



ERDF Land and Property Grant Funding - Digbeth and the Jewellery Quarter

Outlined below are the key priorities for the Digbeth and the Jewellery Quarter Grant schemes:

- Land and Property Assistance Grants Up to 50% of the eligible costs and up to a maximum of £100,000 funding.
- Key Opportunities Grants Up to 35% of the eligible project costs from a minimum grant value over £100,000.

ERDF Regional Priorities

The ERDF Programme aims to deliver a number of regional priorities and the key ones which are applicable to this project are as follows;

- To create jobs through the reuse of redundant or underused sites/premises, including the reuse of heritage sites/premises.
- Investment in the reclamation and re-use of previously developed land including under used buildings, or parts of buildings, or sites. This investment must lead to productive /business floor space for industrial/commercial uses including knowledge led businesses; creative industries, environmental technology industries, advanced manufacturing, managed workspace and incubation and innovation activities in order to bring new economic life to the area (i.e. employment growth, sales growth and increased sales)
- The sensitive reuse of historic buildings, infrastructure and other cultural heritage assets for development of new or expanded economic uses that contribute to economic impact.

Key Strategic Priorities:

In addition to the ERDF Regional priorities, the project aims to address a number of local priorities within the target areas as outlined below in the following strategic documents:

Birmingham City Council Draft Core Strategy 2026 / Big City Plan
City Centre Masterplan - September 2010

See www.birmingham.gov.uk/corestrategy and www.birmingham.gov.uk/bigcityplan.

The key priorities for the Digbeth and Jewellery Quarter areas of the City can be summarised as.

- Supporting the retention of the historical and heritage value of the buildings, spaces, streets and uses.
- Encouraging the development of creative industries.





- Promoting redevelopment through landmark buildings on key gateway routes into the city.
- Supporting the quarter's role in the delivery of a Digital District (Digbeth).
- Protecting the industrial heritage of the quarter as a centre for the manufacture and trade of jewellery (Jewellery Quarter).

Within the Digbeth and Jewellery Quarter area there are three conservation areas, each with a conservation character appraisal management plan. Applicants should take account of the planning policies which provide the framework for the preservation and enhancement of both areas. They are intended to guide and manage change through the promotion of good new design which responds positively to historic context.

Warwick Bar Conservation Area

This is situated in Digbeth, with its range of warehouse complexes and manufactories dating from the mid-nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century. See http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/warwickbarca.

• Digbeth, Deritend and Bordesley High Streets Conservation Area

This is also located in Digbeth, and covers much of what can still be identified as Birmingham's medieval townscape and is an area of archaeological significance. See http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/digbethderitendca.

Jewellery Quarter Conservation Area

In 2002 the Jewellery Quarter Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan set out the special interest and character of the area, and the context in which any proposals for change must be considered. The Jewellery Quarter Design Guide provides clear and consistent guidance to developers in order to ensure that new buildings enhance the special qualities of the Quarter and contribute to its successful regeneration.

See http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/jewelleryquarterca.

Funding Priorities

Budget:

£4m covering both grant funding schemes for the Digbeth and Jewellery Quarter area. (This level of funding will be reviewed after 6 months).

For projects applying for funding through the 'Key Opportunities' grant scheme, priority will be given to projects that can commence works by March 2013.

For both grant schemes all projects will need to be able to complete the project and deliver all outputs within the agreed timescales.





Location:

Projects must be located within the agreed Digbeth and Jewellery Quarter area as set out on the attached map.

Eligible works:

Top priorities will be:

- Development of vacant/derelict sites/buildings;
- Extension of premises increasing workspace area;
- Internal works structural works and alterations to walls and floors that result in new/upgraded floorspace.

Environmental works – improvements are encouraged – where improvements are above required standards, the project can fund 100% of the extra costs of fitting the improvements

Outputs:

Please note that all projects must create new or upgraded floorspace **and** create or safeguard jobs.

New or upgraded floorspace to accredited standards eg BREEAM is desirable.