

News Release

May 2019

INVERKEITHING HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS AND MSPS RECEIVE MINI-MASTERCLASSES IN TRADITIONAL BUILDING SKILLS



Sixteen second year pupils from Inverkeithing High School took part in traditional buildings skills taster sessions outside the Scottish Parliament yesterday. This was the first of many heritage learning opportunities for the pupils over the next five years as part of the upcoming Inverkeithing Heritage Regeneration programme. This five-year programme was recently awarded over £1 million by Historic Environment Scotland through their Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) and will be managed by Fife Historic Buildings Trust in partnership with Fife Council. A further bid for match funding has also been made to the National Lottery Heritage Fund's Townscape Heritage (TH) funding programme.

The traditional building skills demonstrations, part of Construction Scotland's Inspiring Construction programme, took place on Tuesday 28 May and Wednesday 29 May, led by the Scottish Traditional Building Forum.

Activities included roof slating, stonemasonry, decorative plastering, painting and decorating, and infrared scanning.

Ben Saunders, Principal Teacher of Community Connections and Partnerships at Inverkeithing High School said: "This was a great introduction for our pupils to potential careers in the construction and heritage sectors. It was a really interesting afternoon and one that the pupils and I really enjoyed."

Fiona Stenke, Project Officer at Fife Historic Buildings said: "It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm of the pupils and of the craftspeople leading the demonstrations. We look forward to working closely with Inverkeithing High School and partners such as the Scottish Traditional Building Forum over the next five years through the Inverkeithing Heritage Regeneration programme."



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Notes to editors

- This event was to highlight the importance of encouraging traditional building skills in Scotland. The Scottish Traditional Building Forum is made up of a network of local traditional building forums with representatives across the supply chain. The forums have local representation who work together to raise the profile of specific issues relating to traditional buildings and building practices.
- The Inverkeithing Heritage Regeneration programme will see a £3.6 million investment in Inverkeithing's town centre. The programme will be managed by Fife Historic Buildings Trust and Fife Council and core funded by Historic Environment Scotland, Fife Council, and (subject to a successful funding bid) the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The five-year programme, which will run until March 2024, will deliver a number of elements: the repair and redevelopment of the Town House, a building repair grant scheme, public realm improvements to the High Street, and training, apprenticeships and community engagement.

- Historic Environment Scotland's Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) programme can offer grant to support cohesive heritage-focused community and economic growth projects within Conservation Areas across Scotland. The CARS funding programme has been in operation since 2007 with over £40m awarded to date. Applications for Round 8 were accepted up to 15 November 2018. Applicants were notified funding decisions in March 2019.

Further information:

- Fife Historic Buildings Trust: www.fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk
- Scottish Traditional Building Forum: <http://stbf.org.uk/>