

Fact Sheet

Blue Mountains Local Heritage Assistance Fund 2020-2021

A Local Heritage Assistance Fund to Assist Private Heritage Owners



This fact sheet is intended to provide detailed information and guidance to support applications to Blue Mountains City Council's Local Heritage Assistance Fund in 2020-2021.

Background

Blue Mountains City Council and the NSW Government are jointly funding the Blue Mountains Local Heritage Assistance Fund in 2019–2020 and 2020-2021 which is targeted at minor conservation works to heritage properties in the Blue Mountains Local Government Area.

Now in the second year of the program, 2020-2021, funding is directed towards **contributory buildings**, or significant buildings that contribute towards the streetscape values in **Heritage Conservation Areas**. Priority will be given to contributory buildings within newly listed Heritage Conservation Areas, that were previously known as 'Period Housing Areas'. However, heritage properties within existing HCAs may also be considered.

Contributory Buildings make an important contribution to the character and significance of a heritage conservation area.

Eligibility

Owners or managers of contributory buildings within Heritage Conservation Areas (HCAs) in the Blue Mountains Local Government Area are eligible to apply for the Local Heritage Assistance Fund, which provides dollar for dollar grant funding of up to \$2,000 for minor improvements or conservation works to contributory buildings in HCAs.

Projects must make a positive contribution to the streetscape's heritage values. The Fund will be targeted towards contributory buildings within newly listed HCAs, previously Period Housing Areas. Applications will also be considered for contributory buildings within existing HCAs. Grant applications are required to be supported by appropriate land owners consent and the permission of other interested parties.

Heritage Conservation Areas (HCAs)

For a list of Heritage Conservation Areas within the Blue Mountains, please refer to: bmcc.nsw.gov.au/LHAF.

The Blue Mountains Local Heritage Assistance Fund recognises the importance of conserving, protecting and caring for local heritage listed buildings within the Blue Mountains.

Further Information

Please do not hesitate to contact Council for clarification and guidance. We are here to help. Our customer Service Advisor will be able to gain further information from one of Council's heritage specialists, should this be required.

Customer Service Advisor - (02) 4780 5000

Hours: 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday

w: bmcc.nsw.gov.au/LHAF

e: HeritageAssistanceFund@bmcc.nsw.gov.au

Application Deadline

Applications are now open. Lodge your application with Council by Wednesday 21 October, 2020, 5pm.

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Amount of Funding Available

Funding will be offered to successful applicants on a dollar for dollar basis (\$1 of grant funding for each \$1 of private funding). The funding available for any one applicant or property in a single year is between \$500 and \$2,000 (including GST).

Approval Requirements

Funding will be available to successful applicants to undertake minor improvements, conservation works or general maintenance works to contributory buildings within Heritage Conservation Areas that do not require a Development Application from Council, for example:

- Works to improve front fences/paths
- External façade painting
- Re-roofing in matching materials and colours
- Replacing downpipes/gutters

Further information is available in section 'D1.6 – Development consent exceptions' in Council's 'Part D Heritage Management' chapter of the Blue Mountains Development Control Plan 2005 (the DCP). This DCP chapter can be accessed via: <https://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/documents/dcp-2015-part-d-heritage-management>.

Priorities for Funding Allocation

Funding will be assessed on a case by case basis. Priorities for determining funding allocation include:

1. Works to contributory buildings within newly listed Heritage Conservation Areas
2. Works to contributory buildings that enhance the streetscape's heritage values
3. Works that enhance the building façade (e.g. painting, rendering, specialised cleaning or maintenance works)
4. Reinstatement of minor historic features or fittings to a building that may have been damaged removed or replaced (e.g. fencing, doors).

Examples of projects that will not be funded include garden plantings and routine maintenance such as lawn mowing, gutter cleaning etc.)



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1. Background Research

Before applying, you will need to have a good understanding of how to undertake minor conservation works to heritage buildings. The NSW Heritage Office has published a good source of information "How to carry out work on heritage buildings and sites" located on Heritage NSW's website: <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/heritagebranch/heritage/infocarryoutwork.pdf>

This publication sets the standards expected to be followed when carrying out any works to conserve historic properties. Other sources of information include:

- Council's Heritage Advisory Service
- Council's website bmcc.nsw.gov.au
- Local Studies Library Collection – Braemer House, Springwood Library
- Old photographs, newspapers or oral history interviews.

2. Who can undertake the Work?

All minor improvements or conservation works should be carried out by qualified, experienced and skilled tradespersons. The NSW Government website has a list of specialist tradespersons under the Conservation Products and Services Directory which can be used to help find specialist help. This document can be accessed from <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/HeritageConservationDirectory.aspx>

The application should describe what works are proposed to be undertaken and supported by adequate plans and documentation describing:

- the building elements, components or features which are proposed to be managed or corrected
- the nature of works and solutions proposed to be carried out
- methodology used in carrying out these works
- contact details and qualifications of the tradespersons who will carry out the proposed works.

You should prepare this application based on expert advice and speak with the experienced, skilled and specialised tradespersons who will be undertaking the works. Council's Heritage Advisor is also able to assist with direction on methods for conservation works.

3. Getting Quotes

Applications must include at least two quotes for the proposed works, including making note of the tradespeople you have selected to undertake the work and reasons for their selection.

4. Completion of the Application Form

Complete the Local Heritage Assistance Fund application form and lodge it with Council, together with your documentation (plans, sketches, photographs, two quotes and relevant information including history of the property). You should keep a copy of the completed application form and any associated documentation.

Application forms are available at Blue Mountains City Council's Customer Service Counter and on Council's webpage: bmcc.nsw.gov.au/LHAF

5. Application Deadline

Applications are now open and the final date for applications is Wednesday, 21 October 2020. Please make sure your completed application along with the required documentation is lodged with Council by 5pm Wednesday, 21 October 2020.