

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY SUPPORT SCHEME

Eligibility Criteria – Stream B: Shopfront Improvement

Incentive: A grant of 50% of the ex-VAT improvement costs for shopfronts which face on to a street within the county subject to a maximum grant of €5,000 per premises.

Eligibility

Business owners of existing independent shops whose premises front onto public streets in the County are eligible to apply for assistance in accordance with the Shop Front Improvement Scheme subject to the following:

- The applicant must be the owner or lessee of the subject premises and must provide proof of same.
- The applicant must be an “independent” business; applications will not be accepted from large chains and multiples. The definition of “independent” will be at the discretion of the Council.
- No unauthorised development can have taken place on the subject premises, and the future use must comply with existing planning permission on the premises.

Terms & Conditions

- Funding applies to retail shops, cafés, etc. occupying ground floor premises on the public street. Improvement costs for upper floor frontages may also be included but will not be funded in isolation.
- Assistance will not be offered in retrospect to costs already incurred for the improvement of shop fronts prior to an application being received by the Council.
- It is the applicant’s responsibility to attend to the requirements for planning permission as such requirements are not dealt with through the application process for this Scheme.
- Grants will only be payable for works carried out within 6 months of approval or within 6 months of planning permission being granted.
- Grants will only be payable on satisfactory completion of works and production of receipts for same.
- Where there are outstanding local authority charges due to the Council for the subject premises, including but not limited to; commercial rates, planning fees,

S.254 licence fees, development contributions etc, the grant will be offset against rates or any other outstanding debt owed to the Council.

- If there are residual local authority charges due to the Council for the subject premises following the offset, the applicant must also sign up to a payment plan to the mutual satisfaction of themselves and the Council. Failure to adhere to any payment plan entered into with the Council will result in the immediate cessation of the scheme and removal of supports.
- This scheme will operate on a first come, first served basis. Any grant aid awarded on foot of a successful application will be further subject to the availability of the necessary funds to implement this Scheme.
- Where an applicant qualifies under multiple funding streams/applications within the Commercial Property Support Scheme, a grant limit of €15,000 applies in any 3-year period.
- The Scheme may be the subject of review and amendment at any time by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and the decision of the Council is final.

Application

The application must be accompanied by the following:

- Fully completed application form.
- Supporting evidence of ownership or tenancy.
- Current colour photograph of the existing premises
- A copy of relevant plans, designs, specification and quotation for proposed works

Assessment of Application

Each application will be assessed in accordance with this Scheme. The Council will interpret each application on face value according to its own discretion. The Council may request further information before or after the evaluation of an application. The Council may communicate to the applicant those aspects of the application that could lead to disqualification or declination of a grant. The Council may accept an amended application following a request for more information or amendments to the original application.

Assistance

For further queries, or to submit a completed application, contact Economic Development at Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown at (01) 2047083 or email EconomicDev@dlrcoco.ie