

Heritage Assistance Grant **Guidelines**



BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL
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HERITAGE FUNDING GUIDELINES

Introduction

Council, in partnership with the NSW Heritage Office, is able to provide incentive funding to assist property owners in the restoration and conservation of their heritage houses or business premises.

This document has been prepared to set the guidelines for the allocation of Heritage Funding that has been established by the Bland Shire Council with the aid of an annual grant from the Office of Environment and Heritage.

These guidelines cover the Local Heritage Assistance Fund.

1.0 Who can apply?

Local Heritage Assistance Funding

Owners of listed heritage buildings in Bland Shire are invited to apply as well as owners of those buildings not currently listed but of heritage or streetscape significance.

Restrictions

Only one submission per applicant per round can be submitted.

Previously funded projects have to be properly acquitted before applying for further funding.

Council employees or Councillors may access grant funding on the same basis, and only on the same basis, as any member of the public. If members of the public are not allowed to access grant funding, the same will apply for Council employees and Councillors.

Successive grants for particular buildings and places are acceptable provided only one successful grant is provided within each year for an eligible project.

Tenants are eligible to apply for grants subject to meeting the eligibility criteria and the consent of the property owner is provided.

2.0 Assessment Process

All applications for heritage funding must be considered by Council's Heritage Advisor and must be accompanied by the relevant application form as well as all other required supporting documentation.

It is recommended that early consultation with Council staff and the Heritage Advisor are conducted to ensure that the projects meet the eligibility criteria.

The Council shall not consider any incomplete applications unless there are exceptional circumstances as agreed upon by the committee.

The Council shall take into consideration any other Council grant application that has been applied for or granted by Council in regard to the project in question.

3.0 Local Heritage Assistance Funding

Aim:

The aim Local Heritage Assistance Funding is to encourage as much positive work on heritage items in the area as possible and to engender a greater interest and concern for conservation of all other heritage items within the Bland Shire.

Funding Allocation:

Funding has been split into two areas: Major Projects and Other Projects including events, plaques and panels etc. The funding allocated for each project area is shown in the following respective tables. Greater funding may be provided if the circumstances warrant and the increase is approved by Council.

The amount provided by Council needs to be matched on a dollar for dollar basis by the Applicant (for example. if the cost of the proposed work is \$2000, then Council can provide a grant of up to \$1000). Obligations in regard the *loans* are detailed in Part 4.

Major Projects

Major projects are where significant works are being undertaken to enhance the heritage significance of a commercial heritage item as well as enhancing the overall heritage significance of the immediate area.

Project Value	Allocation
<\$15,000	Up to \$3,500
\$15,001 to \$30,000	Up to \$5,000
\$30,001+	Up to \$7,000

Other Projects

Events

The event must promote the awareness of heritage within Bland Shire.

Typical Events <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heritage events held during the annual heritage week or associated with heritage week.• Centenary celebrations and memorial events held to mark significant dates, events related to people or places.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• an amount of up to \$1000 grant per event with such an amount not to exceed 50% of the total approved event cost
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Plaques and Panels

Cast Bronze plaques and interpretive panels designed and located to mark a significant building, place or historic event

Plaques <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the provision of standard cast bronze plaques to an approved design fitted to a building or place. Panels <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The provision of a standard interpretive panel and mounting frame to mark a significant place and or event, incorporating the site history and maps or heritage photographs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• an amount of up to \$1000 grant with such an amount not to exceed 50% of the total approved work
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Eligible Projects:

Projects will involve the repair, restoration or reinstatement of missing items on heritage buildings in Bland Shire. These include fences, verandahs, roof cladding and decorative detail. Projects include structural work through to final painting of projects.

The fund is available to meet expenditure incurred only in respect of the approved work.

Projects not funded:

Funding will generally NOT be provided for the following projects:

- where assistance is reasonable available from another source;
- where substantial assistance has been previously provided;
- or where the applicant has yet to complete other assisted projects;
- purchase of a building, site or moveable item;
- a new addition to a heritage building (including new internal fittings such a new kitchen and bathrooms);
- the relocation of a heritage building or work on a relocated building; work on government owned buildings still used for a government purpose.

Assessment Criteria:

- Projects that are highly visible to the public eg the replacement of a verandah to a building in a main street location; providing appropriate signage and painting in a colour scheme in accordance with the Bland Development Control Plan and Heritage Advisor recommendation;
- The applicant's ability to demonstrate technical and financial responsibility with regard to the project, and demonstrated ability to complete the project within 12 months.
- The degree to which the applicant is financially contributing to the project and/or the ability to quickly return borrowed heritage funds;
- Projects which clearly complement broader conservation objectives eg projects which implement key findings of heritage studies or projects in designated heritage main street or conservation area;
- Projects which would encourage the conservation of other heritage items;
- Projects of demonstrated heritage value to the community, commonly the item concerned will appear on many heritage lists eg the restoration of an important local heritage house;
- Projects which have high public accessibility eg a local museum, church or private home which is open to the public several times a year;
- The Heritage Advisor must approve all schedules of works prior to commencement.
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they have the necessary finance to undertake all of the works submitted by them to the Council.

Timing of Projects:

For the funds to be allocated the applicant must complete the project within 12 months from the date of acceptance of the funds or within such extended period as the Council may approve.

4.0 Conditions of Approval

If the application submitted is successful, grant conditions will apply. These conditions will be provided to the organisation and include but not be limited to:

- acceptance form, agreeing to conditions applying to approved projects, returned within 6 weeks
- acquittal form received within three (3) months of completion of project,
- if applicable, an open day is to be hosted by the grant recipient.
- acknowledgment of support by featuring Bland Shire Council logos at events and in advertisements etc

Approval from Council must be sought if any changes are made to the intended purpose of the grant as per application.

