

Eligibility criteria ARG Vacant Retail Unit

- The leased premises must be in the Staffordshire Moorlands area
- The premises must be a commercial retail property that has a NNDR Business Rate listing. This includes premises that qualify for Small Business Rate Relief
- The premises must be vacant at the time of agreeing the lease
- The tenant must have no personal interest in the property directly or through a company or reside with any person with an interest in the property
- Applicants must have been trading as a business for a minimum of 3 months
- The lease must be sealed, premises occupied and the business rate listing updated before applying for the grant (if tenant is responsible for rates)
- The nature of the business must be fully compatible with the existing planning use of the new unit
- Businesses from financial and legal services (including banks, solicitors, accountants and wealth management firms) and betting companies are ineligible.
- A copy of the lease will be required and evidence of other costs applied for (invoice or quotation)
- Businesses that already occupy a shop are eligible if the purpose is for expansion i.e. the new unit is in addition to current premises, or the new unit will offer significant increase in retail space (30%).
- Existing retailers that are relocating for other reasons, will be considered at the discretion of officers but the Council will not accept applicants who are relocating purely to access grant funding.
- Closing date for applications 28 Feb 2022

As part of the application process you will need to provide the following documents/information

- A copy of the premises lease
- Current premises lease if expanding/relocating
- Business bank account statement from the past 3 months that matches the bank account the grant will be paid into

Example:

Lease £5,000 p.a. exc VAT. Application maximum 50% of annual lease =£2,500 + £1,000 grant contribution for set up costs. Grant £3,500

Lease £8,000 p.a. exc Vat. Application maximum 50% of annual lease =£4,000 + £1,000 grant contribution for set up costs. Grant £5,000