



Funded by
Historic England

Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

Hinckley High Street Heritage Action Zone Building Improvement Scheme

Introduction:

Hinckley High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) aims to reveal and highlight the rich heritage in Hinckley by supporting the restoration and repair of historic buildings in the town with the following grant schemes:

Reinstate traditional shop fronts and signage - up to 90%: Grants are available for the reinstatement of historical shop front features and details. Where possible there must be evidence of the lost feature from old photos or physical remains and the works must use traditional methods and materials.

Restoration to the fabric of the building – up to 80%: Grants are available for the restoration of lost or hidden historic features, such as upper floor windows, rainwater goods, roof coverings, facing walls and architectural details. Where possible there must be evidence of the lost feature from old photos or physical remains and the works must use traditional methods and materials.

Repair the fabric of buildings - up to 50%: Grants are available for repairs to the historic building fabric using traditional building methods and materials to ensure the long-term conservation of the building. Works could include repairs to roofs, windows, shop fronts, stone and masonry. Routine maintenance can be undertaken as part of the programme of works but must be separately identified and are not eligible for funding.

Note: Grants are not means-tested, they are discretionary and there is no automatic entitlement, all Grants must be applied for and will be appraised in line with guidance at the time of application.

The Scheme:

There are approximately 200 buildings within the Hinckley Heritage Action Zone, 80 of which are target properties. Funding is prioritised to properties based on their condition, level of occupancy, the contribution it makes to the Hinckley Town Centre Conservation Area, and the opportunity that the works provide in seeking to retain the historic fabric and restore historic features.

Ownership:

In order to apply for grant you will need to have legal responsibility for the building. This can be as the owner or it could be someone who has a repairing lease that covers the period until at least March 2024.

Who can apply?

Businesses and properties must be located within the Hinckley High Street HAZ boundary area which primarily focuses on Castle Street, Station Road, The Borough and the Market

Place. See Appendix 1: Hinckley Heritage Action Zone map if you're unsure whether your property is located within the Hinckley High Street HAZ area, please contact the HSHAZ Project Officer using the details below.

Eligible and Ineligible Costs and Works:

Once proposed works have been identified the council will discuss which works will be eligible for a grant and at what rate. Further elements eligible for a grant include valuation fees, professional fees or the other costs associated with getting statutory permissions. Work we cannot fund is conjectural reinstatement, modernisation works or free-standing maintenance and minor repairs. We cannot fund repair works to any buildings that are currently in use as a place of worship, or those under the ownership of the Churches Conservation Trust.

Funding:

The grants are funded through a partnership between Historic England, the Borough Council and property owners, with intervention rates determined by the nature of eligible works. Grants will be reimbursed to the applicant upon the successful completion of works.

Principles: The programme will emphasise traditional craftsmanship and high-quality traditional materials and must be overseen by professional advisers and contractors who specialise in historic conservation.

Works will respect the architectural and historic interest of the building, retaining historic fabric where it exists. Designs will take reference from existing fabric and historic photographs where possible and records of the existing condition will be made for posterity.

The programme will focus on shops and buildings of heritage importance. All applications must be from within the defined HSHAZ area.

Specifications of work will be agreed with the HSHAZ Officer. They must comply with regulations including the need to obtain planning, listed building and building control consent and any obligations under other legislation. The Borough Council will provide advice on these requirements.

Applying for a Grant:

If you are interested in obtaining a grant, we can discuss this further with you; particularly concerning the type of work which could be funded at your property. The grants are time limited so we would recommend that you send us an expression of interest to us as soon as possible. An Expression of Interest Form can be found on our website at <https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/heritageactionzone>

Contact:

If you have any queries, please contact the Hinckley HSHAZ Project Officer at HeritageActionZone@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk

About Heritage Action Zones

Historic England is working with local people and partners through grant funding and sharing our skills to help breathe new life into high streets that are rich in heritage and full of promise - unlocking their potential and making them more attractive to residents, businesses, tourists and investors. The [High Streets Heritage Action Zones](#) scheme, backed by government funding,

aims to help with the recovery of local high streets from regenerating historic buildings to helping to engage local communities through art and cultural projects.

About Historic England

We are [Historic England](#) the public body that helps people care for, enjoy and celebrate England's spectacular historic environment, from beaches and battlefields to parks and pie shops. We protect, champion and save the places that define who we are and where we've come from as a nation. We care passionately about the stories these places tell, the ideas they represent and the people who live, work and play among them. Working with communities and specialists we share our passion, knowledge and skills to inspire interest, care and conservation, so everyone can keep enjoying and looking after the history that surrounds us all.