



# *News Release*

May 2015

## **BUILDING REPAIR GRANT SCHEME LAUNCHES IN CUPAR**

An event has been arranged for property owners and occupiers in the Cupar Conservation Area to promote the opportunities available from the new building repair grant scheme.

Attendees will have the chance to speak to the team about the scheme at a drop in event that will take place at County Buildings in Cupar on Wednesday 27 May from 3pm to 7pm.

The scheme is funded by Historic Scotland and the Heritage Lottery Fund through the Cupar Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) and Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) programme.

A grant pot of approximately £560,000 is available for properties within a designated area at the heart of the Cupar Conservation Area, which includes St Catherine Street and part of Bonnygate and Crossgate. Grants can support sensitive repairs to historic buildings using traditional materials and skills, as well as the reinstatement of appropriate architectural details such as improvements to historic shop fronts.

Depute Council Leader Lesley Laird, spokesperson for Economy and Planning said: "Cupar has a superb architectural heritage, reflected in its many listed historic buildings and large Conservation Area. These historic buildings need regular care and attention. This grant scheme is designed to help property owners and occupiers to repair and conserve the historic fabric and traditional appearance of their buildings."

A range of activities will be delivered in parallel with the grant scheme, including traditional skills training for local contractors, events and training for homeowners, and free energy efficiency audits for historic properties within the Cupar Conservation Area.

Those who can't make the event but would like to know more should contact Fife Historic Buildings Trust on (01592) 890060 or email [fiona@fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk](mailto:fiona@fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk) for more information or to request a grant pack.

## Did you know?

- This scheme is operated by Fife Council and Fife Historic Buildings Trust. It is core funded jointly by Historic Scotland, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Fife Council through the Cupar Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) and Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) programme.
- Cupar Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) and Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) is operated by Fife Council and Fife Historic Buildings Trust, and core funded jointly by Historic Scotland, the Heritage Lottery Fund, and Fife Council. The five-year CARS/THI programme, which runs until March 2019, will deliver a number of elements: priority building projects, a building repair grant scheme, public realm improvements to Cupar streets and closes, and training, apprenticeships and community engagement.
- Using money raised through the National Lottery, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) sustains and transforms a wide range of heritage for present and future generations to take part in, learn from and enjoy. From museums, parks and historic places to archaeology, natural environment and cultural traditions, it invests in every part of our diverse heritage. To date it has invested over £588million in Scotland's heritage.
- HLF's Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) encourages partnerships of local organisations to carry out repairs and other works to a number of historic buildings, structures or spaces. Grants range from £500,000 to £2m. To date, HLF has invested over £214m regenerating towns that have suffered serious social and economic decline.
- Historic Scotland's Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) provides financial assistance, over a five year period, for Conservation Area based regeneration and conservation initiatives undertaken by Local and National Park Authorities, community groups and other 3rd sector organisations experienced in delivering multi-funded projects. Since 2005, there have been six CARS application rounds awarding £33m of Scottish Government investment.