

The Market Rasen High Street Grant - Pilot Scheme

West Lindsey District Council is currently running an innovative 'pilot' historic building grant scheme which focusses on preserving the historic character of Market Rasen 'High Street'.

We have a limited budget of £200,000 and are hoping that this project will show funding bodies, like the National Lottery and Historic England, the high potential for improving the character and appearance of Market Rasen through investment in the heritage of the town

If you are an owners or tenant of a historic building in the Priority Zone, you can apply for up to 80% for repairs and 90% of the cost of work to reinstate lost features (including more traditional signage and shopfronts).

Our pilot scheme covers a 'Priority Zone' in the heart of the town, focussed on Market Place and extending slightly into Queen Street and King Street.

Where is the Priority Zone?

Image of area

Our Priority Zone has a number of buildings with high townscape value, several of which need a lot of repair work or have lost important architectural details like their shopfronts or windows. Our research tells us that concerted efforts to improve this area should have a big impact on the appearance and viability of Market Rasen's 'high street', helping encourage more businesses to be active in the area, and improving footfall for people visiting and shopping in the town.

What sort of work is eligible for Grant?

The grant will help fund work to improve and conserve historic buildings in the Priority Zone and can be used for:

The repair of historic buildings using traditional materials and techniques. This includes work such as the repair of pantile or slate roofs, repairing timber windows and shopfronts, removing unsightly paintwork or repairing or renewing damaged render. These works can be grant aided at 80%.

The reinstatement of architectural features including 'putting back' lost features, such as traditional shopfronts, replacement windows or doors, and reversing alterations which have damaged the character or appearance of the building. It also can include new traditional handpainted signage, which is more in-keeping with the property. These works can be grant aided at 90%.

How can I apply?

Applications for grant will be assessed by our project officer and agreed with our Shopfront Improvement Panel, which meets **as needed**.

Your building does not have to be 'listed' to be eligible for grant, but we will expect you to do the work in accordance with a priced specification, and use builders that have expertise with repairing and conserving historic buildings.

For this pilot scheme, grant will be offered on a 'first come, first served' basis.

What help can we give you?

Our project officer can help you with your application and will be able to:

- advise you on the repairs or reinstatement work that your property needs and how much it might cost
- show you examples of similar projects and new shopfronts that have been completed successfully
- tell you which work would be eligible for grant.
- identify any specialist expertise you may need
- advise you on what would be acceptable when making an application for listed building consent, advertisement consent or planning permission.

Contact us for more information:

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