

Local Heritage Fund 2024-2025

Application Guidelines

Background

A Local Heritage Fund has been established by Murrumbidgee Council with the assistance of the NSW Government under the Local Government Heritage Grants 2023-25 program.

Local Heritage Fund aim

The aim of the funding is to encourage and assist owners within the Murrumbidgee Council local government area to conserve, restore and protect their historic buildings and places, by providing funding for heritage advice and minor works. It is hoped that this will lead to greater interest and concern for conservation for all heritage items within the Murrumbidgee Council area.

The program will fund projects:

- for conservation and maintenance works for original features (repair, painting, etc.)
- to meet Building Code Australia upgrades (fire, services, and access) for ongoing and new uses
- for replacement of building/business advertising signage with heritage sympathetic advertising design repair of original features
- that demonstrate an ability to **complete** the project by **2 May 2025**

For heritage items and items in conservation areas in the Murrumbidgee (Coleambally and Darlington Point) Local Environmental Plan 2013 or Jerilderie Local Environmental Plan 2012 and items of heritage significance.

Funding

A dollar for dollar grant from \$500 up to \$5,000.

Funding Rounds

Funding rounds will be over the 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years and will open once per financial year. Applicants must submit written applications that meet the eligibility criteria. This includes the criteria that funding will not be provided for works that have already been completed or are in progress (unless it can be shown it is a staged project).

All applications will be assessed by a panel. In order to spread the funding across the community, Council will be looking to allocate the money to a number of projects. This may mean that Council may allocate less than the amount that is requested in the application.

Successful applicants will receive funding when the work is complete, subject to assessment of the Heritage Advisor and Council. Receipts for all work and supplies must

be provided prior to any reimbursement of costs.

Who can apply for grants from the local heritage fund?

All owners and managers of heritage items or items in a conservation area in the Murrumbidgee Local Environmental Plan 2013 or Jerilderie Local Environmental Plan 2012 can apply for grants from the local heritage works assistance fund in Coleambally, Darlington Point and Jerilderie. Funds are limited.

You cannot apply for funding if you are a state government agency (but may be involved as a project partner).

Eligible works:

Eligible projects involve measures for the protection and preservation of heritage items and sites within the Murrumbidgee Council area. Eligible works may include, but are not limited to:

- Repairs or maintenance
- External painting
- Reinstatement of missing heritage items
- Awnings and verandas
- Signage and facades
- Front fences/paths
- Re-roofing
- Replacing downpipes/gutters
- Landscaping
- Sculptures
- Care of archives or the presentation and display of artefacts, machinery and artwork

All works must be undertaken by qualified, experienced and skilled tradespersons.

What projects cannot be funded by the local heritage fund?

Funding will not be available from the local heritage fund for:

- State or Federal Government owned buildings
- Projects without written advice from a Heritage Advisor Completed projects (funded will not be provided retrospectively)
- Routine maintenance (eg lawn mowing, gutter cleaning or carpet cleaning)
- Projects where adequate funding is available from the applicant or other sources
- New commemorative monuments or works
- Purchase of heritage buildings
- Relocation of buildings or work to relocated buildings
- An addition to a heritage building (eg new kitchen/ bathroom)
- Private headstones, unless there is no possibility of descendent support for the project
- Flood lighting of heritage buildings
- Purchase of equipment
- Temporary items
- Wages

Agreed Funding Priorities

Priority will be given to projects that are:

- fire, service and access upgrades for compliance with the Building Code of Australia
- urgent maintenance works to avert management risks to a heritage property/item, e.g. severe deterioration, demolition, or demolition by neglect
- ongoing or adaptive reuse of heritage item(s)
- heritage item(s) with public visibility, eg the replacement of a verandah to a building in a main street location,
- heritage item(s) with public access, eg a local museum, church, private homes which are open to the public, shops, and hotels.
- properties and buildings that are identified by Council's Heritage Advisor as having heritage significance

Common Selection criteria

Funding is targeted to projects with demonstrated

- Public benefit to a precinct eg main street
- Sustainable long term heritage benefits
- Capacity and commitment to undertake the project
- Funding equity and cost effectiveness

Timing

From approval you will have up to 6 months to complete your project. Failure to achieve this requirement may see Council withdraw the funding.

Tips When Applying for funding

To apply for funding for a project from Council's local heritage fund:

- Read the application form so you know what information you need and if your project fits the types of funding offered.
- Do some background research on your heritage item so you can include all relevant information in your project proposal. The Council, local libraries or historical society may have information or photographs of the heritage item.
- Include owners consent in your application
- Prepare a list of project tasks to be completed.
- Get at least two quotes for each of the project's tasks.
- Ensure you have relevant plans and sketches – depending on the size of the project, you may need to include these in your application.
- Take 'before the project' and 'after the project' photographs.
- Complete the application form and keep a copy for your records.
- Talk with your council Economic Development Manager or heritage advisor about your project.

Submitting your application

Before you submit your application for funding, you must discuss your project with the heritage advisor. Contact Council's Economic Development Manager to arrange a suitable time on 1300 676 243 or mail@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

The application form and attachments must be returned to the Murrumbidgee Council Offices, email mail@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au or via mail to PO Box 5, Darlington Point NSW 2706.

Processing your Project Application

- Murrumbidgee Council will acknowledge receipt of your application within 21 days of the closing date.
- Projects will be assessed and approved by the Heritage Advisor and Murrumbidgee Council (this may include an inspection of the property). In assessing your application, the quality and clarity of information provided will be taken into account.
- A funding offer and contract will be sent to successful applicants.
- On your acceptance of this offer, the project will commence. All projects must be completed and all funding claimed by Friday 2 May 2025. Failure to achieve this requirement may see Council withdraw the funding.
- Murrumbidgee Council will advise unsuccessful applicants.
- The Murrumbidgee Council Local Heritage Fund is a targeted funding program. Projects must meet eligibility criteria, funding priorities and common selection criteria. However, in exceptional circumstances, Murrumbidgee Council reserves the right to recommend funding for projects that may not fully meet these requirements.

Further information

For further information you can contact Murrumbidgee Council's Economic Development Manager on 1300 676 243 or mail@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

Applications can be found on Murrumbidgee Council's Website or can be picked up from one of the three Council offices.