

## Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs

### 2017 Co-operation with Northern Ireland Scheme

#### **1. Introduction**

During 2017, the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs will operate a Scheme of funding support for *small self-contained projects which seek to enhance, celebrate or commemorate the artistic, cultural, musical, film or heritage of the Island of Ireland on a North/South basis.*

#### **2. Objective/ Rationale**

Funding provided under the Scheme should meet a specific cultural need and should support the Department in the delivery of its objective to nurture and develop Irish artistic and creative talent and enhance arts access, the national cultural institutions, regional arts infrastructure and cultural tourism countrywide, in cooperation with national and local authorities and other partners.

Projects funded under the Scheme must have a clearly demonstrable North/South element and should seek to make a contribution to enhancing, celebrating or commemorating the artistic, cultural, musical, film or heritage of the whole Island of Ireland.

Projects should be creative and innovative and examples of projects which could be considered for funding under the scheme include, but are not limited to, projects which:

1. Promote co-operation and joint initiatives between organisations and institutions on a North/South basis;
2. Promote cultural tourism on a North/South basis;
3. Promote the provision of cultural outreach programmes on a North/South basis.

**Please note: the Departmental contribution will not exceed €15,000 for any application. Projects must be completed in full prior to the final drawdown date of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017.**

#### **3. Eligibility**

The following criteria for eligibility apply:

1. Applications are invited from bodies, organisations and institutions that operate as not for profit.
2. Applications involving partnerships or collaborations will be considered for funding under the Scheme.
3. Only one application per organisation may be submitted.
4. Capital projects cannot be considered for funding under the Scheme.

It should be noted that funding will not be provided for meals, receptions or such social aspects of any applications.

#### **4. Applications**

Applicants should:

1. clearly set out the objective, purpose and targeted end result of the proposed project;
2. demonstrate the extent to which the project meets the objectives of the Scheme with particular reference to the North/South element;
3. delineate all of the project costs;
4. confirm that the project is realistic in terms of scale, capacity to deliver, costs, assistance sought and timeframe for delivery;
5. clearly detail the level of own resources being made available for the project where applicable (see assessment criteria below);
6. warrant that all representations made in pursuit of the application for funding are accurate and true;
7. have all the requisite regulatory approvals in place; and
8. be tax compliant.

#### **5. Additional requirements**

- Up-to-date Tax Clearance details.

#### **6. Assessment**

All applications received will be considered and assessed. The criteria to be used in this regard will include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. The extent to which the project meets the objectives of the Scheme;
2. Whether the project is realistic in terms of scale, costs, assistance sought and timeframe for delivery;
3. The capacity of the applicant to deliver the project and whether or not there exists a proven track record of high quality, on time and within budget delivery;
4. The level of own contribution towards the project;

#### **7. Successful applicants**

All successful applicants under the Scheme will receive a letter of offer which will clearly set out the terms and conditions which attach to the funding. These will include, but not be limited to, the following general terms and conditions (where applicable):

1. applicants will be required to furnish a report on the project, such that would confirm the implementation and finalisation of the project;
2. officials from the Department must be allowed suitable access to the project for the purposes of inspection;

3. the Department's contribution to the project must be acknowledged on all publicity and publications;
4. any information in relation to the project required by the Department from time to time must be furnished promptly;
5. original invoices in respect of all expenditure must be provided together with proof of payment of same;
6. all records of expenditure and related invoice and papers must be retained for inspection as required by officials or relevant auditors;
7. in the case of any individual expenditure of over €5,000, the requisite procurement procedures should be followed and evidence of same produced, if required.

The Department reserves the right to revoke any allocation, if suitable progress is not made in advancing the project and/or the terms and conditions of funding are not met

Letters of offer may be for a lesser amount than that sought by the applicant. All letters of offer must be formally accepted.

#### **8. Monitoring and follow up**

All successful projects will be monitored on an ongoing basis in accordance with the terms and conditions outlined in the letter of offer. Sufficient information must be made available to satisfy the Department that the project is proceeding and will be completed on time and within agreed costs.

Before final payment will be made, the Department must be satisfied that a report on the project has been received and that sufficient information is to hand to verify that the project has been completed as agreed.

#### **9. Contact point**

All applications for consideration for funding under this scheme should be sent to:-

Ms. Aoife O'Sullivan,  
Cultural Schemes Unit,  
Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs,  
New Road,  
Killarney,  
Co. Kerry.

Email: [Co-OpNI@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:Co-OpNI@ahg.gov.ie)  
Phone: 064-6627384

## **10. Deadlines**

Applications for consideration for funding under the scheme should be submitted as outlined above no later than the **19<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

Any funds allocated under the Scheme must be drawn down in accordance with the terms and conditions outlined in the letter of offer no later than the **31<sup>st</sup> October 2017**.

## **11. Freedom of Information Act**

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2014, details contained in applications and supporting documents may, on request, be released to third parties. If there is information contained in your application which is sensitive, please identify it and provide an explanation as to why it should not be disclosed. If a request to release sensitive information under the legislation is received, you will be consulted before a decision is made whether or not to release the information. However, in the absence of the identification of particular information as sensitive, it may be disclosed without any consultation with you.