

Other Grants Available

Local Authority Conservation Grants Scheme

The DEHLG funds a scheme of grants for the conservation of protected structures, which is administered by the local authorities. The scheme is aimed at assisting owners and occupiers to carry out conservation works on structures of architectural significance which are listed in the Record of Protected Structures contained in the Local Authority Development Plan. It is a matter for each individual local authority to assess and prioritise applications and approve funding.

This grant is not intended for routine maintenance works, alterations, or improvements. Enquiries about this scheme should be made directly to the relevant local authority.

Thatching Grants

A grant of two thirds of the approved cost, up to a maximum of €3,810, is available towards the cost of renovating thatched roofs of owner occupied houses. A higher level of assistance of up to €5,714 is available for houses on specified offshore islands. Householders with a medical card may be eligible for thatching grants up to a maximum of €6,350 (or €8,253 in the case of houses on the offshore islands). In such cases the grant may cover up to 80% of the approved cost of works subject to the maximum grant. For further information go to www.envron.ie or call 096 24327

Significant Places of Public Worship Grants Scheme

This scheme, funded by the DEHLG and administered by the Heritage Council, is intended to provide grant aid for major conservation works up to a maximum of 80% of eligible expenditure to places of public worship of significant architectural importance. For further information, please contact the Heritage Council on 056 7770777 or www.heritagecouncil.ie

Buildings at Risk Grants Scheme

Since 2000, the DEHLG has funded a programme of grants for historic structures administered by the Heritage Council, called the Buildings at Risk Programme. The aim of the Programme is to safeguard buildings which are at serious risk, but are not yet in a ruinous state. The Heritage Council funds are focused on roof repair only. The funding may cover up to 50% of the project cost and can be used in conjunction with grants from other sources. Most grants are between €1,000 and €20,000, depending on the overall project cost, but larger amounts may be available in special cases. The Heritage Council can be contacted on 056 7770777 or www.heritagecouncil.ie

Tax Incentives

Tax incentives are available under Section 482 of the Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997 for expenditure incurred on the repair, maintenance, or restoration of certain buildings or gardens determined by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to be of significant horticultural, scientific, historical, architectural, or aesthetic interest. The building or garden must receive a determination from the Revenue Commissioners who must also be satisfied that there is reasonable public access to the property. Application forms may be obtained from the Heritage Policy and Architectural Protection Section, Department of the Environment, Heritage, and Local Government. Tel: 01 8883 164 or www.envron.ie

A Guide to Architectural Conservation Grants in Ireland

Information Leaflet



Photographs courtesy of National Inventory of Architectural Heritage

About the Civic Structures Conservation Grants Scheme

The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) administers a Civic Structures Conservation Scheme of grants for the restoration and conservation of buildings of significant architectural heritage merit, which are in civic ownership or occupation and open to the public generally. The Civic Structures Conservation Grants scheme provides support for local authorities, civic trusts, and other "not for profit" bodies to upgrade buildings of significant architectural and heritage merit. The scheme is not intended to assist in carrying out routine maintenance, alterations or improvements.

Eligible Structures

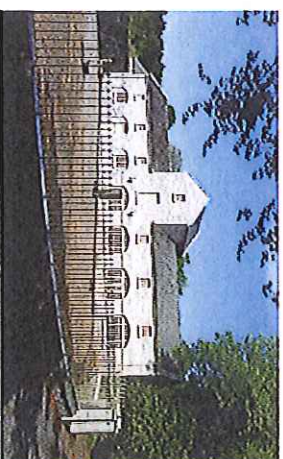
Typically structures eligible for grant assistance under this scheme include churches, public statues and monuments, canal bridges, harbours, libraries, gate lodges, piers, clubhouses and follies and any qualifying protected structure.

A protected structure is a structure that is included on the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) as maintained by each Planning Authority.

Qualifying Works

Grant-aid under this scheme is only available for conservation works. Works involving the restoration or reinstatement of lost or destroyed elements of a structure do not qualify. However, where a structure has largely retained the integrity of its design, the reinstatement of lost elements of the design may qualify.

It is recommended that an architect, conservation expert or other suitably qualified professional advise on the project for the duration. This person will have a responsibility to ensure that all necessary procedures are observed, that best conservation practice is adhered to throughout the course of the project and that work is completed to a satisfactory standard.



Grant Levels

The maximum grant level will be set by the Department from year to year and in 2009 the maximum is €40,000. The maximum grant is set at this level in order to assist a larger number of demonstration projects throughout the country in preference to a smaller number of major capital projects. The grant level is intended as a contribution to the overall cost of conservation works only, and not as a funding mechanism for major capital works. Due to the level of grant assistance available, applicants intending to undertake large capital expenditure are encouraged to phase the conservation work over a number of years.

For further information, please contact the Heritage Policy and Architectural Protection Section on 053 91 85049/037 or go to www.environment.ie