



# 2016 Town and Village Renewal Scheme

Kilkenny County Council Meeting  
19/09/2016

# 2016 Town and Village Renewal Scheme

## Background and Response

- Background
  - Rural towns adversely impacted by recent economic challenges (CEDRA Report)
    - General poor environment in which to live or visit
    - Empty shops and abandoned buildings
    - Vacant lands and unexploited/undeveloped amenities
- Response
  - A Programme for a Partnership Government
    - Town and Village Renewal a top priority
    - New and improved Town and Village Renewal Scheme for 2017
    - Additional funding to support the development of rural towns

# 2016 Town and Village Renewal Scheme Objectives and Focus

- To be approved projects must provide;
  - Enhanced attractiveness of towns and villages
  - Enhanced local environment and local amenities
  - Promotion of local heritage, potential for tourism, centres of culture

# 2016 Town and Village Renewal Scheme

## Types of Activities to be Supported

- Public consultation costs
- Commissioning of 'health checks'
- Streetscape and environmental enhancement
- Enhancement of Heritage and other community assets
- Shop Front Enhancement
- Pursuit of Quality Marks (Purple Flag, Heritage Town)
- Playgrounds, Leisure Facilities
- Car Parking
- Safety and Accessibility enhancements
- Training initiatives e.g. Marketing for retailers
- Branding and Marketing of a town/village
- Targeted actions to support housing and commercial development

# Scoring Framework

Selection Criterion	Detailed Outline	Max Score	Qual.
Strategic nature and coherence with Local Area Plans	Evidence of compliance with LAPs, compliance with projects selection guidelines and input from LCDC	25	16.25
Demonstration of need and potential	Concise statement of need, proposed actions, addressing of needs identified and engagement with the target group	20	13
Added Value	Clear and realistic projects properly costed. Cost effectiveness. Compatibility with Government Programmes and Objectives	20	13

# Scoring Framework

Selection Criterion	Detailed Outline	Max Score	Qual
Capacity of the Applicant	Relevant Experience and knowledge Delivery of similar projects Robust governance structure Adequate financial management controls	15	9.75
Realistic Nature of the Proposal	Timescale, clear set of actions, outputs and outcomes Scope and Reach of the Proposal Evaluative process to measure outcomes and impacts	20	13
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>65</b>

# 2016 Town and Village Renewal Scheme

## Terms and Conditions

- **Eligible Towns**
  - Population <10000 (0-5000 and 5000–10000)
- **Proposals/Applications**
  - Prepared by a Town/Village Renewal Committee
  - Based on a Town/Village *'Health Check'*
  - Must be consistent with broader Development Plans
  - Consultation required with LCDC and LECP/Leader Rural Development Strategy
  - Applications lodged by **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2016**
  - A maximum of **8** projects

# 2016 Town and Village Renewal Scheme Funding

- 2016 Grant of **€380,000** per County
  - Co-financing grant at a **maximum** rate of 85%
  - At **least** 15% local authority match funding
  - Total minimum 2016 finance from KCC is €67,000
  - Total Max/Min grant available for 2016 is **€450,000**
- **Management of Expectations**
  - Total Value of 2014 Urban and Village Renewal Schemes in Callan, Thomastown, Graiguenamanagh and Ballyragget ..... **€2.5 million**
  - **5.5 x TVRS Grant 2016**



# 2016 Town and Village Renewal Scheme

## Issues to Consider

- Over 40 urban centres throughout County that qualify
- **Acknowledgement of the huge level of community work ongoing throughout County Kilkenny**
  - **Submissions received from some communities**
- Projects selected must be realistic in the context of the available budget - €450k (2016) v €2.5m (2014)
- Selected Projects must provide a **visible benefit**
  - 4 Schemes x €112500 v 8 Schemes x €56250
- Geographical Distribution ( 4 Electoral Districts)

# 2016 Town and Village Renewal Scheme

## Issues to Consider

- Commitment in Programme for Government for a multi-annual TVRS Programme
  - Kilkenny County Council Budget 2017 onwards
    - 85% state funds v 15% Council Funds in 2016
  - Establishment of MD TVRS Sub- Committees
    - Integration of TVRS with other service/budgetary areas
  - Integration with other initiatives
- Local Area Plan context and compatibility
- LECF context (level of deprivation/tourism/economic)
- Current local context/health check

# 2016 Town and Village Renewal Scheme Suggested/Recommended Applications

- 4 Applications, 1 per Electoral District/Area
  - Urlingford
  - Kells
  - Ballyhale
  - Piltown
- Average value of each application = €112,500
- Nature of applications (subject to discussions with TVRS Committee);
  - Streetscape Enhancement
  - Amenity/Tourism Walks and Facilities
  - Infrastructure enhancements
- Applications consistent with LAPs, LCDC/LECP, LDS (Leader)
- Applications prepared by Kilkenny County Council

# 2016 Town and Village Renewal Scheme Applications

- Agree the urban centres to benefit from the Scheme
- Establish 4 Town and Village Renewal Committees
- Host workshop in Chamber on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September**
- Complete 'Health Check'
- Prepare draft application
- Liaise with LCDC
- Liaise with KLP
- Finalise application
- Submit applications by **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September**