

Lottery funds groundbreaking approach to conservation skills training

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Artist's impression of the exterior of the Engine Shed conservation centre

Historic buildings, whether they are castles or crofts, banks or boutiques, need specialist skills and knowledge to keep them from falling into neglect. The Engine Shed will be Scotland's first National Conservation Centre dedicated to providing the necessary skills to tackle this issue.

Engine *n.* - something that supplies the driving force or energy to a movement, system, or trend. It's appropriate then that the historic 'Engine Shed' building in Stirling is to become the driving force behind the conservation of Scotland's vast built heritage.

It will be a centre of excellence where:

- Young people will be taught traditional skills
- Tradesmen and professionals will use it to keep their skills up-to-date while sharing knowledge and finding out about the latest research
- Events, exhibitions and activities will encourage the general public to maintain historic buildings
- Pioneering research and techniques such as digital scanning will be developed

“The Engine Shed is a visionary project. It will be a beacon for Scotland’s old buildings encouraging and training people to care for them so that they are kept safe for future generations.”
– Colin McLean, Head of HLF Scotland.

HLF has long championed the value of nurturing skills. Learning skills not only makes a big difference to the person’s own life but helps maintain our heritage and the economy as a whole. In Scotland alone, HLF has invested over £9.7m in skills projects creating 390 training placements and 120 short term training courses. The Engine Shed will help equip even more people with the high-quality skills needed to safeguard our heritage.



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[**Engine Shed receives green light with final funding bid**](#)