

12 November 2015

To: The Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council

Re: Proposed Small and Medium Business Support Scheme 2016

Introduction

The proposed Small and Medium Business Support scheme will pay a financial support to occupiers of commercial properties with a total annual commercial rate bill of up to and including €10,000 but not less than €500 in 2016, subject to the Scheme being approved by Council.

The support payments, aimed specifically at small and medium-sized businesses, range between €65 and €350 depending on the annual cost of commercial rates for the rate paying applicant.

Payment Bands

The support payments are summarised in the following table.

Commercial Rate Invoices	Financial Support
From €500 to €1,500	€65
From €1,500 to €2,500	€110
From €2,501 to €4,000	€180
From €4,001 to €5,500	€225
From €5,501 to €7,000	€275
From €7,001 to €10,000	€350

Terms and conditions of the Scheme

Applicants must occupy a commercially rated property in Limerick which meets the following criteria:

- Total commercial rates invoice(s) must amount to a minimum of €500 and maximum amount of €10,000 in 2016.
- The Commercial Rates (including arrears) relating to the relevant account must be paid in full by 31st July 2016- this date applies if using any payment method other than Direct Debit.
- Applicants paying by Direct Debit are eligible provided the commercial rates account is paid in full by 31st December 2016.
- Applications must be made in writing to Small and Medium Business Support Scheme, Limerick City and County Council, Rates Department, Dooradoyle, Co. Limerick.

Exceptions

- Pipeline, Mast/Antenna, Generating Station, Advertising Station, Global Valuations and ATM.
- Accounts where the total commercial rates charge is less than €500
- Accounts where the total commercial rates charge is more than €10,000
- Vacant Property

The Council are asked to consider the adoption of the Small and Medium Business Support Scheme 2016 in accordance with Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended by Section 43 of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014.

Sean Coughlan

Acting Head of Finance