



# *News Release*

February 2017

## **WORK BEGINS ON THE ICONIC CUPAR BURGH CHAMBERS**



Construction work is now underway to transform the iconic Cupar Burgh Chambers building into a unique holiday let apartment, giving it a new lease of life.

The Burgh Chambers is a key project within the Cupar Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) and Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) programme which is managed by Fife Historic Buildings Trust working with Fife Council. The design team for the Burgh Chambers is led by Cupar-based Arc Architects, and the main contractor is Fife firm John Smart & Sons (Kirkcaldy) Ltd.

Christine May, Chair of Fife Historic Buildings Trust, said: "We are very pleased to be working with Fife Council to deliver this landmark project. It's a great example of how a building can be given a new lease of life through careful repairs to the historic fabric and by sympathetically adapting the

interior for a new use. We are also delighted that traditional skills training for young people, apprentices and local contractors will take place during the construction phase.”

David Grove, Lead Officer Town Centre Development, Fife Council added: “This project will provide the Burgh Chambers with a sustainable new use that will contribute to the social and economic life of the town centre and provide an income stream for the future maintenance of the building. Fife Council is keen to hear from any organisations or individuals who would be interested in managing the holiday let once the works are finished, which is expected to be in the autumn.”

## ENDS

### Note to editors

- 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 Environment 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 Environment 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.

### Further information

- Heritage Lottery Fund: Website [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk) Twitter: @heritagelottery
- Fife Historic Buildings Trust: Website [www.fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk](http://www.fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk)

**Contact:** Fife Council communications team (01592) 583312