employers. With the new rules, companies will only pay state pension contributions on salaries paid during the period March 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020. The reduction applies to up to 30 employees per company and up to a salary amount of SEK 25,000 per employee. and month. (<https://www.regeringen.se/artiklar/2020/03/om-forslaget-tillfalligt-sankta-socialavgifter-med-anledning-av-coronaviruset/>)
 - State support for short term leave. The support means that an employee with a monthly salary of max SEK 32,700 who reduces his working time to 40 percent will be able to retain 92.5 percent of his salary, ie approx. SEK 30 250. At the same time, the employer's costs for the employee are reduced to 47.5 percent, from 43,000 for salary and employer contributions to SEK 20,425. The state accounts for the remaining part of the cost, ie SEK 19,350, which corresponds to 75 per cent of the total cost of the reduction in working hours. (<https://www.regeringen.se/artiklar/2020/03/om-forslaget-korttidspermittering/>)
 - Nearly 50,000 people have been notified of possible draw backs of employment since the first of March and 7,100 people during the first three days of April. At the same time, 25 350 Swedes registered as unemployed last week according to the Swedish Employment Agency's weekly statistics. Increased state support for

un-employment have been decided. Increased number of unemployed will turn to the Unemployment Service there will be a need to add more funds this year to "early efforts" and subsidized employment for people who are far from the labor market. Therefore, the government intends to raise SEK 1,870 million.

(<https://www.regeringen.se/artiklar/2020/03/regeringen-starker-forutsattningarna-att-mota-en-okande-arbetsloshet/>)

- Insurance Sweden have published an very brief overview of travel insurance coverage (<https://www.svenskforsakring.se/aktuellt/nyheter/2020/corona-viruset-och-forsakring/>). But have yet to arrange any wider information for the market.
- Swedish FSA prolongs supervisory halt until 3rd of May, does not start any new activities but continues on-going investigations (<https://fi.se/sv/publicerat/nyheter/2020/fi-for-langer-begransad-informationsinhamtning/>)
- The Swedish Consumer protection agency have published a "micro-site" on Covid-19 om consumer rights relating to Foreign travel, Travel within Sweden, Hotel and accommodation, Canceled events, Concerns and risk groups, Packages and deliveries, Bankruptcy and reconstruction (<https://www.hallakonsument.se/corona-dina-rattigheter/> and <https://www.konsumenternas.se/aktuellt-om-coronaviruset-covid19/forsakring>)
- S-FSA have announced banks will have the opportunity to grant all new and existing mortgage borrowers an exemption from amortization requirements with reference to the spread of the corona virus and its effects on the Swedish economy. The exception applies until June 2021. (<https://www.fi.se/sv/publicerat/pressmeddelanden/2020/banker-far-ge-alla-bolanetagare-undantag-fran-amortering/>)
- S-FSA have a dedicated information site for Covid-19 measures (<https://www.fi.se/sv/publicerat/coronaviruset/>).
- S-FSA have postponed numerous reporting deadlines, among others QRT within insurance and anti money laundering reporting (<https://www.fi.se/sv/publicerat/nyheter/2020/rapportering-av-penningtvatt-skjuts-fram-en-manad/>).
- The Swedish Data Protection Agency have published specific information on such tasks as, for example, an employer may register and share within and outside the organization with regards to Covid-19 (<https://www.datainspektionen.se/corona/> and <https://www.datainspektionen.se/nyheter/coronavirus-och-personuppgifter/>)
- Numerous swedish insurance intermediaries and international companies have published corona specific information on their websites with regards to i.e. market effect an insurance risk and coverage:
 - o <https://www.soderbergpartners.se/corona/>
 - o <https://www.maxm.se/newsroom/>
 - o <https://sakra.se/viktig-information/hur-gaeller-foeretagsfoersaerkringen-vid-avbrott-i-verksamheten-pa-grund-av-covid-19>
 - o <https://www.mynewsdesk.com/se/willis-towers-watson/news/covid-19-saa-gaeller-foersaerkringen-397282>
 - o <https://www.marsh.com/se/en/home.html>
 - o <https://www.aon.com/event-response/coronavirus.aspx>