# Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2017

Kilkenny County Council

The Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (DAHRRGA) has recently announced the details of the **Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2017**.

Selection of Projects for 2017 will be by way of a competitive process with Kilkenny County Council, in consultation with local town/village community and business interests, developing detailed applications for submission to the DAHRRGA on or before 30th June, 2017. The DAHRRGA will assess the detailed applications and select the projects which are considered appropriate for funding.

Kilkenny County Council is now advertising for **Expressions of Interest from local town/village community and business interests** who retain an interest in engaging with the Scheme.

An outline document for the Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2017 and an Expression of Interest form are available to download from the Council’s website [www.kilkennycoco.ie](http://www.kilkennycoco.ie).

Local town/village community and business interests should carefully read the outline document and submit Expressions of Interest for proposed projects such that the projects are compatible with the selection criteria outlined.

In general the value of any project can extend from €20,000 to a maximum of €100,000. A higher maximum grant of €200,000 will be considered for a limited number of projects where a robust case can be made demonstrating exceptionally strong economic benefit to a town.

Projects which display the following will be considered High Priority by DAHRRGA for assessment purposes:

* Projects that support entrepreneurship (e.g. development of Enterprise Hubs, Hot Desk Facilities, Digital Hubs, Creative Hubs, training facilities)
* Integrated approaches to developing individual sectors within the town and/or its environs (e.g. artisan food hubs, craft hubs)
* Projects which demonstrate collaboration between town centre businesses and the surrounding area to produce economic benefit
* Tourism initiatives
* Enhancement of heritage and/or other community assets
* Town safety and accessibility enhancements
* Provision/enhancement of leisure facilities (e.g. Town Parks, walking trails)
* Conducting/commissioning of Town/Village health check
* Development of quality marks, such as Purple Flag, Heritage Town, etc

Kilkenny County Council can select up to 15 proposals for development into detailed applications to be submitted to the Department.

The Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs will assess the detailed applications and will approve up to 300 of the best projects nationally for funding, depending on the quality of the projects and the level of funding sought.

Kilkenny County Council’s Designated Contact for the Expressions of Interest process is Ms. Cora Nolan, Community Section, 056 7794931, Community@kilkennycoco.ie.

**The closing date for receipt of Expressions of Interest is Wednesday 17th May, 2017.**

Simon Walton,

A/Director of Services.