



HM Government

Hi!

BEDFORD

Newsletter 1 – October 2020



Historic England

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



BEDFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

BEDFORD HIGH STREET HERITAGE ACTION ZONE (HSHAZ)

Designed to:

- **Enhance the local heritage of Bedford High Street through physical interventions.**
- **Provide grant support for repairs and improvements to historic buildings.**
- **Support a diverse cultural programme, with a variety of courses, events and training opportunities.**

The HSHAZ is a nationwide initiative in the form of a grant programme, run by Historic England on behalf of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government with a contribution from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Bedford was selected as one of the 68 towns across the UK to receive a share of the grant to facilitate the four-year HSHAZ programme.

The programme is designed to encourage partnerships with local organisations, building owners and occupiers to secure lasting improvements to buildings and the public realm. Combined with traffic calming measures the appearance and air quality of the High Street will improve, making the Town a more desirable place to live and work, whilst increasing the awareness of Bedford's heritage, for the benefit of local people, businesses and visitors.



The Turnley Fountain (c1870, © Bedford Museum Collection)

HSHAZ OBJECTIVES

To make the High Street a more attractive place to live, work and enjoy leisure activities through the application of the following measures:

- **Undertaking physical works to buildings;** including repairs, reinstatement of lost architectural features and shop fronts. Supporting the conversion of historic buildings for new uses.
- **Facilitating cultural activities and events celebrating the history of the High Street** whilst giving people a key role in activities to decide what they want to see happening in their town centre and what sort of place they want it to become.
- **Reduce the impact of traffic in the High Street** and improve the local environment to increase economic activities and footfall in the town centre as part of the 'Transporting Bedford' programme.

BEFORE / AFTER

80A and 82 High Street, Bedford



GRANT FUNDING WHAT WILL BE FUNDED?

The HAZ team has undertaken several surveys on High Street properties to gain a comprehensive overview of their condition and the cost implications related to building repairs and / or reinstatement of historic architectural features. 43 properties, highlighted in the map on the opposite side, have been identified to be eligible to receive grant support for the works listed below:

- **Reinstatement of traditional shopfronts.**
- **Conversion of vacant floor space for retail and / or residential use.**
- **Repair and reinstatement of architectural details to the facade of buildings.**
- **Undertaking structural works to help achieve these improvements.**



GRANT RATES

- **80% of the cost of reinstatement of external original architectural features; sash windows, shopfronts etc.**
- **70% of the costs of the repair of: brickwork including repointing and tiling, gutter repairs, roofing works etc.**
- **Conversion of upper floors. Individually calculated using viability assessment (for further details please contact the team).**

HAZ – CULTURAL PROGRAMME

The HSHAZ Educational and Cultural Programme



119–121 High Street

The HSHAZ and Cultural teams are currently developing an Educational and Cultural Programme for the four-year period.

Offering opportunities to participate in a variety of events and courses in the form of talks, taster sessions, workshops, lectures, public events, art projects and installations etc.

Giving local communities, schools, students, contractors, local building & business owners, residents and visitors the chance to learn new skills and increase their knowledge of Bedford High Street and its rich and diverse history and architecture.

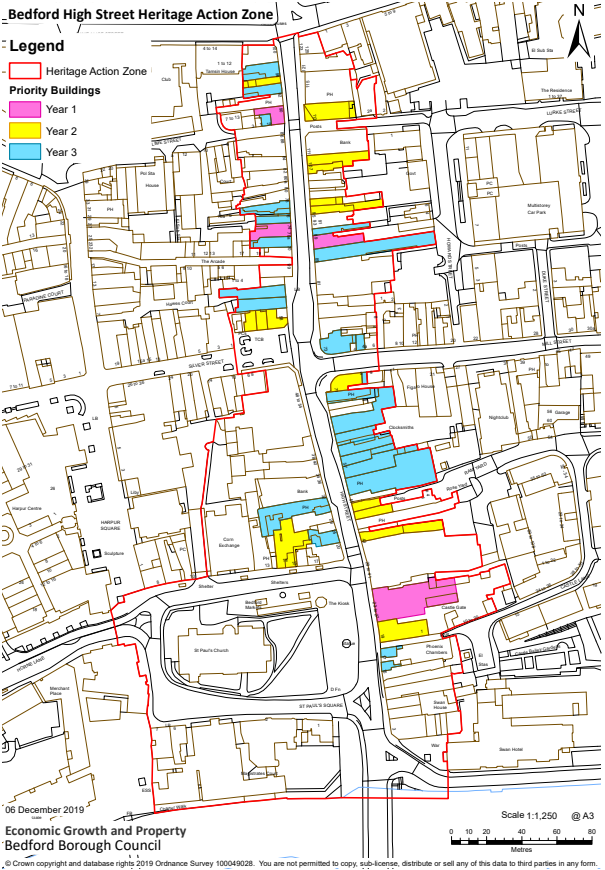


BedfordBID
Business Improvement District
Funded by Town Centre Businesses



SEMLEP
South East Midlands
Local Enterprise Partnership

MAP OF PRIORITY PROPERTIES WITHIN THE HSHAZ BOUNDARY



For more information

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