



**An Roinn
Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta**
**Department of
Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht**

11th March 2016

To each Local Authority Chief Executive Officer

Structures at Risk Fund 2016

A Chara

I wish to inform you that the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht is continuing the Structures at Risk Fund for 2016 with a total fund available of **€624,000**.

The purpose of the Structures at Risk Fund (SRF) is to assist with works to safeguard structures protected under the *Planning and Development Act 2000* (as amended); including works to proposed protected structures, and in certain cases, works to safeguard structures within Architectural Conservation Areas, where, in the opinion of the Department, an urgent need for works to such structures has arisen and has been demonstrated. Only structures in immediate danger of significant deterioration will qualify for consideration for funding by the Department.

The principal change for 2016 relates to the Irish Historic House in private ownership. An Action Plan for the Sustainable Future of the Irish Historic House was launched in December 2015 and sets out a roadmap of actions for this specific area of our architectural heritage. In total and on this basis €74,000 of the €624,000 being provided under the SRF will be allocated for the funding of the type of House covered by the action plan. Local Authorities are invited to include projects from such Houses if and as applicable.

Full details of the scheme are contained within **Circular SRF/2016 'Structures at Risk Fund'** which has been issued to all local authorities. The circular outlines the operation of the scheme and includes the relevant application forms. Please note that due to the limited capital resources available for the operation of the SRF (€624,000), the Department will consider no more than three applications per local authority. The Department will consider 2 applications per local authority (LA), only 1 of which may be a publicly-owned building. A third application can be made if it relates to an Irish Historic House in private ownership. Each local authority will also be asked to report on additional employment generated following the completion of each project.

The closing date for receipt of applications under the SRF to the Department is **4pm Friday 22nd April 2016**. Please note that where a project has not commenced by **Friday 9th September 2016**, the Department, following consultation with the relevant local authority, reserves the right to reallocate funding as it deems appropriate.

If you have further queries on this matter please contact the Built Heritage and Architectural Policy at Tel. or 01-888 2428, or email builtheritage@ahg.gov.ie

Yours sincerely

Martin Colreavy

Principal Officer/Advisor

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