



## Business Facade Improvement Program

The aim of the Business Facade Improvement Program is to provide support to businesses that have street frontage to undertake high quality facade improvements, that are visible from the front of the property and enhance the visual appearance and function of the building.

Businesses must be located in one of the 10 towns within the Shire and have a visible street frontage. Home based businesses or businesses with no street frontage are not eligible to apply.

### To commence an application:

Applicants need to make an appointment with the Economic Development and Business Facilitation Team. When you are meeting with the team, discussions will include the scope and type of works being proposed, any permit requirements, timing of works, building owner consent, and availability of contractors.

### Funding available:

The program is based on a \$1 for \$1 contribution. Applicants may apply for a maximum funding of up to \$3,000 for physical works and \$500 for landscaping. This funding is available once per business and/or premises per year. In addition to the grant funding, planning permit fees would also be waived by Council as part of the program to encourage participation. However, any relevant building permit fees would still apply. Buildings within heritage areas of the Shire will need to comply with relevant guidelines.

### The Business Façade Improvement Grant may include the following:

- Painting of the business façade
- Professional cleaning of the existing façade
- Removal of redundant signage, air conditioning units and hoardings
- Minor repair, maintenance or reinstatement of missing elements
- Minor repairs to existing façade tile or stone accents
- Minor repairs to structural façade elements and awnings
- New repairs or replacements of verandahs
- Installation of new business signage
- Installation of permanent store lighting visible from the street that improves the façade amenity
- Universal access in front of building (e.g. ramps)

### Grant funds cannot support:

- Retrospective works (projects already commenced or completed)
- Operational or administrative costs
- Non fixed items, eg, tables and chairs, moveable lights
- Internal shop fittings or infrastructure



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- Works where a planning permit has been refused.
- Purchase of a building

**Applications need to address the following assessment criteria:**

- Applicants must demonstrate how the project will benefit the building's presentation and streetscape.
- Applicants must provide a minimum of one quote for the proposed works and provide the business address of the contractor. Council encourages applications where local and/or indigenous-owned businesses are utilised (if available in the region).
- Applicants must submit a plan detailing the proposed improvements together with all necessary approvals.
- Applicants must submit "before photos" of the proposed building with the application.

**Completion:**

If successful, businesses will have until the end of May 2025 to complete all proposed works and will need to submit all associated documentation including invoices and proof of works to receive reimbursement.

All claims must be submitted by the end of May so the grant can be acquitted in the correct financial year.

*Please view guidelines factsheet and speak to a member of the Economy Development and Business Facilitation team.*