



## COMHAIRLE CHONTAE UIBH FHAILI

### OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL

#### **BUILT HERITAGE INVESTMENT SCHEME 2021 AND HISTORIC STRUCTURES FUND 2021.**

Offaly County Council wishes to invite applications under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2021 and Historic Structures Fund 2021, as operated by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The Built Heritage Scheme seeks to encourage the leveraging of private capital to invest in a number of small-scale, labour-intensive projects to repair and conserve Protected Structures and Proposed Protected Structures and in certain cases, for the conservation of structures within Architectural Conservation Areas, and to support the employment of skilled and experienced conservation professionals, craftworkers and tradespeople. The Historic Structures Fund assists with works to safeguard structures or parts of structures in immediate danger of significant deterioration.

The Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2021 will be administered by Offaly County Council from a total national allocation of €3 million. Grants of between €2,500 and €15,000 may be awarded, with applicants required to provide a minimum of 50% of total costs. Applicants should read the guidelines and be familiar with the qualifying criteria and conditions of the scheme and must include photographs of the proposed works in their application.

The Historic Structures Fund 2021 will also be administered by Offaly County Council and from a total national allocation of €3 million. The total funding available for each individual project shall not exceed 80% of the total project cost. There are three funding streams available offering grants from a minimum grant of €15,000 up to a maximum grant of €200,000 as follows;

**Stream 1** will offer grants **from €15,000 up to €50,000** and is aimed at essential repairs and smaller capital works for the refurbishment and conservation of heritage structures. **Stream 2** will offer a small number of grants **from €50,000 up to €200,000** for larger enhancement, refurbishment or reuse projects involving heritage structures, where a clear community or public benefit has been demonstrated. **Stream 3. Pilot Stream for Vernacular Structures** - In the context of the forthcoming strategy for built vernacular, a pilot stream for vernacular structures is being introduced for 2021, with funding of €50,000. The purpose of the stream is to support conservation repairs and small capital works to vernacular structures that are not listed in local authority Records of Protected Structures or otherwise legally protected. Such structures may be located within an Architectural Conservation Area. All local authorities can apply for funding for specific projects of between €5,000 and €10,000 for eligible projects.

**Pilot Stream for Historic Shopfronts** – To incentivise the conservation of historic shop fronts, each Local Authority is invited to submit an additional application under Stream 1 for eligible essential repairs and small capital works for the refurbishment and conservation of historic shop facades, windows, signage and other associated details to safeguard them and keep them in use.

Application forms and particulars for the above schemes are available to download on [www.offaly.ie](http://www.offaly.ie) or alternatively can be obtained from Offaly County Council, Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly (057 9357414) or by email [planning@offalycoco.ie](mailto:planning@offalycoco.ie)

All applicants must complete the Application Form and submit it, with supporting documentation in hard copy **(ONLY)** by **4pm Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021.**

Applications must be clearly marked Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2021/Historic Structures Fund 2021 and addressed to the Planning Department, Offaly County Council, Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore, County Offaly. Late applications will not be accepted.

Ann Dillon  
A/Director of Services,  
Planning Department



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta  
Department of Housing,  
Local Government and Heritage