

Thatch Repair Grant Scheme 2023

Information

County Donegal is home to one of the largest surviving concentrations of thatch structures in Ireland. Our thatched buildings are one of the most iconic and enduring images of County Donegal. They lend character to our cultural landscapes; they are indicative of our sense of place, our traditional skills and our resourcefulness; they can be sensitively adapted to meet modern family demands; they invoke our diaspora and support our tourism industry. Despite their importance and potential, the loss of our thatched buildings, especially in recent years, has been considerable.

Donegal County Council recognises the contribution that thatched dwellings and outbuildings make to our built heritage, cultural landscape, employment, economy and tourism. The aims of the Thatch Repair Grant Scheme are to (i) provide specialist advice to owners on the conservation of their thatched structures; (ii) allocate funding for small-scale thatch repairs and associated works to vernacular buildings; and/or (iii) facilitate homeowners to undertake thatch repairs under conservation supervision.

Important note:

All sections of the form must be completed by the applicant.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

For further information:

Please contact Donegal County Council's Conservation Officer or Heritage Officer

E-mail: thatch@donegalcoco.ie

Telephone: (074) 915 3900



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council



**An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council**

*An Action of the County Donegal Heritage Plan
Funded by Donegal County Council & The Heritage Council*

The Small Print

1. There are two funding streams in this year's grant as follows:
 - **Stream 1** – thatch repair grant allocations between €500 - €3,000
 - **Stream 2** – re-thatching grant allocation up to a maximum of €15,000
(Please note that there will only be one award under the Stream 2 category and the thatched building must be a historic thatched structure which is of landscape, tourism, historical or cultural value to the county).
2. The application submission deadline is 12 Noon on Friday, April 21, 2023.

Applications can be submitted by e-mail to:
thatch@donegalcoco.ie

Application can also be sent by post or delivered in person to:
Thatch Repair Grant Scheme,
c/o Heritage Officer / Conservation Officer
Donegal County Council,
County House,
Lifford,
County Donegal.

3. All works must be completed by end of October 2023.
4. Recent front and rear photographs of your thatched property must be included with your application. Internal photographs of the roof timbers (where possible) would also be helpful. Photographs submitted will be used to shortlist thatched buildings for consideration for funding.
5. Please submit Eircode (or nearest Eircode), a site location map, Google screenshot or hand-drawn map to show the exact location of your thatched property.
6. Applications will be assessed under the following criteria:

Stream 1

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|---|------------------|
| ▪ Significance of historic thatch and/or thatching method and evidence of original building fabric | 40 marks |
| ▪ Essential repairs to safeguard the building | 20 marks |
| ▪ Appropriate nature of proposed repairs | 20 marks |
| ▪ Private investment/in-kind contribution by owner/occupier and commitment of owner as guardian of the building | 20 marks |
| Total | 100 marks |

Stream 2

| | |
|---|------------------|
| ▪ Significance of historic thatch and/or thatching method and evidence of original building fabric | 40 marks |
| ▪ Essential repairs to safeguard the building | 20 marks |
| ▪ Appropriate nature of proposed repairs | 20 marks |
| ▪ Contribution of the thatched property to landscape character, tourism, history and/or culture of the county | 20 marks |
| Total | 100 marks |
