

# Financial Assistance

## Town Centre Premises Improvement Grants

These grants are made to help with expenditure on eligible buildings.

**The type of expenditure** which these grants are to help with would:

- a) enhance the property significantly and/or
- b) extend its life and/or
- c) add value to the property

The grants are for improvement. They are NOT repair grants, or to do with any expenditure that would be generally regarded to do with the day-to-day running of a business

**Eligible buildings are:**

- occupied by commercial users and are located within the Borough of Pendle and lying with the town centre boundaries (PBC-local Plan) or within a Premises Grant boundary as defined by that particular town's Area Committee
- redundant commercial properties located within and immediately adjacent to the Town Centre Planning Boundaries

All applicants must meet **at least one of the five criteria** detailed below:

- a) improve the town's streetscape by enhancing the appearance of the property
- b) assist in the occupation of shops that have been empty for some time;
- c) lead to the introduction of businesses that extend the range of choice of goods and services;
- d) resolve a problem affecting the future of the property or its potential;
- e) create additional jobs, other than construction jobs;

### **Restrictions**

All works must adhere to restrictions imposed by conservation area status i.e timber must be used for shop fronts, window frames and doors. All schemes must result in a notable improvement in the appearance of the property and must be carried out in accordance with building regulations/planning permissions/advertisement consents required or approved. Applications will be accepted from tenants, provided they have a FRI lease or subject to written permission being obtained from the owner of the property.

**Works should not be started until an offer has been made in writing. Applications for retrospective assistance will not be considered.**

### **Support Available**

The grant is set at a rate of up to 50% of eligible works up to a maximum grant of £3,000. The maximum in the West Craven Area is £1,500.

<b>Eligible Items</b> <b>(Subject to planning consent being obtained if required)</b>	<b>In-eligible items</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete new shop front</li> <li>• New windows (that cover a reasonable proportion of the frontage of the building)</li> <li>• Signs and painting – provided it is part of a bigger package of improvements, including new windows, new shop front including external doors</li> <li>• Creation of external seating areas, including railings</li> <li>• Stone cleaning to enhance the appearance of a building</li> <li>• Items of a permanent nature which will enhance the appearance and value of the building</li> <li>• New items to make premises more accessible for people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-painting a property</li> <li>• Signs</li> <li>• Maintenance items, such as roofing and guttering, pointing</li> <li>• Internal improvements – such as shop fitting, plastering, electrics, furniture, heating systems etc</li> <li>• Security items – such as shutters</li> <li>• Revenue expenditure – ie printing, marketing, websites etc</li> <li>• Staffing and suppliers costs</li> <li>• Non- permanent items such window displays</li> <li>• Any items at the rear of properties</li> </ul>

**For further information please contact:**

**For Nelson – Currently suspended**

**For Earby, Colne & Barnoldswick – Mike Williams 01282 661963**

**For Barrowford, Brierfield– Deborah McCarthy 01282 661973**

In addition to the Premises Improvement Grants in Colne only - Colne Business Improvement District (BID) is offering “Lick of Paint” Grants to eligible properties. To find out more please email [manager@colnebid.co.uk](mailto:manager@colnebid.co.uk)