



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

**COUNCIL CABINET**  
**5 APRIL 2005**

Report of the Director of Development and Cultural Services

## **Historic Buildings/Conservation Area Grants**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 To approve application for Historic Building Repair grant aid of up to £3926.00 (or 25% of the actual costs, whichever is the lesser) towards the cost of various repairs to the front elevation of Nos. 1 and 2 Vernon Street, subject to the following conditions:
1. Standard conditions
  2. Render repairs to be carried out using lime render, and the mix and finish to be agreed by the Council's Conservation Officer.
  3. Mix and finish for new sections of cornice of portico at No. 1 to be agreed by the Council's Conservation Officer.
  4. Metal grilles in risers of steps at Nos. 1 & 2 to be replaced to match the existing.
  5. Sample of new Hopton Wood limestone tread to be fitted on the bottom step at No. 2 to be agreed by the Council's Conservation Officer before repairs are carried out to ensure that it matches the original stone. Extent of any further step replacements to be agreed with the Council's Conservation Officer
  6. Extent of window repairs to be carried out to be agreed with the Council's Conservation Officer.
  7. All lead work to be to Lead Sheet Association standards.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 The offer of grant assistance will ensure that repair works to this listed building are carried out to a high standard and that they will help to preserve/enhance the special character of the listed buildings and also the Friar Gate Conservation Area.

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The properties are a grade II listed pair of rendered houses of circa 1840 contributing to the Regency street scene of villas along Vernon Street, and are located within the Friar Gate Conservation Area.

The properties have sash windows in moulded architraves and projecting Tuscan column porticos. Pilasters run through both storeys at each end of the elevations of the attached pair.

Both buildings are in need of basic render repair in sections of the front elevation and on the portico columns, and the portico cornices have sections missing that have crumbled away. There is a section of soffit missing on No. 2, and the sliding sash windows within both properties are starting to rot in sections. The limestone steps are cracked in places on both properties and need repair and replacement where necessary.

I have now received an application for a grant towards the cost of repairs to the porticos, steps, render, and windows of both of the above properties, which are in the ownership of one person, and repairs to the soffit of No. 2 Vernon Street. Competitive estimates have been submitted, the lowest of which amounts to £15,705 including VAT (the applicant is unable to recover VAT). A 25% grant would be £3,926.

#### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 None.

<b>For more information contact:</b>	Debbie Maltby 01332 255985 e-mail <a href="mailto:debbie.maltby@derby.gov.uk">debbie.maltby@derby.gov.uk</a>
<b>Background papers:</b>	Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
<b>List of appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 – Implications

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

- 1.1 The 2005/06 base budget for historic building grants is £40,000. The projected carry forward from 2004/05 for historic buildings grants is £8,604, with a potential further £24,095 which has been committed but not yet paid. Subject to Cabinet approval in the final revenue outturn statement this grant for £3,926 will be funded from the 2004/05 carry forward. If not approved it will be met from the 2005/06 budget.

**Legal**

- 2.1 The proposals can be funded under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

**Personnel**

- 3.1 None.

**Equalities impact**

- 4.1 None.

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 5.1 The grant aiding of repairs to historic buildings and buildings within Conservation Areas comes under the Council's Objectives of a great place to live and a sustainable environment, and the priority of improving the physical environment of our city and streets.