

Tarbert, one of eight Scottish places developing heritage driven regeneration.

Heritage can be a powerful force to drive successful regeneration projects and ensure local people are involved and engaged from the outset.

For the first time, we have joined forces with Historic Environment Scotland (HES) to support heritage driven regeneration plans in communities across the nation.

Together we've awarded £863,050 of development funding – of which just over half comes from the Heritage Fund – to eight projects.

Careers kickstarted by regeneration

Apprentice stonemason Jordan Docherty found his career as a result of our funding towards regeneration in Govan, Glasgow.

Jordan said: “Old buildings interest me, so I’ve always had an interest in old stonework. This job is probably one of the best things to happen to me.”

Jordan’s career is an example of how transforming places can benefit local people. This in turn will boost the pride of a community and attract businesses and visitors.



Two men wearing orange hi-viz vests and white safety helmets looking down towards the camera from scaffolding.

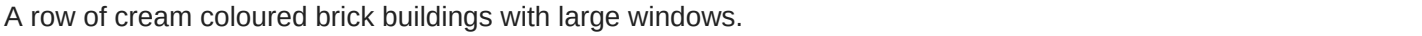
Apprentice Stonemason Jordan Docherty and colleague Stevie Pollock

Heritage sits at the heart of a place’s identity, adding depth, character and value. It helps connect people and communities to a place and boosts local economic prosperity.

Caroline Clark, Heritage Fund Director for Scotland

Eight communities funded

This first phase of funding will support high-quality sustainable development plans for the eight areas over the next 12 months, with the potential for up to a further £19.8million from HES and the Heritage Fund to deliver the projects.



A row of cream coloured brick buildings with large windows.

Regeneration will focus on Buckhaven’s built heritage

Buckhaven, Fife Council (£170,000)

To restore built heritage within Buckhaven, plus work to improve public spaces and activity to share with the community.

Girvan, South Ayrshire Council (£170,000)

To research, interpret, educate and celebrate the heritage of Girvan. To protect and repair the town’s historic buildings and stimulate economic regeneration.

Airdrie, North Lanarkshire Council (£150,000)



A footballer in a long white shirt and heavy work boots takes a penalty kick.

The first recorded penalty kick was taken in Airdrie

To transform the town centre and the local economy, establishing Airdrie as a vibrant place and a centre for creativity, culture, enterprise and learning.

Govan, Glasgow City Council (£87,900)

This will be the next phase of restoration in Govan’s built heritage, with a focus on bringing disused sites back into sustainable use.

Aberdeen, Aberdeen City Council (£86,350)



A view of Aberdeen City Centre. In the middle of the picture in large metal letters is a street art sculpture of the wor

Aberdeen City Centre

To regenerate the east end of Union Street where the area has deteriorated due to empty premises and a lack of investment.

Tarbert, Argyll & Bute Council (£80,000)

To create new economic opportunities, supporting local businesses and increasing tourism. To protect the unique character of this fishing village and provide better routes for young people to stay in the area.

Forres, Moray Council (£66,000)

To protect the distinctive historic character and attractiveness of Forres. Taking steps to green the conservation area and to connect those spaces with local parks.

Granton Waterfront, The City of Edinburgh Council (£52,800)

To rescue, preserve and enhance a range of 'B' and 'C' listed built heritage assets within the Granton Waterfront area and provide training opportunities in traditional building skills.

Creating a vibrant, sustainable future for towns

Susan O’Connor, Head of Grants at HES, said: “I'm incredibly excited to see the plans develop over the next 12 months to help contribute to a vibrant and sustainable future for each of these eight places.”

Caroline Clark, The National Lottery Heritage Fund Director for Scotland, said: “Heritage sits at the heart of a place’s identity, adding depth, character and value. It helps connect people and communities to a place and boosts local economic prosperity.

“By working jointly with HES we have been able to double the support offered to these communities.”

Find out about our commitment to regenerating places

Read our guide on what to consider when planning a place-based project involving heritage buildings.



School children take part in the Bradford Book Project



rated and shared thanks to local knowledge



Thriving Places