

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Eligibility**

*I'm a new business but haven't yet commenced trading– am I able to apply for a grant?*

Yes, if your business has a shopfront within the pilot area and you will be able to complete the works within three months of approval of the grant allocation.

*Can I apply for a grant under the scheme if my business is part of a national franchise?*

Yes.

*Can I apply for a Shopfront Improvement Grant if my business is located in a heritage listed building?*

Yes, provided the works don't impact on the heritage fabric of the building itself, such as the removal of fixed outdoor dining furniture and the replacement with non-fixed items. If you are planning to make a structural improvement to a heritage listed building you must first seek advice from Council's Heritage Team (Telephone 8203 7445 or h.mail@adelaidecitycouncil.com).

*I have a great idea that would really make my shopfront stand out but I'm not in the pilot area. What should I do?*

Yes, you can still submit an application. However assessment of proposals for works outside the nominated area will depend on the potential impact of the project and the level of available funding.

### **Proposed Improvements**

*Will the grant funding cover the technical drawings or plans required as part of a major upgrade of my shopfront?*

Yes, these costs can be included in the total cost of the project.

*My current shop sign is looking a little old and worn. Will Council help fund a new one?*

Only if the sign is replaced as part of a broader shopfront enhancement project (e.g. replace sign, repair awning & refresh frontage with a re-paint). The program does not fund stand-alone signage improvements.

*A couple of neighbouring business and I have an idea that will help all our businesses. Can we submit a joint application?*

Yes. Council is keen to discuss potential projects that have wider benefit.

*My shopfront would look much better if the street façade was pressure cleaned – will the program help fund this?*

No, the Shopfront Improvement Grant Program does not support regular maintenance or cleaning.

## **Funding**

*If my grant application is successful, when will I receive the funds?*

Council will reimburse you the grant funding once the works have been completed as agreed. To receive the reimbursement you must first pay for the finished works in full and provide Council with proof of payment.

*I have a leasehold business. Do I need to seek the building owner's consent?*

Generally, the changes you are entitled to make will depend on your individual lease arrangements. It is recommended however that you advise the building owner of your plans.

*I'm not able to make a financial contribution toward the cost of any works at the moment. Would Council fund 100% of the cost of a small improvement?*

No. The program is based on a funding arrangement where Council matches the financial contribution of the business up to a maximum of \$6000. The business therefore pays for at least 50% of the total cost of the works.

*The project I have in mind would only cost around \$1500. Will the program put \$750 toward this?*

No. Minimum grant funding under the Shopfront Improvement Grant Program is \$1000. This means that your project must be valued at \$2000 or more to be eligible.

## **Future Applications**

*I plan to upgrade my shopfront in about 12 months or so. Will the Shopfront Improvement Grant Program be available in 2016?*

The current program is a pilot. A continuation of the Shopfront Improvement Grant Program will depend on a future decision of Council.