Repair & Renew Grant – Questions & Answers

1. How much is the grant worth

The grant is for a maximum of £5,000, however this maximum figure includes VAT (20%) and professional fees. Any costs over this level will have to be paid by the property owner, please see examples below.

Example 1

If the quotes you receive cost £3,250 and the surveyor who designed the flood resilience scheme charged £500 also not including VAT equates to a cost of £3,750 once you add VAT @ 20% this takes you to a total scheme cost of £4,500.

Example 2

If the quote you receive is for £4,250 with the same survey fees of £500 this equates to a cost of £4,750 plus VAT @ 20% this takes the total scheme cost to £5,700. In this example you as the property owner / applicant would have to contribute £700 from your own resources.

General Advice

We advise that any quotes you invite from contractors for the works please ask the firm to state whether the costs are inclusive or exclusive of VAT. Some builders (who are self-employed for example) may not be VAT registered.

2. Can I apply for the grant as a leaseholder?

Yes as a leaseholder (or tenant) you can apply directly but you must obtain the prior approval of the freeholder or their appointed landlord / managing agent.

3. How do I arrange for the required works to be undertaken?

There are 3 approaches to undertaking the works.

- You can organise the resilience works yourself if you wish. You should however, obtain 3 quotes to ensure value for money and retain copies for submission as part of the grant application process.
- You may choose to be part of a wider scheme (for example with neighbours).
- You may wish to ask the council to manage a scheme on your behalf. If you prefer this course of action the council will appoint a specialist surveyor to oversee the required works and then sign off the project when satisfactorily completed. The grant will then be awarded direct to the contractor who has undertaken the works.
4. Can I work with neighbours for a resilience scheme?

Yes, there are definite advantages of developing a collaborative scheme which may be more effective in the longer term and generate economies of scale. However, all properties involved in a collaborative scheme must have suffered flooding to the actual property. The council is appointing a specialist firm of surveyors to undertake site surveys, diagnostics and compile a recommended scheme of works that you may wish to use for your project.

5. My property was not actually flooded but my garden was.

Unfortunately this grant is only for resilience works for properties that suffered damage to the fabric of the building; “outbuildings and garden sheds” are not covered.

6. How can I get the grant?

This will depend on which approach you think is most suitable. If you project manage the scheme yourself or collaborate on a wider scheme where you should obtain x3 quotes and submit a grant application with the necessary paperwork on completion of the scheme. If you choose to invite the council to manage the scheme on your behalf we will pay the contractors directly.

7. What are the type of works and products that we should use

Please refer to Appendices 1 & 2 of the Application Form for details of the types of resilience measures that you may want to use and some approximate costs.

8. Is the grant available to all flooded properties?

This scheme is open to those business and residential properties that flooded between 1 December 2013 and 31 March 2014.

9. Can someone who owns multiple properties that were flooded apply for each one affected?

Yes the RRG is property not person specific; for example a housing association can seek support for all of the properties that were flooded, as the scheme will support both current and future tenants.