**Fermanagh and Omagh District Council**

**VILLAGE RENEWAL EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM AND GUIDANCE NOTES**

**Introduction**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council wishes to invite Expressions of Interest from eligible villages who wish to be considered for future funding opportunities for capital projects that would be able to commence in September 2020 and complete in September 2021.

**Note: the submission of the Expression of Interest is no guarantee of funding**

If you are interested in submitting an Expression of Interest the following conditions apply:

* Valid settlements must have a population of between 50 and 5,000;
* Provide an overview of the proposed project including indicative costs;
* Provide evidence that the project has the support of the wider village community, with the Expression of Interest coming from one bona-fide Community Group

*(If there is more than one Community Group/Association operating in a village then these Groups will need to come together to agree, prepare and submit the Expression of Interest as only one per village will be accepted);*

* Demonstrate that the project is complementary to the current offering in the village and is contained within the Village Action Plan;
* Demonstrate that the project would be able to commence in September 2020 and complete in September 2021;
* Provide evidence that there are no issues with ownership of the land/ building where the proposed project will take place and that all statutory approvals are in place or can be provided by end of May 2020, this may include planning approvals, lease agreements, and agreements with any other statutory bodies; and
* In a competitive process, priority may be given to those villages that have not received Rural Development funding in the present Village Rural Development Scheme.

The Expression of Interest form can be downloaded from [www.fermanaghomagh.com](http://www.fermanaghomagh.com/) or a copy can be requested by emailing villagerenewal@fermanaghomagh.com or by contacting the Rural Regeneration Officer on 0300 303 1777 ext. 20311.

Completed forms should be returned no later than **12 noon** on **Friday 24 January 2020** in a sealed envelope clearly marked on the outside ‘Village Renewal Expression of Interest’ to: Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, Strule House, 16 High Street, Omagh, Co Tyrone, BT78 1BQ or The Townhall, 2 Townhall Street, Enniskillen, BT74 7BA or via email to villagerenewal@fermanaghomagh.com.

**Expressions of Interest received after the closing date and time will be deemed ineligible.**

For further information on the Expression of Interest process please contact the Rural Regeneration

Officer on 0300 303 1777 ext. 20311

**Background**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council wishes to invite Expressions of Interest from eligible villages who wish to be considered for future funding opportunities for capital projects that would be able to commence in September 2020 and complete in September 2021.

Indicative actions that Council is looking to address and could be supported are:

 dereliction and vacant site enhancement;

 environment improvements;

 conservations and upgrading of rural culture (natural and built);

 gateway projects;

 walkways, play facilities and nature trails;

 sign posting local heritage features;

 improving physical access to amenities or attractions; and

 gateway projects, entrance features and signage.

**Funding Options**

If funding becomes available the Council would consider the following options:

Option 1: Grants of up to £50,000 at 75% of total project costs may be available to the stand-alone projects identified within the Village Plan.

Option 2: Grants of up to £150,000 at 75% of total project costs may be available to the stand-alone projects identified within the Village Plan.

**Match Funding**

If funding for the scheme becomes available projects assisted cannot be matched from any other EU source. The Council will contribute up to 25% of match funding to the grant allocation (this can be made up of in-kind contribution and 5% cash).

**PLEASE NOTE**: If funding becomes available this will be a competitive programme. The submission of an Expression of Interest is **MANDATORY** for villages to be considered but DOES NOT indicate that your village will be selected for participation.

**Village Renewal Scheme**

**Expression of Interest Form**

|  |
| --- |
| **Applicant Details** |
| **1a** | **Organisation****Name** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Town** |  |
| **Postcode** |  |
| **Contact Person** |  |
| **Position in****Organisation** |  |
| **Address for****Correspondence *(if different from above)*** |  |
| **Telephone****Number:** |  |
| **Mobile Number:** |  |
| **Email:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1b** | **Does the village you represent have between 50-5,000 inhabitants? *(please tick)* If yes,****approximately how many inhabitants are there?** |
|  |  **YES NO****Please state the approximate number of inhabitants *(if known):***  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2a** | **Please provide an overview of the proposed project including (where relevant) Designs and Drawings**  |
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| **2b** | **Please provide indicative project costs** |
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| --- | --- |
| **Works** | **Costs (approximate)** |
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|  |  |
| **Anticipated Total Costs** |  |

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| **3** | **Please provide a potential start date and estimated period of works**  |
|  |  |
| **4** | **Please give details of the ownership of the land/site/building and provide evidence for example Title Deeds, Lease Agreement etc.**  |
|  |  |
| **5** | **Please provide evidence that the project has the support of the wider village community and that the project is contained within the Village Action Plan**  |
|  |  |
| **6** | **Do the proposed works require Planning Permission. If so, please provide evidence of the approval or demonstrate that it can be provided by end of May 2020** |
|  |  |
| **7** | **Do the proposed works require any other Statutory Approvals. If so, please provide details or demonstrate that it can be provided by end of May 2020** |
|  |  |
| **8** | **Please summarise any public funding (Council, Central Government, EU or other) that has been** **granted in the past five years and how it has been invested**  |
|  |  |

***I/we can confirm that the details supplied are true and correct to the best of my/our knowledge.***

***Name(s): Block Capitals***

***Signed***

***Village Organisation \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

*The closing date and time for the submission of completed Expression of Interest Forms is*

***12.00 noon on Friday 24 January 2020.***

***Expression of Interest Forms received after this date and time will be deemed ineligible.***