



HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD EACHDRAIDHEIL ALBA

HES Grants Funding Report 2023-24

On behalf of the Scottish Government, Historic Environment Scotland grant aids projects that promote and protect the historic environment, and relate to Scotland's tangible and intangible heritage.



We spent

£13.76m



We were asked for

£23.74m



Every £ of HES funding supports another

£3.92 of spending in Scotland's historic environment



74% of our funding goes towards capital and archaeology projects



We funded **341** organisations involved in heritage over the last 6 years



We spent **£2.53** on heritage for each person in Scotland

6.34% of our grants awarded was spent on projects in the lowest 20% SIMD



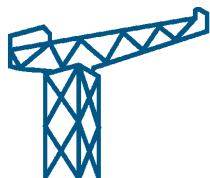
26% of applications mentioned wellbeing

74% of applications to us were submitted by charities



62% of applications referenced the climate crisis

In the first year of our new HEG programme, we received 202 Expressions of Interest & 98 Applications. Our application success rate is 40%.



Glasgow is our most-funded Local Authority

We have committed **£1.74m** on programmes with a skills focus over the last year



We funded more **churches** than any other building type in the past six years

You can find out if your project is likely to be eligible for our funding by checking our Funding Priorities, or by submitting our Expression of Interest form. Both of these are available from our website: www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding



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We spend our funding on a wide range of Scottish heritage, from brochs and bothies, to towns, turrets and towers. Below are some examples of where we have invested this year.

Pier View Cottage, Tiree



Image © Jo Vale

Thatched roofs were once widely spread across much of Scotland, and we grant aid surviving thatched properties when they are due for repair or renewal to preserve the traditional skillset, materials and heritage. This property on Tiree was awarded a grant to rethatch using locally-harvested materials.

Aberdeen City Heritage Trust



Image © Aberdeen CHT

Aberdeen City Heritage Trust has been working for twenty years to improve the condition of the city's built heritage. In partnership with Aberdeen City Council our funding has supported over 300 capital projects and a supplementary education programme since 2004.

Crown of Thorns, Linlithgow



Image © Images Above Ltd

St Michael's Parish Church, Linlithgow received a Grant to support the restoration of its iconic 1960s Crown of Thorns spire. Involving both repairs to the timber structure and renewal of the exterior cladding, these works preserve the spire's iconic presence in the skyline for generations to come.

Voices from the Lost Village, East Ayrshire



Image © David Gordon, East Ayrshire Council

This project was designed to capture the oral histories of people who lived in the 'Row Villages' of the East Ayrshire coalfields. Local groups in Ayrshire received training in capturing oral history, followed by recording the interviews in audio and film. These testimonies were archived to preserve their history and local traditions for future generations.

Scatness Broch, Shetland



Image © Crown Copyright: HES

We have provided grants for archaeology projects including post-excavation publications. 'Excavations at Old Scatness, Shetland Volume 3: The post-medieval Township' was grant-aided in order to provide further understanding of the Broch at Scatness.

Union Chain Bridge, Fishwick



Image © Crown Copyright: HES

Spanning the River Tweed, grant support enabled the repair and conservation of this bridge. The Union Bridge was the first road suspension bridge constructed in the UK. The repair works secure the future of the structure for at least 120 years, continuing its role as a critical crossing point over the border with England.

Pandemic & Covid Recovery

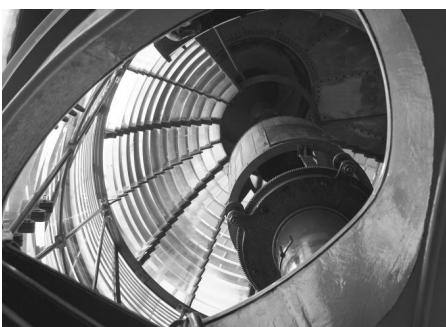


Image © RCAHMS

We established the Covid Recovery Fund in 2020, through which we funded 41 projects with urgent requirements as a result of the pandemic.

The fund was available to heritage organisations to help them address their immediate needs relating to re-opening to the public; protecting jobs, capacity and skills; and enabling

organisations to undertake planning to regain longer-term financial sustainability and adapt to new ways of working.

At Ardnamurchan Lighthouse, we funded urgent repair works required to allow the reopening of the former lighthouse keepers cottage, so that this building could once again be operated as a visitor centre and museum.