

Exterior of Paisley Museum, an impressive stone building

The story of the globally-recognised paisley pattern is to be told in a world-class visitor destination in the town which gave it its name.

With the help of players from The National Lottery, Paisley Museum will receive a £4.9million grant. All four of its buildings will be redesigned to allow 100% more items to be displayed in engaging, modern surroundings while a new café and shop will add to the visitor experience.

Driving regeneration

The revamped museum is forecast to attract 125,000 visits a year – almost four times current numbers – and create a £72m economic boost over 30 years.

It is also expected to support 138 jobs during the construction phase, and the equivalent of 42 new permanent jobs after that, through increased visitor spend.

The museum plans are part of a wider investment in Paisley's cultural infrastructure already under way with a publicly-accessible museum store to open later this year in a vacant basement on the town's High Street, and a new learning and cultural hub to be built close by.

Renfrewshire Council leader, Iain Nicolson, said: “The museum plans are central to our wider vision to transform the town’s future by harnessing the power of Paisley’s internationally-significant heritage and cultural story.

[quote=Iain Nicholson, Renfrewshire Council Leader]"The museum plans are central to our wider vision to transform the town’s future"[/quote]

“We know the town centre has its challenges but the way people shop has changed forever – so we have to create new life and new footfall by finding new ways to bring people into the town.

“Paisley can do that by making the most of the unique selling point that is our heritage and textile story – and the museum revamp, along with the museum store due to open this year and the new library will drive new footfall to our high street.

Seona Reid, Deputy Chair of HLF and Chair of the Scotland Committee, said: “I know how much this project means to Paisley and its people. It’s vital to the great strides that are being made in revitalising the town, using its history and industrial heritage as the building blocks. I am delighted that thanks to players of the National Lottery, we are able to give our initial support to a project which will transform the museum and give Paisley’s internationally-important textiles and other collections the prominence they deserve.”

UK City of Culture 2021

Paisley is the only Scottish place on the UK City of Culture shortlist and is joined by Coventry, Stoke, Sunderland and Swansea, with the winner to be announced in December.



Improved shopfronts in Paisley funded through the HLF Townscape Heritage scheme



toration project

Rediscovered secondary waterfall on Glen Path at Rouken Glen Park, Giffnock, East Renfrewshire

Party at Rouken Glen Park