**‘Outdoor Seating & Accessories for Tourism & Hospitality Business’ scheme**



**Scheme Overview**

The focus of this scheme is to provide a level of financial support to **tourism and hospitality businesses,** in our town centres, to purchase or upgrade equipment to provide additional outdoor seating and, therefore, increase their outdoor service capacity for the summer of 2021. This scheme will financially assist and support independent tourism and hospitality business owners to create outdoor service experiences in a regulated and accessible manner. Funding under the scheme is only available to existing businesses.

The Outdoor Seating and Accessories for Tourism & Hospitality Business Scheme will be administered through Local Authorities and each local Authority has the right to use their discretion in regard to their process and the development of appropriate terms and conditions that are appropriate for their respective streetscapes, businesses etc. All applicants will be required to comply with planning codes, legislative requirements and other compliance requirements.

1. **Who is Eligible?**

* The scheme is open to attractions, hotels, restaurants, cafes, public houses or other tourism and hospitality business establishments where food and/ or drink is sold for consumption on the premises.
* Those premises that have no commercial rates outstanding to Meath County Council or have a payment plan in place.

**Not eligible:**

* B&B’s are not eligible for the scheme as a specific restart grant for B&B’s was offered in 2020 by Failte Ireland. Should a B&B have stand alone coffee tea/snacks type facility or shop, offered to Non Fee Paying guests then they may qualify for eligibility
* Mobile Units (chip vans, coffee docks) who do not possess valid planning permission or a Trading Licence granted by Meath County Council will not be eligible to apply for the scheme

**Expenditure must be incurred between the 01st of April 2020 and the 30th of September, 2021. Payments will be made by Meath County Council to approved applicants on submission of receipts and photography of the items in situ**

1. **What Items are considered eligible for the scheme.**

* Tables
* Chairs
* Umbrellas
* Electric heaters
* Screens/windbreaks
* Plant stands
* Wooden Platform

The tables and chairs or other furniture shall be of robust and stable construction to prevent movement in adverse weather conditions and be agreed with Meath County Council.

Screens/windbreakers must be agreed with Meath County Council and will be subject to the following conditions;

* Screens to be plain, coloured or neutral canvas type, not more than 1 metre high, spanning between or framed by simple metal type posts.
* Screens to be manufactured from flame/fire retardant material.
* Base plates or weighted bases to screening posts must not extend outside the licensed area.
* All screens, posts and bases must be demountable.
* Screens must be sufficiently robust to prevent overturning in adverse weather conditions.
* No advertising apart from the name of the premises to be used on the screens, without the permission of Meath County Council.

1. **Amount of Grant Available**

The scheme will provide for up to **75% of the ex-VAT** cost of equipment purchased/installed with a maximum allowable contribution of up to €4,000 per applicant.

1. **Privacy & Data Protection**

Personal information collected by Meath County Council is done so in order for us to process your application. Legally we can process this information as it is necessary for us to comply with our statutory / legal obligations. The protection of your personal data is a key priority for the Council and your data will be processed in line with our Privacy policy which is available at:

<https://www.meath.ie/council/your-council/your-data-and-access-to-information/data-protection>

or hardcopy from our offices at Meath County Council, Buvinda House, Navan, Co Meath CI5 Y291. If you require further information regarding our Privacy Statement, you can contact us at dataprotection@meathcoco.ie or write to us at: Data Protection Officer, Meath County Council, Buvinda House, Navan, Co Meath C15 Y251.

1. **Applications for Funding Timeline**

The scheme will be open from the 12/4/2021 for applications. Applicants will apply through Meath County Council all information will be found on our website @ <https://www.meath.ie/business/economic-development>

The scheme will close on the 30/9/2021.

1. **Freedom of Information**

Applicants should be aware that, under the Freedom of Information Act 2014, information provided by them in this Application may be liable to be disclosed. Applicants are asked to consider if any of the information provided by them in their Application should not be disclosed because of its confidentiality or commercial sensitivity. If Applicants consider that certain information is not to be disclosed because of its confidentiality or commercial sensitivity, Applicants must, when providing such information, clearly identify such information and specify the reasons for its confidentiality or commercial sensitivity. If Applicants do not identify information as confidential or commercial sensitive, it is liable to be released in response to a Freedom of Information request without further notice or consultation with the Applicant. Meath County Council will, where possible, consult with the Applicant about confidential or commercial sensitive information so identified before making a decision on a request received under Freedom of Information.

**Queries relating to the scheme should be sent to:**

By email to: [economic@meathcoco.ie](mailto:economic@meathcoco.ie)

**Queries relating to Section 254 licences should be sent to:**

By email to: [Transport@meathcoco.ie](mailto:Transport@meathcoco.ie)

I have read and understand the terms and conditions of the ‘Outdoor Seating & Accessories for Tourism and Hospitality Business Scheme’.

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature in Capital Letters:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_