

# COMMERCIAL PROPERTY SUPPORT SCHEME

## Eligibility Criteria – Stream A: Occupation of Vacant Premises

**Incentive:** A sliding-scale refund of 75%, 50% and 25% of rates paid in the first three years on occupying a commercial premises which was previously vacant for at least 6 months. Subject to a maximum refund of €7,500, €5,000 and €2,500 respectively for each year.

### Eligible Businesses

The Scheme is applicable to the use of existing rated commercial properties vacant for a minimum of 6 months at date of application and that have been advertised for sale or lease for a minimum period of 6 months immediately prior to the date of application.

The following prerequisites apply:

- 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 be in accordance with existing planning permission on the premises.

### Terms & Conditions

- Annual Rates must be paid in full before the grant will be processed for that year.
- 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.
- Changes to the premises use, or any of the requirements for the applicant stated above that materially alter the original application for grant aid, may lead to immediate disqualification and/or cessation of grant.
- 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 initial application must be accompanied by the following:

- Completed application form
- Evidence of unit vacancy
- Evidence of ownership or occupation of unit
- Evidence of payment of contributions (if applicable), rates and local authority charges

## Assessment of Applications

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.

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.

## Assistance

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