



14 August 2023

NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND SECURES OVER £1 MILLION FUNDING FOR BUILDINGS CONSERVATION WORK

- **The charity will receive £1,062,000 from the Historic Environment Scotland Partnership Fund**

Scotland's largest conservation charity, the National Trust for Scotland, has been awarded £1,062,000 from Historic Environment Scotland's (HES) Partnership Fund to allow it to conduct vital conservation work across its built heritage properties, while gaining a deeper understanding of the structures and their requirements.

With over 100 places across Scotland, through the support of the funding the charity will undertake a programme of conservation maintenance at numerous sites around the country, utilise technology to delve more deeply into its built structures, and invest in further training and skills development.

This will include a variety of work throughout Scotland – from thatch repairs at Culloden, through to repairing glasshouses and garden structures, property maintenance, structure repair works, such as the tower at the House of the Binns, repairs to garden walls and structures, and more.

The funding will cover works up to a value of £75,000, focussing on the most urgent repairs and conservation of the Trust's buildings, and will contribute to larger projects, for instance, the conservation of inset carved stonework at Fyvie Castle.

Over the past year, the buildings team at the Trust has undertaken a range of work to conserve and protect its built heritage, in part funded through a £250,000 Annual Repair Grant secured from HES last year. This included replacing the lead flat roof covering on the House of the Binns, as part of a wider project team working to reopen the property to the public earlier this year, for the first time since before the Covid 19 pandemic; an investment of over £100,000 in a number of projects at Falkland Palace to restore the stunning Renaissance building's stonework and undertake decorative conservation work; careful conservation of 17th century painted ceilings at Crathes Castle; and limewashing the exterior of Balnain House.

The buildings team not only focus on the castles, houses and palaces in the Trust's care, but also the built structures in the many gardens it looks after. In the last year the charity has invested over £57,000 in a major refurbishment of the large glasshouse at Malleny Garden, on the outskirts of Edinburgh, with further investment planned

through the Partnership Fund grant to restore the second glasshouse within the grounds.

The Partnership Fund will also provide support for a training programme that the National Trust for Scotland will deliver to upskill members of staff across the Trust, providing a wider understanding of how the team can contribute to the conservation and maintenance of the charity's buildings.

Sarah MacKinnon, Head of Building Conservation at the National Trust for Scotland, said: "As set out in the Trust's 10-year strategy, *Nature, Beauty and Heritage for Everyone*, we are committed to the conservation, repair and maintenance of our historic buildings. Through funding from organisations like HES we can continue to carry out the vital work we do and invest the time, care and expertise required in our buildings. Looking after over 100 places throughout the country means there's no shortage of work to be done to care for and preserve the assets in our care. We are incredibly grateful to our supporters, donors, volunteers and members, who allow us to carry out our vital work and ensure we can continue to safeguard some of Scotland's most important and valued historic buildings for generations to come."

Susan O'Connor, Head of Grants at HES, said: "I am delighted that our Partnership Fund will help to support the Trust's ambitions. Scotland is home to a vast amount of heritage assets – from castles and palaces to historic houses – which are hugely important to communities up and down the country. We welcome the Trust's efforts to explore new ways to understand and care for these places and I very much look forward to seeing the work unfold as the project progresses."

For more information on the National Trust for Scotland, please visit www.nts.org.uk.

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Notes to editors

Accompanying high resolution imagery can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/PFGann>.

For more information, imagery or interview requests please contact Muckle Media on nts@mucklemedia.co.uk or call 0131 228 9713.

About the National Trust for Scotland

Established in 1931, the National Trust for Scotland is Scotland's largest conservation charity and cares for, shares and speaks up for Scotland's magnificent heritage.

Over the last 90 years the Trust has pioneered public access to and shared ownership of some of the most magnificent buildings, collections and landscapes in Scotland. It cares for more than 100 sites, from ancient houses to battlefields, castles, mills, gardens, coastlines, islands, mountain ranges and the plants and animals which depend upon them.

In March 2022 the National Trust for Scotland launched *Nature, Beauty & Heritage for Everyone*, its ten-year strategy which sets out the ambitions of the charity over the coming decade. From speaking up for Scotland's heritage which doesn't have a voice, to improving the lives and wellbeing of people across the country, and responding to the climate and biodiversity crisis, the Trust will build on its work in recent years to grow its impact and conserve and restore more of Scotland's heritage, as it moves towards its centenary in 2031.

Scotland's largest membership organisation, the National Trust for Scotland relies on the support of its members and donors to carry out its important work.

For more information on the National Trust for Scotland visit www.nts.org.uk.

The National Trust for Scotland is a charity registered in Scotland, Charity Number SC 007410.

About Historic Environment Scotland

For further information on the HES Partnership Fund, visit:

<https://www.historicenvironment.scot/grants-and-funding/our-grants/partnership-fund/>

About Historic Environment Scotland

1. [Historic Environment Scotland](#) (HES) is the lead public body charged with caring for, protecting and promoting the historic environment. HES is also the lead on delivering Scotland's first strategy for the historic environment, Our Place in Time.
- Historic Scotland, Scran, Canmore, The National Collection of Aerial Photography (NCAP), The Engine Shed, Stirling Castle and Edinburgh Castle are sub-brands of Historic Environment Scotland.
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