



ORKNEY
ISLANDS COUNCIL



Economic Development Grant Scheme

Summary Guide

Economic Grant Development Scheme

Full details of the Council's Economic Development Grant Scheme can be found in the Scheme Guidelines, available on request from the Council, Business Gateway or via the Council's website. This flyer provides outline details of the Council's support for Economic Development projects. All prospective applicants should discuss their project proposal with a member of staff in the Council's Economic Development Service, before submitting an application.

Please note that the Council's policy is that assistance cannot be given retrospectively. Therefore **you must submit a completed application before you commence work on the project, or commit to any of the costs involved.** Once your application is received, you may start work, although this will be at your own risk as there is no guarantee of assistance until you have a formal written decision from the Council.

Please note

Grants are paid out only on submission of evidence of actual expenditure.

Summary

The Economic Development Grant Scheme can offer support of up to £55,000 at a rate of up to 30% of costs, towards capital expenditure. A minimum £10,000 of eligible project cost applies to this grant.

These project costs can include the construction of new buildings or the improvement of existing buildings, but please note that the purchase of land/buildings is not eligible for assistance.

Purchase of machinery and equipment may also be eligible. Assistance towards revenue costs – such as design costs, non-statutory training and marketing – can be considered eligible on a case-by-case basis, but working capital support is not available.



Available support

The Economic Development Grant Scheme is targeted towards supporting the following:

- projects which encourage economic diversification;
- activities which raise the average wage rate;
- efforts to overcome barriers to export outwith Orkney; and
- projects which demonstrate additional benefits to the Orkney economy.

In addition:

- any project supported should not represent a threat to existing jobs or simply cause them to be displaced;
- all funding proposals should be supported by a business/development plan providing sufficient detail for the proposal to be assessed by officers; and
- all assistance is discretionary.

The Economic Development Grant Scheme is targeted towards the following key industry sectors:

- food and drink production, where the products are primarily intended for export outwith Orkney;
- creative industries and manufacturing, where the outputs are primarily intended for export outwith Orkney;
- high-end niche products which are only available in Orkney;
- tourism accommodation and facilities;
- knowledge and technology, where projects can demonstrate a benefit to the Orkney economy;
- renewable energy (but not energy production) and its supply chain;
- service sector where the service is not currently provided in Orkney and a viable demand for that service can be demonstrated (provided it is not just a marginal modification of an existing service already available locally); and
- service sector where a viable external demand can be demonstrated.

There are specific grants to support tourism, isles' hauliers, rural shops, and graduate / post-graduate placements, and details on these can be found in section 5) of the full Scheme Guidelines.

For further information please visit www.orkney.gov.uk

Orkney Islands Council | Economic Development

14 Queen Street, Kirkwall, KW15 1JE

Telephone: (01856) 873535

Email: economic.development@orkney.gov.uk

Version 2: January 2018