

# Our Future in the Past

Historic Environment Strategy for Falkirk 2018



**Falkirk Council**

*Development Services*



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# Foreword

Our area has a fantastically interesting and varied historic environment consisting of many different kinds of historic artefacts, sites and buildings; many of these sites and buildings are nationally important.

Our area was the location of two of Scotland's most significant battlefields; the Battle of Falkirk in 1298 during the First War of Scottish Independence and the Battle of Falkirk Muir during the Jacobite rising in 1746 which have helped to shape our sense of national identity.

This strategy document, developed with stakeholders and the wider community, sets out the Council's ambitions to value and promote our historic assets.

The strategy recognises the various challenges facing us such as economic pressures and a changing climate but also acknowledges the huge potential of the historic environment to capture the imagination of our communities and boost our local economy through increased tourism. Through successful partnership working in the future, we plan to bring about enhanced promotion, appreciation, protection and better understanding of our historic sites.

Councillor Robert Spears  
Portfolio Holder for Culture, Leisure and Tourism  
Falkirk Council

Battle of Falkirk Muir Heritage Trail



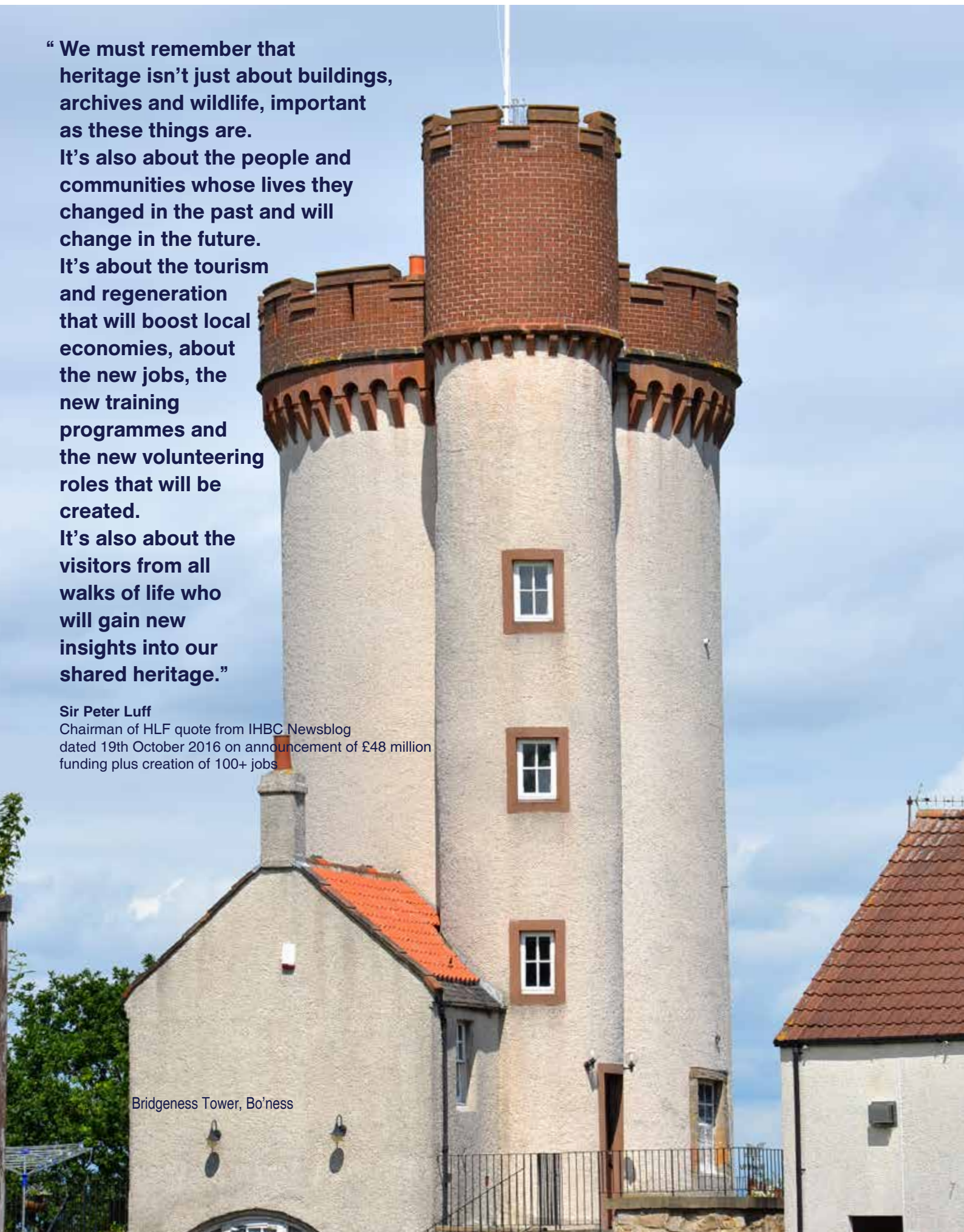


**“ We must remember that heritage isn’t just about buildings, archives and wildlife, important as these things are. It’s also about the people and communities whose lives they changed in the past and will change in the future. It’s about the tourism and regeneration that will boost local economies, about the new jobs, the new training programmes and the new volunteering roles that will be created. It’s also about the visitors from all walks of life who will gain new insights into our shared heritage.”**

**Sir Peter Luff**

Chairman of HLF quote from IHBC Newsblog dated 19th October 2016 on announcement of £48 million funding plus creation of 100+ jobs

Bridgeness Tower, Bo’ness





# Executive Summary

The Falkirk Council area has a dynamic and successful history, spanning from Roman occupation and territorial disputes with the English to becoming the engine room of Scotland's industrial might.

Our historic environment is a tangible legacy of this rich past, comprising a variety of historic assets, including part of a transnational world heritage site to a variety of listed buildings, scheduled monuments, archaeological treasures, historic landscapes and battlefields.

The previous Built Heritage Strategy, adopted in March 2006, recognised the benefits of conserving and protecting the local historic environment; a programme of actions was promoted which reflected outstanding commitments from the Council's Structure and Local Plans at that time. Although many proposed actions in the 2006 strategy have been achieved, the changed context, with its new opportunities and challenges, demands the re-focussing of our priorities. Collaborative working with partners together with greater empowerment of our communities are suggested key delivery tools for this new strategy.

"Our Future in the Past" Historic Environment Strategy for Falkirk 2018 - 2023 will continue to deliver successful outcomes for the historic environment of the Falkirk Council area, by achieving the vision for 2034 as set out in the Local Development Plan 2015:

*"Overall, our built heritage will be valued and promoted as an asset to a greater degree than at present. The Antonine Wall will be recognised as an exemplar of World Heritage Site management. Historic buildings at risk will have been sensitively restored and brought back into use. There will be wider recognition of the value of historic gardens and designed landscapes, and the area's battlefield sites."*

The following themes have been identified which shape a series of proposed priority actions which are set out in the Action Plan; these themes are in part derived from key priorities set out in the Scottish Government's national strategy for the historic environment: Our Place in Time, The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland 2014:

- Effective Management and Protection;
- Enhancement of Knowledge;
- Knowledge Sharing;
- Increased Access;
- Sustainable Use of Assets;
- Growing Skills;
- Community Involvement;
- Increased Appreciation.

Accordingly, this strategy provides an updated vision for the historic environment of the Falkirk Council area, supported by a framework of themes and priority actions for the promotion, management, appreciation, protection and better understanding of our historic sites and assets throughout the next five years and beyond.

Antonine Wall, Roughcastle





Carron Ironworks circa 1890  
© Falkirk Archives



# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 The Historic Environment of Falkirk

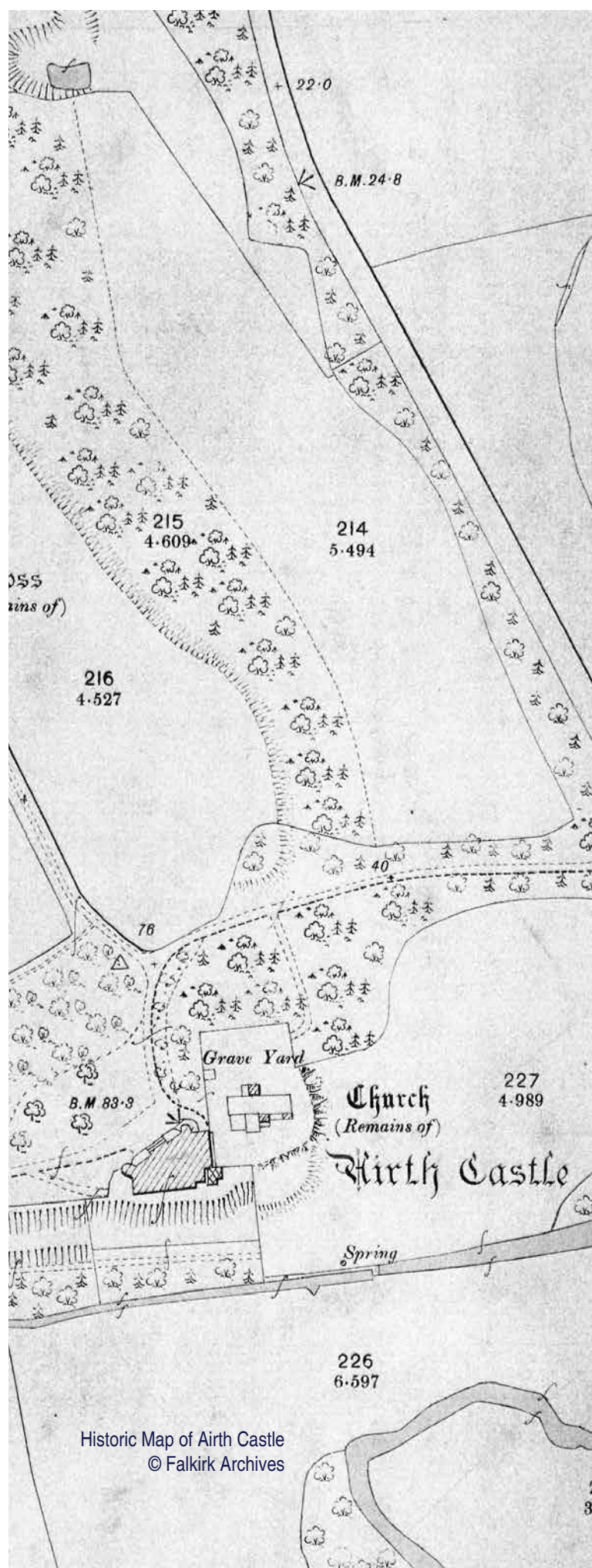
The Falkirk Council area is situated at the heart of Central Scotland and its road and rail network. While Falkirk constitutes the main centre for support services and administration, a network of towns and villages set within diverse landscapes provide distinctive places for the population of 160,130 (2017) to visit, live and work.

The Falkirk Council area has a unique historic environment, reflecting its long settlement history and its strategic location. It is the location of two of Scotland's most significant battlefields: the Battle of Falkirk in 1298 during the First War of Scottish Independence and the Battle of Falkirk Muir during the Jacobite rising in 1746. It was a rich and important agricultural area, hosting the huge Tryst cattle market in former times; it was changed dramatically by the industrial revolution. The production of iron, which harnessed the power of the River Carron, started in 1760. The Forth and Clyde Canal constructed in the 1790's and the Union Canal dating from 1820's brought industry to the area.

As a result of this proud history, the local historic environment consists of a wide range of architectural, cultural, historic and archaeological assets and sites which provide us with some of our most distinctive and well-loved places; these historic assets contribute to the local economy and tourism.

The historic environment of Falkirk relates as much to the future of the Falkirk Council area as it does to its past. This strategy will ensure that the historic environment is embedded in corporate strategy as a catalyst for future growth and creation of successful places. We can stimulate better place making through encouraging development which is sympathetic to our historic environment and by properly looking after our historic assets and sites. Improved place making promotes inward investment and encourages greater economic activity. Falkirk's historic environment enriches the character and appearance of the area, and contributes to the current vision that national planning policy NPF3 and SPP have set out for Scotland as a place that is successful and sustainable, low carbon, naturally resilient and connected.

Given the current environment of reduced public funding and shrinking resources, partnership working with other organisations and the community will be required to achieve results. An holistic and collaborative approach to place making will be integral to future projects and initiatives that impact on the historic environment.



## 1.2 Statutory Designations

Many historic sites and assets benefit from statutory designation which protects Scotland's historic environment through planning legislation and process. Planning Authorities are required to consult Historic Environment Scotland on development proposals affecting historic sites with statutory designation. The national and local policy context is set out in detail in section 4.0.

Falkirk's statutorily designated sites are as follows:

**1 World Heritage Site**, The Antonine Wall, is part of the transnational Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site. The Wall extends across Scotland for 37 miles, from Old Kilpatrick in West Dunbartonshire to Carriden in Bo'ness; it provides the largest and most important concentration of archaeological interest in the council area including sections of the wall itself, forts and camps.

**89 Scheduled Monuments** range from constituent and ancillary parts of the Antonine Wall such as ramparts, forts, fortlets and camps to domestic and defensive prehistoric sites, ecclesiastical sites, castles, dovecots and canals. After the Antonine Wall, the next most important archaeological sites are the Roman forts at Camelon and the associated temporary camps (one of the largest such concentrations in the world). The Forth and Clyde, and Union Canals are important legacies of the area's industrial past. These were restored to navigation under the Millennium Link project.

**352 listed buildings and structures** include a rich mix of type and scale of structure including tenements, town and country villas, churches, bespoke public buildings, bridges, viaducts, aqueducts, farm houses and steadings, industrial workshops and harbours. There are 26 Category A Listed Buildings including landmark buildings such as the Pineapple, Dunmore, Blackness Castle, Callendar House and the Steeple, 196 Category B listed buildings and 130 Category C listed buildings.

**9 conservation areas** consist of the 2 town centres of Bo'ness and Falkirk, 2 Victorian town suburbs at Arnothill and Dollar Park and Grange and 5 estate and industrial villages at Airth, Allandale, Dunmore, Letham and Muirhouses.

**3 Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes** are listed within The Inventory of Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes - Dunmore Park, which dates from the 1820s, The Pineapple, ornamental gardens and Callendar Park, which originated in medieval times as a deer park.

There are no designated Historic Marine Protected Areas within the Falkirk Council Area.

**2 Battlefield Sites** are listed within the Inventory of Historic Battlefields as nationally important battles - the Battle of Linlithgow Bridge, 4 September 1526 and the 2nd Battle of Falkirk, 17 January 1746. Linlithgow Bridge is significant as it represents the largest attempt to free the young James V from the control of the Earl of Angus by military means. The site of the battlefield is reasonably well preserved despite modern day interventions such as a nature reserve and quarry.

The 2nd Battle of Falkirk is significant as the penultimate battle of the period of the Jacobite Risings. The Jacobite army at Falkirk was the largest ever assembled, and it was the first time in the '45 Rising that the Jacobites faced an experienced Government force in battle. It was the last time the Jacobites won a battle in pursuit of their long standing goal to restore the Stuart dynasty, although it failed in the end to improve their fortunes.

Although eastern parts of the battlefield have been built over by modern development, much of the area remains as enclosed agricultural fields with localised woodland.

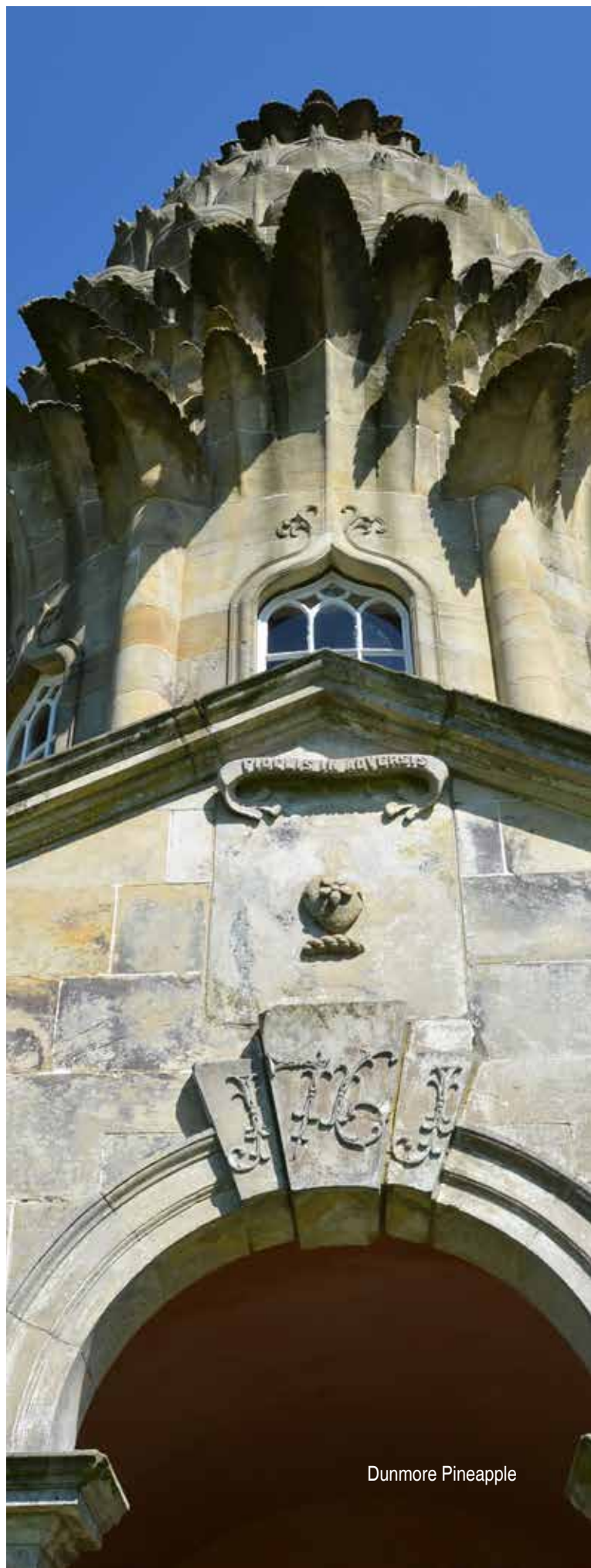


## 1.3 Non - Statutory Designations

### 1.31 Areas of Townscape Value

There are various other areas of architectural, historic or townscape merit across the Council area which do not have conservation area status. Ranging from the mid 20th century garden city style settlement at Westquarter to Victorian and Edwardian districts in Falkirk, Grangemouth, Larbert and Polmont, these sites form coherent and interesting groups of buildings. In recognition of their significance, Falkirk Council Local Plan designated the following as Areas of Townscape Value:

- The Woodlands area of Falkirk;
- Terraced Cottages in the Grahamston area;
- Grahams Road frontages, Falkirk;
- Sandstone properties south of the Town Centre in Bo'ness;
- Parts of Bridgeness, Bo'ness;
- Parts of Bo'ness Road, Grangemouth;
- Westquarter Village, "model" village;
- Old Polmont;
- Parts of Station Road, Polmont;
- Parts of South Broomage, Larbert.



Dunmore Pineapple



Hippodrome and Streets, Bo'ness

### 1.32 Non - Inventory Designed Landscapes and Sites with Remnant Designed Landscape Features

In common with other authorities, the Falkirk Council area includes many historic gardens and landscapes that do not meet the standards required for inclusion in the National Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland. However, the following sites considered to be of local cultural and historic value are listed in the Supplementary Guidance document SG09 "Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Designations" as Non - Inventory Designed Landscapes and Sites with Remnant Designed Landscape Features within Falkirk Council Area. These are linked to Local Development Plan Policy D12 Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes and are as follows:

Airth Castle  
 Avondale House  
 Avonhill  
 Balquhatstone  
 Bellsdyke Hospital  
 Camelon Cemetery  
 Candie House  
 Carriden House  
 Carron House  
 Carronvale House  
 Castlecary  
 Darroch  
 Denovan House  
 Dollar Park/Arnotdale House  
 Dunipace House  
 Glenbervie/Woodside  
 Torwood Castle  
 Glebe Park, Bo'ness  
 Gleneilrig  
 Haining/Parkhall  
 Kinnaird House  
 Kinneil House/Estate  
 Larbert House  
 Lathallan/Laurence Park  
 Manuel House  
 Millfield  
 Muiravonside House  
 Parkhill House/Gray-Buchanan Park  
 Polmont Park/Polmont Bank  
 Powfoulis  
 Quarter House  
 Royal Scottish National Hospital  
 South Bantaskine House  
 Southfield House  
 Summerford Park/Glenfuir  
 Vellore  
 Victoria Park, Bo'ness  
 Zetland Park, Grangemouth



### 1.33 Sites and Monument Record

Sites of regional or local archaeological importance (SMR) are sites which are not recognised by inclusion in national lists but are considered to be locally significant and can be found on the Sites & Monuments Record, which is held at Callendar House. At December 2016, there were 2,821 entries. They range from doocots to canals (such as the Carron Canal, the Bo'ness Canal, the Stirling Canal). It also includes the find spots of relics such as Bronze Age arrowheads, Roman coins, etc.

Local maritime archaeology is connected with harbour and port facilities such as at Airth where the whole dock and part of the pow were lined with oak planks in the 17/18th century. The site now lies inland, under a playing field and arable field. At Bo'ness the old harbour is also inland - under roads and recreational areas. The facilities at Grangemouth are industrial in scale and only date from 1770 onwards. The River Carron was a major point of access and the lower reaches have numerous wharfs.

Salt pans are associated with Blackness, Bonhard Pans, Kinglass Pans, Grangepans, Bo'ness, Kinneil, Grangemouth and Dunmore.

Torwood Castle







Hippodrome, Bo'ness



## 2. Why is a new Strategy Required?

### 2.1 Making Better Places

The vision for this strategy is intrinsically linked to better place making see 8.0 Strategic Vision and Themes. Place making is at the heart of current national and local planning policy.

A key strategic objective set out in the vision of the Local Development Plan is “to improve the sense of place in our towns and villages and to protect, enhance and promote our historic environments”. The LDP Vision highlights where we are now in terms of each strategic objective, and highlights the fact that “The area looks and feels better than it did 15-20 years ago, and examples of good design are starting to shape a more positive image of the area.” The Vision highlights the fact that the area has a wealth of historic environment assets, and the link between the LDP and the Historic Environment Strategy. It also highlights:

- Reduction in the level of vacant and derelict land;
- The World Heritage Site status of the Antonine Wall; and
- Conservation Areas re-appraisal;
- The number of key historic buildings remaining redundant and at risk;

The Vision sets out strategic aims in terms of the historic environment which are:

- Continued recognition of the value of historic gardens, designed landscapes, and battlefield sites;
- Sensitively restoring and bringing back into use historic buildings;
- Recognition of the Antonine Wall as an exemplar World Heritage Site.

Going forward into the 2nd Local Development Plan (LDP2), existing historic environment policies are likely to remain largely unchanged, with a focus on achieving the aims of the strategic vision.

The LDP acknowledges that much of the Falkirk area's sense of place derives from its historic environment, including a rich diversity of architectural, cultural, historic and archaeological assets. The LDP Spatial Strategy states that the focus in the Falkirk Council area for placemaking in the future will be the strategic growth areas and business locations, which present unique opportunities to influence the urban form at a strategic level, and other locations which are particularly crucial to the image and sense of place of the area. Town and village centres will continue to require reshaping and repair, whilst the quality of urban road corridors needs to be raised. The canal corridor is a key placemaking asset connecting communities across the area, whose full potential has still to be realised. The Central Scotland Green Network aims to build up the ‘green’ elements of place, enhancing river, road, open space and urban fringe corridors, and enhancing the setting of existing and new development. The historic environment adds diversity and interest to areas identified as local strategic priorities.



THI Public Realm Pavements, Cow Wynd, Falkirk



**“The challenge for sustainable management of the historic environment and how it contributes to the vitality of modern life, is to identify its key characteristics and to establish the boundaries within which change can continue so that it enhances rather than diminishes historic character”**

Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement :  
June 2016

## 2.2 Changing Context

Falkirk Council benefits from an existing Built Heritage Strategy which was adopted in March 2006; at that time, it fulfilled commitments set out in the Falkirk Council Structure Plan and Local Plan. A key aim of the document was to develop a robust approach to the implementation of national and local planning policy for conservation and enhancement of local built heritage. Targeted actions addressing key issues were drawn up and prioritised.

Whilst a significant proportion of the proposed actions set out in the Built Heritage Strategy 2006 have been achieved as is set out in detail in 5.0 Achievements, the national and local context has altered with the passage of time with respect to a number of aspects including:

- The legal framework and statutory processes under which national organisations and local planning authorities operate has changed as a result of The Historic Environment Scotland Act 2014; one of the major moves was the merger of Historic Scotland and RCAHMS to form a non - departmental body, Historic Environment Scotland (HES) with charitable status. The Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement: June 2016 was brought into force in June 2016, as a replacement for the Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP 2011). The policy statement explains how HES implements its regulatory and advisory roles and sets out how planning authorities should interpret and implement national planning policy.
- Digital technology has advanced, enabling new forms of recording, access to and engagement with the historic environment; the opportunities available at a local level for interpretation, learning and access are discussed further in 6.3 Priority Actions. Scotland's Historic Environment Data Strategy (April 2014) sets out a vision for the sharing and linking of digital records on the historic environment between local and national bodies. A forum held in 2015 to take the strategy forward discussed the need for fast mobile access to linked data, as a way of avoiding searching across multiple sources. The need to standardise polygonisation across Scotland was also raised. Scotland-wide online coverage of HERs was suggested. With resourcing being constrained, the need for better communication, partnership working and supporting community engagement was identified. The opportunity to integrate historic environment data with other environment and property data 'platforms' was highlighted. A key strand running throughout the forum was the need to package data more effectively to meet the needs of both existing and potential users.
- Funding opportunities have expanded while demand has risen - for further information see 7.1 Funding Sources and 10.6.
- The impacts of physical change on the historic environment have become a national issue. Climate change and other factors such as the effects of inappropriate land management, urban and rural development, transport and pollution have contributed to the continued erosion of the historic environment.



## 3. Benefits of the Historic Environment

### 3.1 Well-being

It is widely acknowledged that the historic environment contributes to the general well-being of the Scottish nation. “Our Place in Time - The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland”, published by The Scottish Government on 4 March 2014 sets out a ten year vision for the historic environment; one of its key aims is to ensure that the historic environment maintains a positive influence on the well-being of the nation. Refurbished and well-maintained buildings, streets and parks attract greater use and consequently suffer far less vandalism which improves community safety and reduces levels of crime.

The opportunities to enjoy heritage based walks within the Falkirk Area have never been better. 10.5 provides further information.

In the last 20 years, Falkirk Council and partners of The Central Scotland Forest Strategy and Falkirk Greenspace Initiative have secured significant improvements to outdoor access in the area through programmes of landscape enhancement, woodland creation, and habitat improvements. The Central Scotland Green Network, which has been identified as a national development in the National Planning Framework 3, plans to further transform the quality of the landscape across 19 local authorities with Falkirk Council at the heart of a green network. Sites of historic interest and significance are scattered widely across the green network.

The Falkirk Open Space Strategy, adopted in October 2016, sets out a strategic vision for the future of the area's parks and open spaces; many parks and open spaces have historical significance, such as Kinneil Estate, Callander Park, Dunmore Park, Forth and Clyde Canal and The Antonine Wall. The strategy highlights the benefits that parks and open spaces bring to communities in terms of physical and mental health, the quality of our environment and wildlife habitat.

### 3.2 Cultural identity

The historic environment is part of our cultural identity as a nation and community. Our sense of national identity has been shaped in part by the battles that took place within our area in 1298 during the First War of Scottish Independence and 1746 during the Jacobite Rising.



The First Battle of Falkirk Monument



S.R.P.S Bo'ness

### 3.3 Economic benefit

Historic buildings and places bring significant economic benefits to Scotland as a whole and to the Falkirk Council area. Falkirk Council's economic strategy, "An Economic Strategy for Falkirk 2015-25" promises to build upon the established and growing tourism market to meet the aspirations of the local community, the businesses and public sector partners, which will consolidate a platform for further economic success.

In recent years, Falkirk's Historic Environment has attracted considerable external public funding through major heritage led regeneration projects; the Bo'ness Town Centre Townscape Heritage Initiative at Bo'ness (2003 - 2008) and Falkirk Town Centre Townscape Heritage Initiative (2013 - 2018) have been delivered directly by Falkirk Council, private businesses, individuals and community groups.

Falkirk Council, Historic Environment Scotland (HES) and the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) are key investors. The economic as well as social and educational benefits brought to the local and wider area are discussed in more detail in 5.0 Achievements.

The Antonine Wall Socio - Economic Impact Study by Brookdale Consulting (March 2015), commissioned by the five local authority partners, highlighted that the economic impact of the Wall generated annual benefits of £3M when direct, indirect and induced effects were included. It was also estimated that future impacts could grow from the current level of £3m to £5m over 5 years with a cumulative impact of £21.7m over 5 years based on public sector spend of £3.2m.

An innovative assessment of the value of heritage based on a Treasury approved approach, (contingent valuation) established that residents, visitors and businesses attached an economic value of between £1.2 and £1.4 billion to Edinburgh World Heritage site. Local residents, visitors and businesses confirmed their support for the conservation of the city's heritage which they deemed to represent a good, long term legacy for future generations.

**“ In Scotland, the historic environment is estimated to contribute in excess of £2.3 billion (2.6%) to Scotland's national gross value added (GVA) and to account for 2.5% of Scotland's total employment, supporting 60,000 FTE employees which includes seasonal employment. ”**

Our Place in Time  
The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland.



### 3.4 Tourism

The Scotland Visitor Survey 2015 and 2016 recorded that 47% of first time visitors to Scotland and 29% of repeat visitors were attracted by the country's history and culture.

Since 2009, the Falkirk Council area has achieved a significant increase in tourism performance, visitor numbers have risen by 50.2% and economic impact has grown by 51.6%, (source STEAM 2016). The Falkirk area is now home to two of the world's most unique attractions, the internationally acclaimed Kelpies within the Helix Park and The Falkirk Wheel which has just had a significant redevelopment. Both of these attractions are within Scotland's top 10 attractions and are contributing to the significant growth of tourism in the Falkirk area. The Historic Environment of Falkirk provides a number of major visitor attractions such as The Antonine Wall, Callander House, the site of the Battle of Falkirk, the site of the Battle of Falkirk Muir, Blackness Castle, The Hippodrome, Bo'ness and Kinneil Railway, Kinneil Museum and Estate, The Dunmore Pineapple, The Falkirk Steeple and Falkirk Trinity Church.

Improvements including restoration and the reinstatement of historic architectural features to buildings, streets and public open spaces within Bo'ness and Falkirk implemented through the Townscape Heritage Initiatives (THI's) attract visitors to the local area. Tourism Falkirk 2020, Falkirk Area Tourism Strategy 2015 - 2020, has identified sites with potential to extend visitor appeal including Callendar House and Park, Kinneil House and Estate, Falkirk and Bo'ness Town Centres and The Antonine Wall. Tourism Falkirk 2020, Falkirk Area Tourism Strategy 2015 - 2020, identifies clear targets for growth with a key target being :

*"To increase visitor expenditure in the Falkirk area by 20% over the next five years to 2020. The further development of the heritage product within the Falkirk area will contribute to the achievement of this target. The Tourism Strategy has identified sites with potential to extend visitor appeal including Callendar House and Park, Kinneil House and Estate, Falkirk and Bo'ness Town centres and The Antonine Wall."*

Blackness Castle





Royal Visit and Opening, The Kelpies, Helix Park



**“ It is diverse, but collectively it tells the story of our shared past. It is important in its own terms, providing key evidence of the lives and creativity of our forebears. It also helps to create a sense of place, identity and physical and social well-being, and benefits the economy, civic participation, tourism and lifelong learning. It is dynamic and ever-changing and that dynamism lies at the heart of the need for sound principles of stewardship. ”**



## 4. Policy Context

### 4.1 National Framework

One of the key aims of this strategy is to deliver the vision and aims of “Our Place in Time” The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland 2014 at a local authority level.

The vision of the national strategy is: “Scotland’s historic environment is understood and valued, cared for and protected, enjoyed and enhanced. It is at the heart of a flourishing and sustainable Scotland and will be passed on with pride to benefit future generations.”

The aims of the national strategy are:

- **Understanding** - by investigating and recording our historic environment to continually develop our knowledge, understanding and interpretation of our past and looking at how best to conserve, sustain and present it;
- **Protecting** - by caring for and protecting the historic environment, ensuring that we can both enjoy and benefit from it and conserve and enhance it for the enjoyment and benefit of future generations;
- **Valuing** - by sharing and celebrating the richness and significance of our historic environment, enabling us to enjoy the fascinating and inspirational diversity of our heritage. The vision above aligns with the 4 national planning aims which focus on a successful, sustainable place, a low carbon place, a natural resilient place and more connected place;

This strategy also reflects the general national and regional policy context which includes the following:

- Scotland’s Third National Planning Framework, 2014;
- Scottish Planning Policy, 2014;
- The Historic Environment Scotland Act, 2014;
- The Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement, June 2016;
- “Our Place in Time” The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland 2014;
- Scotland’s Historic Environment Data Strategy, April 2014;
- Historic Environment Circular 1;
- Historic Environment Scotland’s Managing Change Series of Guidance Notes;
- Heritage Tourism, 2020;
- Scottish Canals Heritage Strategy, 2013 - 2018;
- The Antonine Wall Management Plan, 2014 - 2019;
- Supplementary Planning Guidance Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Site 2011. (SG07 Supplementary Guidance is under preparation).

The Kelpies, Helix Park





Vicar Street, Falkirk

## 4.2 Local Context

This strategy responds to the vision and strategic objectives of Falkirk Council's Local Development Plan 2015 which in turn have been informed by the Strategic Outcomes and Local Delivery Plan.

The LDP Vision for the Falkirk area is:

*"A dynamic and distinctive area at the heart of Central Scotland, characterised by a network of thriving communities and greenspaces, and a vibrant and growing economy which is of strategic significance in the national context, providing an attractive and sustainable place in which to live, work, visit and invest."*

A key strategic objective of the Local Development Plan is

*"to improve the sense of place in our towns and villages and to protect, enhance and promote our historic environments". The LDP also includes a number of specific opportunities in terms of improving access to, and the interpretation of, the historic environment, often in conjunction with other green space projects. There are also specific housing, business, tourism or regeneration proposals which are linked to the restoration of historic buildings.*

This strategy also takes account of the associated local policy context which includes the following:

- An Economic Strategy for Falkirk 2015 - 25;
- Strategic Outcomes and Local Delivery Plan 2016 - 2020;
- One Council One Plan, Corporate Plan 2012 - 2017 Falkirk Council;
- Supplementary Guidance SG04,SG07,SG09,SG16 Falkirk Council;
- Falkirk Greenspace Strategy 2013 Falkirk Council;
- Open Space Strategy and Park Development Plan Falkirk Council;
- Falkirk Area Tourism Strategy 2015 - 2020 Falkirk Council;
- Antonine Wall Management Plan 2014 - 2019;
- Antonine Wall WHS Local Action Plan 2014 - 2019;
- Culture and Sport Strategy 2014 - 2024 Falkirk Community Trust;
- Heritage Delivery Plan 2015 - 2018 Falkirk Community Trust;
- A Masterplan for Kinneil Estate July 2014: Falkirk Community Trust;
- Callendar Park Management Plan 2015 - 2020 Falkirk Community Trust;
- Consultative Draft Arts Plan 2016 - 2021 Falkirk Community Trust;
- Business Plan 2015 - 2020 Falkirk Environment Trust



## 5. Achievements

### 5.1 Improved Sense of Place and Co-ordinated Attention to the Historic Environment

Falkirk Council's Local Development Plan states that the current situation with respect to sense of place and historic environment is that

*"The area looks and feels better than it did 15-20 years ago, and examples of good design are starting to shape a more positive image of the area. The level of vacant and derelict land has reduced substantially. The area has a wealth of historic environment assets, which is receiving more co-ordinated attention through the Built Heritage Strategy. The Antonine Wall has received World Heritage Site status. Conservation areas have been reappraised. However, a number of key historic buildings remain redundant and at risk".*



Bridgeness Slab, Bo'ness



THI Shopfront, Bo'ness

## 5.2 Townscape Heritage Initiatives

The Townscape Heritage Initiative programme is a national scheme through which The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) provides grants to help communities regenerate conservation areas displaying particular social and economic need. It encourages partnerships to carry out repairs and other works to historic properties within the THI area and improve the quality of life for all those who live, work or visit there. HLF expects schemes to deliver the following outcomes:

- Preserve and enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area that is in need of regeneration;
- Repair and reinstate authentic details and traditional materials;
- Bring historic buildings back into appropriate, sustainable and economic use;
- Increase training opportunities in heritage skills and wider community participation.

### Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS)

The aims of the scheme complement those of the THI and include:

- A traditional buildings repair programme for large and small projects, for homeowners, tenants and retailers;
- Restoration of original architectural detail and re-introduction of traditional materials and designs for windows, gutters, roofs and stonework;
- Reinstatement of traditional shop fronts and improvements or repairs to existing traditional shop fronts.
- As a by-product of improvements to the exterior of buildings, increased likelihood of bringing vacant floorspace back into use by attracting new occupants;
- Training opportunities for traditional craftspeople;
- Community engagement through training opportunities in traditional skills and through education programmes;
- Administration costs of the scheme.

### Bo'ness Townscape Heritage Initiative

The Bo'ness Townscape Heritage Initiative (2003 - 2008) implemented a £5 million project for heritage - led economic regeneration of the town centre. The project, which was supported by Falkirk Council and other partners including Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic Environment Scotland through their CARS Scheme, brought new life and sustainable economic use to historic buildings within the town centre, including the Hippodrome cinema. The Hippodrome was re-opened in April 2009 and now shows a wide variety of films. Improvements were also made to town centre pavements, surfaces and kerbs in the main shopping areas.



### 5.3 The Falkirk Townscape Heritage Initiative

This project, which runs from 2013 to 2018, is jointly funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), Historic Environment Scotland through their CARS Scheme, Falkirk Council, and the Falkirk Business Improvement District. Between 2013 and 2018 £5.5 million will have been invested in the town centre's unique and rich heritage. Under the auspices of this scheme, the historic town Steeple and numerous other key buildings in the area including Vicar Street, Cow Wynd have been repaired and restored; window, shop fronts and other traditional features in traditional buildings have been restored or reinstated to their original design and materials. The public realm has been improved and vacant historic floor space has been brought back into use. A programme of community engagement is being implemented which is helping school children, colleges and local people to learn more about their heritage; a training programme is also in place to facilitate job opportunities linked to the conservation of traditional buildings and historic environments. Full details of the THI community engagement and training programmes from 2013 - 2018 are provided in 10.4. The economic as well as educational benefits brought to the local and wider area, to date, by this scheme are demonstrated by the list below.

Information for the list below is based on available data at August 2017 and includes projected awards.

- Number of buildings grant aided: 33
- Number of owners grant aided: 83
- Number of retail or business premises grant aided: 39
- Number of residential properties developed from empty floorspace: 3
- Square metres of public realm to be improved: 6,527sqm
- Total spend on training and heritage engagement activities: £172,500
- Final financial information is not available at time of writing as the THI is still in progress but at the outset the following estimations were provided:
  - Owners' contributions: £1,907,230
  - HLF funding: £1,949,965
  - HES funding: £1,600,000
  - Partnership funding: £112,005
  - Total funding: £5,569,200



THI Shopfront, Cow Wynd, Falkirk





## 5.4 Other Local Achievements

The local planning authority has fulfilled its responsibilities with respect to effecting positive management and positive change within the historic environment in the Falkirk council area by the following achievements:

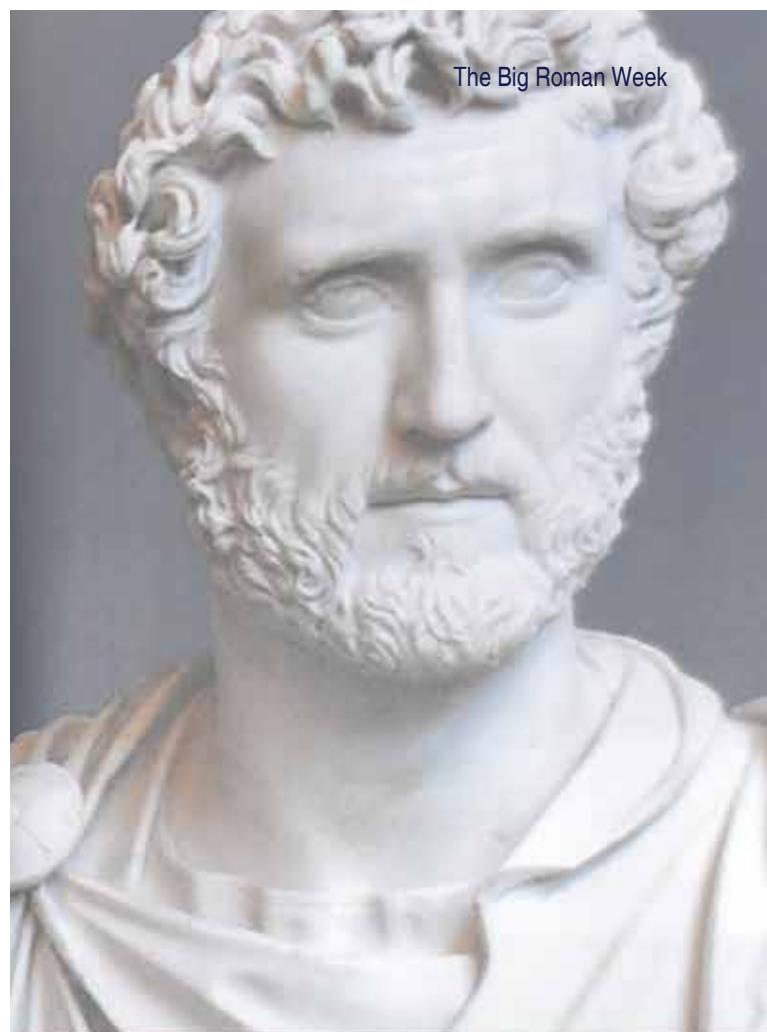
- A programme of Conservation Area Appraisals for the council's nine conservation areas was completed in 2013. Conservation Area Appraisals provide information on the special historical, architectural, spatial and topographical features of each area.
- A programme of Conservation Area Management Plans was completed in 2013. Conservation Area Management Plans provide detailed guidance to property owners, occupiers and their agents on the local and national planning policies to be followed when making alterations to land and premises in the conservation area.
- New Article 4 Directions were approved by Scottish Ministers in 2013. Article 4 Directions bring additional planning control over development in the conservation areas carried out by local authorities and by statutory undertakers including Gas, Drainage, Water, Electricity and general service providers.
- A Building Stone and Slate Survey of Falkirk Centre was completed by the British Geological Survey in 2013 on behalf of the local planning authority. The survey provided critical information on the provenance and geological characteristics of traditional building materials in Falkirk Town Centre to inform effective development management of historic buildings.
- New Supplementary Guidance (SG16) on Listed Buildings and Unlisted Properties in Conservation areas was produced and adopted in 2016. Together with updated guidance on Shopfronts, SG04, these SG's on the historic environment add to a suite of 17 documents which seek to provide more detailed guidance on how local development plan policies should be applied in practice. An updated version of the existing SG07, Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Site is planned for joint production and adoption by the five local authorities concerned. Consultation on SG07 is dependent on timescales and co-ordination with the 5 other local authorities.
- Conservation Area Enhancement Projects have been implemented through partnership working with local communities and include improvements to the public realm at Muirhouses and Airth, a memorial cairn at Letham, walls, paths and railings at Allandale, traditionally styled notice boards and bus stops in several conservation areas and renovation work to the historic well in Dunmore.
- The fountain, war memorial and gates to Zetland Park have been formally recognised for their architectural and historic interest by being designated as listed buildings by HES in 2016.
- A series of heritage trails have been created in partnership with a range of organisations.



Achievements by partners working within the historic environment in the Falkirk Council area include:

- Scottish Canals have invested heavily in the infrastructure of historic canals over the last two decades; an £83 million restoration scheme was carried out from 1999 to 2002 on the Forth and Clyde and Union Canals, both of which are made up of listed buildings and scheduled monuments.
- Inauguration of the Forth Valley Traditional Building Forum in 2013 added to a growing network of local traditional building forums with representatives across the supply chain. The Forth Valley Forum includes representatives from the Falkirk, Stirling and Clackmannan Council areas as well as Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park; the purpose of the forum is to work together to raise the profile of specific issues relating to traditional buildings and building practices. Achievements include Scottish Apprenticeship Week Skills Demonstrations for schools and the public in Falkirk, Stirlingshire and Callander from 2014 to 2016
- The Callendar Park Management Plan 2015 - 2020 sets out aspirations for this key green space within the context of challenges which include reduced resources and an ageing infrastructure. Projects identified to meet the themes of Participation, Motivation, Venues and Partnership include changes to grassland, bedding and shrub management, improvements to signage, gateways and interpretation, changes to parking, play and activity, park furniture, paths and toilets, updated management regimes for the woodland arboretum and the George Forrest Collection, development of park buildings and park events to increase usage.
- A Masterplan for Kinneil Estate, produced in 2014 by Falkirk Community Trust, provides a ten year plan for the conservation, enhancement and development of the estate. This document highlights the need for change to address the changing role of parks and proposes a range of projects to improve visitor experience and interpretation.
- The Friends of Kinneil won a 2016 Scottish Heritage Angels Award in the Sharing and Celebrating category for their volunteer-led projects promoting local history, architecture and archaeology.
- The Friends of Kinneil arranged an event in the Scottish Parliament celebrating 250 years of James Watt's condensing steam engine and Big Roman Week which promoted the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site.
- Falkirk Community Trust introduced energy saving infrastructure to the category A listed Callander House via a district heating plant linked to adjoining housing.

The Big Roman Week



# THE BIG ROMAN WEEK

[www.bigromanweek.org.uk](http://www.bigromanweek.org.uk)

Great events across Falkirk district and beyond. Most events free. Explore your Roman heritage.

Kinneil House Open Day



## 5.5 Antonine Wall Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site

The inscription of the Antonine Wall in 2008 marked increasing recognition of the extent and significance of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site (FREWHS). The FREWHS is a serial transnational World Heritage Site currently comprising Hadrian's Wall (inscribed in 1987), the German Limes (inscribed in 2005) and the Antonine Wall. In Scotland, Falkirk Council belongs to a partnership of key local authorities and government agencies who deliver strategic and operational functions specifically for the Antonine Wall. The other partners are East Dunbartonshire Council, Glasgow City Council, Historic Environment Scotland (HES), North Lanarkshire Council and West Dunbartonshire Council. The Antonine Wall Management Plan 2014 -2019 provides a broad framework for the management, conservation and enhancement of the Antonine Wall. The Management Plan is accompanied and supported by a five-year Action Plan. This captures and prioritises key actions for the partners and wider stakeholders and sustainably builds both infrastructure and public engagement. As well as focusing on practical work such as interpretive panels, road signage and paths to specific sites, it also includes actions to improve partnership working internationally and to achieve best practice approaches to site monitoring and management.

A programme of community projects, entitled Rediscovering the Antonine Wall, is being planned for 2018 - 2021 by the five partner authorities to help people discover and enjoy the Antonine Wall. A bid will be submitted to HLF for the programme which includes; a community produced film showing changes in the wall since 1960, 5 replica stone distance markers like the Bridgeness Slab, community curated exhibitions, arts projects and events, outdoor interpretation features making use of play and technology, outreach programmes to be taken to hub museums across Scotland, large scale public celebration and schools resource packs to support cross - curricular learning.



## 5.6 Falkirk : Landscape, Industry and Work

The Falkirk Great Place Partnership (Falkirk Community Trust, Falkirk Council, Scottish Canals & the Central Scotland Green Network Trust) was successful in a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for funding to carry out a programme of work focusing on better connecting our heritage assets. Projects will record, interpret and celebrate Falkirk's routes and places and will be complemented by investment in developing social and digital networks. Funding will deliver four key projects over a 3 year programme:

**1. Falkirk Heritage Alliance** - will strengthen our links with built and natural heritage groups, local history societies, schools, colleges and others and will provide a framework for collaboration and co-production on heritage projects.

**2. Falkirk's Stories: community storytelling** - a comprehensive archive of memories, images and other responses to Falkirk's heritage to be hosted on a website platform to act as an enduring legacy of the project.

**3. Celebrating our heritage:** art, tourism and events - a programme of events, festivities and promotions designed to raise awareness of Falkirk's heritage, attract visitors and encourage local people to explore the heritage network.

**4. Careers in a modern producer economy** - will complement mainstream training provision by using heritage to influence the prevailing culture, nurture pride in Falkirk's manufacturing tradition and raise awareness of career opportunities.

Falkirk Heritage Tour





Mercat Cross, Airth





## 6. Challenges

### 6.1 Shrinking Resources

While the value of Falkirk's historic environment is being increasingly acknowledged, there is increasing competition for the resources required to maintain and enhance our historic places and buildings.

Constraints on public finance and the slowing down of growth and recovery in some sectors in the post - recession era present difficult challenges to overcome. The reduction in monies allocated by central government to grant giving bodies such as Historic Environment Scotland means that organisations often struggle to get heritage projects off the ground. Smart, imaginative cross - funding has become a common feature of successful heritage projects such as the Bo'ness and Falkirk Townscape Heritage Initiatives discussed previously. Partnership working on a number of potential projects could mitigate resource limitations within individual organisations and could offer further opportunities for cross funding as suggested in 8.3 Priority Actions.



Factor's House, Callendar Park

## 6.2 Deteriorating Condition and Erosion

A wide variety of both publicly and privately owned buildings feature in the national register of Buildings at Risk, reflecting the spread and scale of the issue. While there were 2503 historic buildings in Scotland recorded as being at risk on the register at December 2016, within the Falkirk Council boundary, 28 buildings at risk were recorded, ranging in type and scale from a doocot to large country mansions. Diagram A - illustrates the variety and numbers of buildings at risk within the Falkirk Council area. See 8.3 Priority Actions for information on a proposed local Buildings at Risk Action Plan.

Historic gardens and landscapes are gradually being eroded due to a number of factors including lack of awareness and modern developments, which often take the form of enabling development; this type of development aims to address the conservation deficit which is an unfortunate feature in many larger heritage - led regeneration projects. See 8.3 Priority Actions for details of the Glorious Gardens project on historic landscapes within the Falkirk Council area.

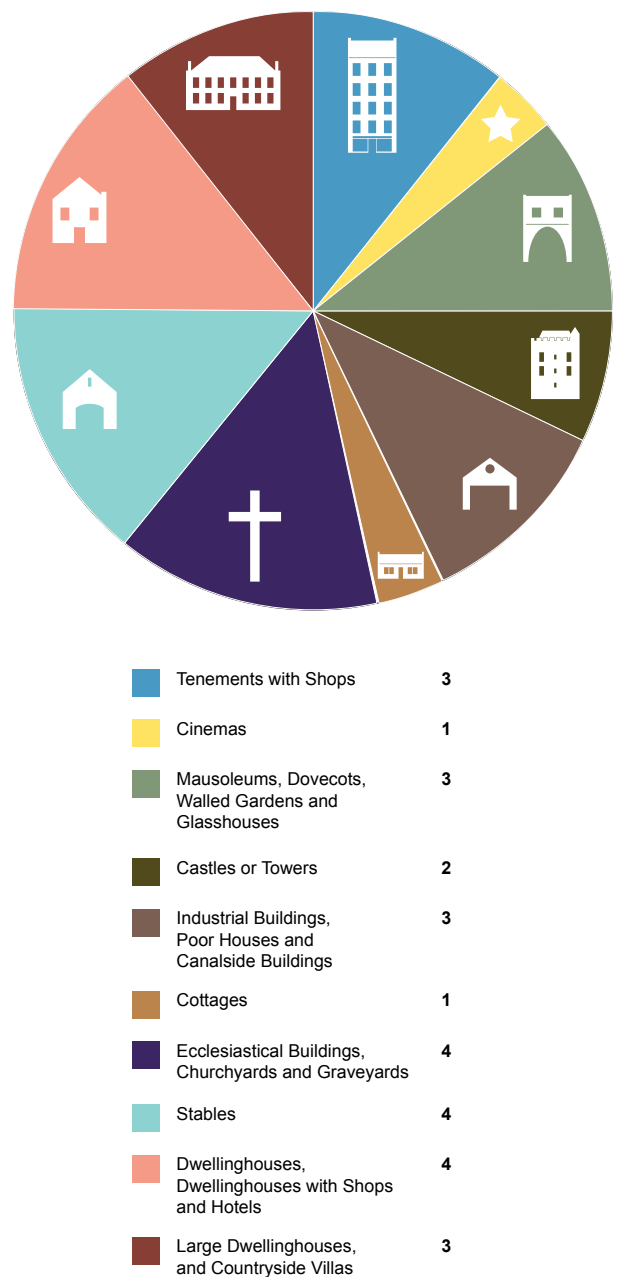
The Scottish Government estimates that £600 million is spent on pre-1919 buildings each year but the Scottish Housing Condition Survey highlights that 72% are not wind and watertight and this has shown little improvement over the years despite significant private investment. Accordingly, the condition of pre - 1919 buildings in towns and villages throughout Scotland is a growing concern. However, new initiatives have been developed over the past 20 years to address the lack of awareness and the knowledge gap. Events have been held in towns and cities to demonstrate traditional building skills to key influencers in young people's career choices but also to raise to raise awareness of the need to properly repair and maintain historic, traditional buildings using appropriate materials and skills. In the Falkirk, Stirling, Clackmannan Council Areas and Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, the Forth Valley Traditional Building Forum, inaugurated in 2013, has arranged several events for school pupils and members of the public to raise the profile of traditional building skills as a rewarding career choice. Another key success is the ongoing Falkirk Townscape Heritage Initiative which has been delivering a community engagement programme and training seminars. See Section 10.4 Falkirk THI Community Engagement Programme 2013 - 2018 and Seminar Programme 2016 - 2017.

Inappropriate repairs contribute to current problems; damage from previous air pollution can be exacerbated by the presence of cement-based repairs ('plastic repairs') which have trapped or focussed moisture in the stone, leading to accelerated decay. In a number of buildings, stone cleaning has resulted in the loss of the stable outer surface of the stone exposing a weakened underlying zone which is more prone to erosion. Discolouration of blonde sandstone resulting from chemical stone cleaning is another common issue with the normally uniform pale colour becoming a variable orange and brown colour or bleached to a dull grey.

The use of inappropriate materials for repairs to historic structures can cause more than superficial damage. For example, inaccurate stone replacement to an historic façade stonework can lead to further damage and increase the need for more repairs.

The economic case needs to be made that prevention now will be a fraction of the cost of repairs in the future, resulting in considerable financial savings. Further knowledge transfer and awareness raising initiatives will be developed - see 8.3 Priority Actions.

**DIAGRAM A**  
Types of Buildings at Risk in the Falkirk Council Area (2018)





## 6.3 Energy Efficiency

To be effective and sustainable in the modern world, traditional buildings must achieve energy efficiencies and carbon reductions. Scotland is committed to ambitious carbon reductions under The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. The reduction of emissions from domestic energy consumption is key to meeting targets. Scotland has around 400,000 pre-1919 buildings, representing around 20% of the total building stock, approximately 47,000 of which are listed buildings. Research and practical trials by Historic Environment Scotland, have demonstrated that fabric improvements can be carried out to historic buildings without the wholesale loss of original building fabric and without the introduction of materials which erode the special character or appearance of the building. By their nature, historic buildings have benefits in terms of environmental sustainability, including their longevity, thermal mass construction, use of locally sourced materials and natural ventilation. Challenges include thorough assessment of the energy efficiency capabilities of the existing fabric of a building together with sensitive choice and location of any fixtures and fittings. Pilot projects and case studies by Historic Environment Scotland and partners are available

- see [www.engineshed.org/publications/](http://www.engineshed.org/publications/)





Dunmore Park



## 6.4 Shortage of Traditional Building Skills and Materials

The shortage of traditional skills and materials is acknowledged to be a national problem.

Surveys have been carried out within the last ten years to assess the level of available traditional building skills against current and estimated demand, include Safeguarding Glasgow's Stone Built Heritage Skills and Materials Requirements: Façade Surveys and Building Stone Analysis: A Report commissioned by the Scottish Stone Liaison Group April 2006. This survey established serious shortfalls in suitable qualified crafts persons and local materials for the maintenance and repair of the historic environment.

Historic Environment Scotland and the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) have been working in partnership to improve education provision to meet the shortfall in traditional skills. Locally, Falkirk Council Employment Training Unit and other departments within Falkirk Council, Forth Valley College and Falkirk Townscape Heritage Initiative are working together to improve regional skills and employment opportunities.

A desk top assessment of building stone quarries in the central belt of Scotland carried out as part of a study of building stone and roofing slate in the Falkirk area by British Geological Survey for the planning authority in Falkirk Council in 2013, identified that there had been 66 quarries in central Scotland, providing local building stone from the mid to late 18th century. Production ceased by early 20th century and since then many of the quarries have been infilled or flooded. The study identified that six types of blonde sandstone and four types of red sandstone would be required for future repairs. Not all the required stone can be obtained from the current quarry output in the UK, both in terms of volumes of stone and stone types. Further research would be required to establish the potential for re - opening of local quarries.

## 6.5 Climate Change

Predictions of climate change suggest that rainfall levels may significantly increase in parts of Scotland over this century, placing more pressure on the historic environment and increasing the chances of damage to fabric.

Damage to stone masonry due to water penetration is a significant cause of stone decay. In many cases this could be avoided if appropriate maintenance was carried out, particularly in relation to rainwater protection (e.g. gutters and downpipes) and pointing of masonry joints using an appropriate mortar. Falkirk Council's Economic Strategy, "An Economic Strategy for Falkirk 2015 - 25", acknowledges the need to find alternative means of powering our towns and cities; it sets out the ambition to make Falkirk a prime location for sustainability and innovation in energy.



## 7. Opportunities

### 7.1 Funding Sources

Funding sources for projects relating to all aspects of the historic environment from parks and landscapes to oral history are available from a number of national and local organisations. The Heritage Lottery Fund is the largest dedicated funder of heritage in Great Britain, having awarded £7.1billion to over 40,000 projects since 1994. A range of different grant programmes are available from £3,000 to over £5million. Applications for project funding are assessed against achievable outcomes for heritage, people and communities.

Historic Environment Scotland offers a range of funding schemes from repair grants for buildings and places of worship to event funding, core support for organisations, support for regeneration and conservation initiatives over a five-year period known as Conservation Area Regeneration Schemes (CARS) to archaeological research work, thatched building repairs, grants for ancient monuments, maintenance plans, landscape management and centenary memorials restoration fund. Falkirk Environment Trust is a local charitable trust which aims to support environmental projects by awarding grants and supplying advice and guidance.

See Appendix 10.6 Funding Sources for further information.

**“ We are speaking up for the value of heritage to modern life, and developing approaches and programmes that make a real difference for heritage and people.”**

**Carole Souter,  
HLF Chief Executive**

Zetland Park, Grangemouth





Callendar House and Park

## 7.2 Heritage Network

The Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce suggests that a heritage network of large and small organisations would empower communities to step up as producers, participants and co-commissioners in managing and using heritage. Connections between local groups and more centralised organisations will create the opportunity for co-ordinated action.

Falkirk Community Trust is intrinsically linked with Falkirk Council in terms of the heritage activities role it plays with respect to the delivery of this Strategy, in relation to place making and contributing to the economic development of the Falkirk area through its delivery of heritage engagement activity and management of heritage assets such as Callander House and Park, Kinneil Estate and The Hippodrome. Falkirk Community Trust is also a designated heritage consultee on planning matters. FCT manages Falkirk Council's archive and museum collections and maintains the Historic Environment Record.

**“ Networked heritage means having sufficient connections in a place for heritage to be understood as and treated as a common public resource - drawn upon and enhanced by the full diversity of citizens and organisations. The role of the heritage sector will still include facilitating access to heritage assets, but it is by enabling others to integrate heritage into their thinking and their actions that networked heritage can have a transformative impact on people and places, helping communities create heritage for themselves.”**

Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce Paper, Networked Heritage.



## 8. Strategic Vision and Themes

### 8.1 Vision for Historic Environment of Falkirk

Falkirk Council's vision for the area in 2034, relative to place making and the historic environment is set out in the Local Development Plan:

*"High quality design will be the norm, rather than the exception, and will be exemplified within the strategic growth areas, our town and village centres, our conservation areas, the approaches to our towns and the canal corridor. Overall, our built heritage will be valued and promoted as an asset to a greater degree than at present. The Antonine Wall will be recognised as an exemplar of World Heritage Site management. Historic buildings at risk will have been sensitively restored and brought back into use. There will be wider recognition of the value of historic gardens and designed landscapes, and the area's battlefield sites."*

### 8.2 Themes

To achieve this vision, a series of themes have been identified which are linked to the key principles behind the national strategy:

Theme	Principle of National Strategy
Enhancement of Knowledge	Understand - Investigate and Record
Knowledge Sharing	
Effective Management & Protection	Protect - Care and Protect
Sustainable Use of Assets	
Increased Access	Value - Share and Celebrate
Growing Skills	
Community Involvement	
Increased Appreciation	



Dunmore Garden and Designed Landscape



## 8.3 Priority Actions

### Effective Management and Protection

- 8.3.1 We shall continue to review and update as required local planning policies as set out in the Local Development Plan and associated supplementary guidance on the historic environment including the Antonine Wall, scheduled monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, areas of townscape value, historic gardens and designed landscapes and battlefield sites to ensure that our historic environment is legally and appropriately protected.
- 8.3.2 We shall review and update as required existing planning guidance on the historic environment to support national and local planning policies including conservation area appraisals and conservation area management plans.
- 8.3.3 We shall draw up a programme for the implementation of Character Appraisals of Areas of Townscape Value which aligns with strategic priorities as set out in the Local Development Plan. The programme will prioritise town centres first and other key target areas. Initially a brief appraisal of each existing area of townscape value will be carried out and an outline character statement produced. This exercise may screen out some areas if it is considered that they do not merit a fully detailed character appraisal, in which case the option to de-designate an Area of Townscape Value will be investigated. Full character appraisals on other areas will follow with a view to assessing their potential as new conservation areas. The proposed designation of a conservation area requires public consultation, committee approval and adoption.
- Suggested linked actions include the possible production of new supplementary guidance on Areas of Townscape Value and incorporation of information on the character of areas into suggested place statements for each community. Place statements are proposed as an action towards Making Better Places in the Main Issues Report for the new Local Development Plan. Place statements could be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications and they could inform future briefs and masterplans for development sites.
- 8.3.4 We shall work with key partners such as local education providers, Historic Environment Scotland, Scottish Canals and Forth Valley Traditional Building Forum to promote proper maintenance of historic buildings, structures and sites and to disseminate knowledge and skills relating to the care and preservation of historic assets through a combination of seminars, events, skills demonstrations, educational and other projects as identified through joint discussion.
- 8.3.5 We shall support the Falkirk Delivers Business Improvement District team in their potential involvement in the delivery of a Town Centre Factoring contract for communally owned properties within Falkirk town centre. Professional factoring services will help to maintain communally owned properties that have benefitted from grant aided refurbishment work through the Townscape Heritage Initiative and will assist other communally owned properties in everyday management and maintenance.

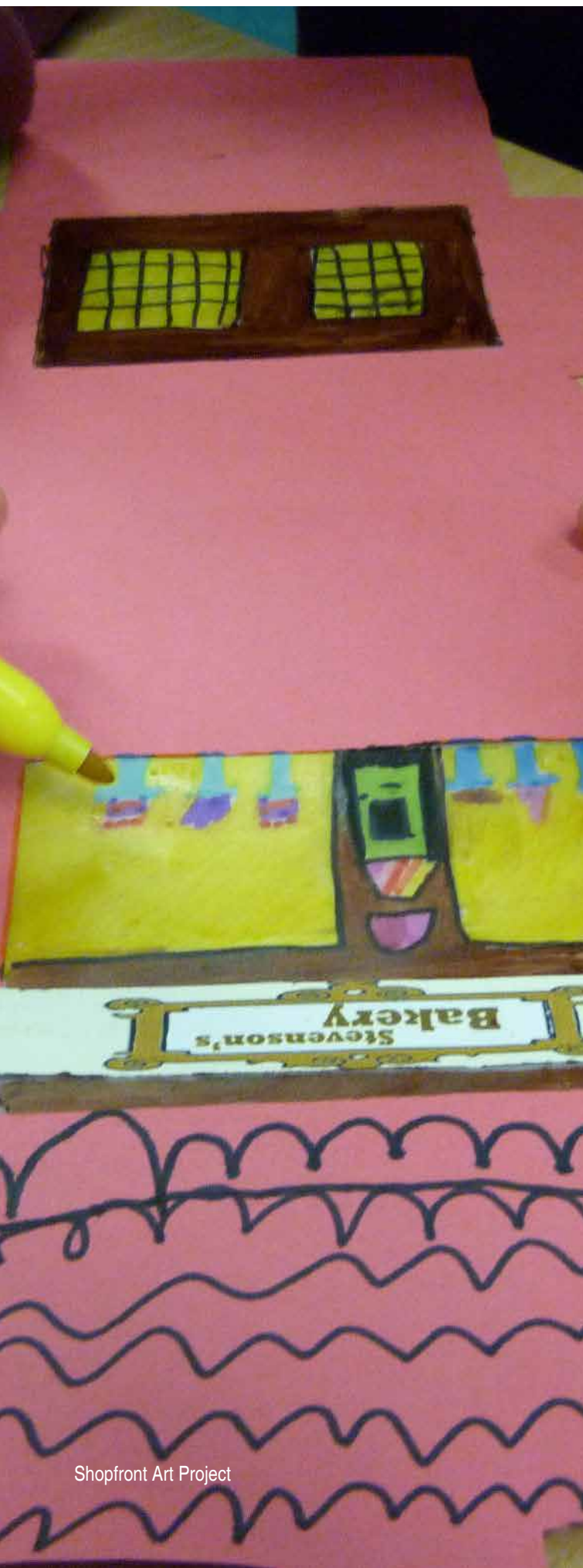
Grahamston Area of Townscape Value



- 8.3.6 We shall review the need for Areas of Special Advertisement Control for the Falkirk and Bo'ness town centre areas; these controls are aimed at simplifying processes in relation to the implementation by planning authority of enforcement and other statutory actions.
- 8.3.7 We shall explore funding opportunities with partner organisations and communities for improvement projects varying in scale from small work such as repair and replacement of original historic building features and details to area based regeneration schemes such as Conservation Area Regeneration Schemes to maintain the momentum created by townscape heritage initiatives and community led conservation area improvement projects.
- 8.3.8 We shall evaluate the potential for the existing Steering Group for the Falkirk Town Centre Townscape Heritage Initiative to continue under a new remit and name after completion of the THI Scheme to take forward and promote proper maintenance and repair of buildings and open space within the town centre of Falkirk and possibly including Bo'ness.
- 8.3.9 Following research into successful practice and processes, we shall devise a local Buildings at Risk Action Plan for consultation and approval.
- 8.3.10 In taking forward critical actions from this strategy, we shall agree priorities with key partners including Falkirk Community Trust, Community Councils, local groups and other stakeholders.
- 8.3.11 We will establish the Falkirk Heritage Alliance to strengthen our links with built and natural heritage groups, local history societies, schools, colleges and others and will provide a framework for collaboration and co-production on heritage projects.



© Neil Hanna



### Enhancement of Knowledge

8.3.12 We shall explore the options for developing knowledge and applying new technology and techniques by working in partnership with others. Potential projects include:

- (a) Joint working with Historic Environment Scotland, providers of a new post graduate course: Advanced Professional Diploma in Technical Building Conservation. Preliminary discussions have highlighted the potential opportunity for Buildings at Risk in the Falkirk Council area to be the subject of student feasibility projects as part of their course work. Potential buildings will need to be accessible and quirky with easy and safe access for site surveys. Students will be expected to carry out condition surveys, analyse, research and consult community groups on proposals for alternative uses and fabric repairs. Information procured through this exercise could be disseminated as new knowledge and could be used by the planning authority to encourage sustainable development in historic buildings that the commercial developers may consider to be unviable. Further discussions with HES will be required around Autumn 2017.
- (b) We shall investigate partnership working with key partners including HES and Forth Valley College on the laser scanning of significant local historic sites as a means of joint learning for students and data sharing; emerging data could be used by stakeholders of the local historic environment to raise awareness and understanding of historic sites and to promote local tourism.
- (c) We shall investigate new ways of researching and recording our historic environment with partner organisations, education providers and with volunteers groups. Condition surveys of Scheduled Ancient Monuments by HES field officers, conducted on a 5 yearly cycle, could be shared with Falkirk Council. Means of procuring and implementing condition surveys of the council area's 352 listed buildings and structures in the Falkirk Council Area will be explored. Potential for Architectural Conservation/Urban Design post graduate students to conduct survey work on historic buildings as part of their coursework will be investigated with Scottish Universities.
- (d) We shall explore working with partner organisations who have resources to record archaeological sites, historic gardens and landscapes, battlefields. Falkirk Community Trust is a key local resource for recorded knowledge of local sites and manages the locality's Historic Environment Record (previously the SMR).



## Knowledge Sharing

A key aim of this strategy is to mainstream the historic environment across all departments of Falkirk Council so it is taken account of in all corporate strategies and future planning. We shall consider various means of achieving this aim including promotional workshops to other council departments, local partner organisations and to local communities.

- 8.3.13 We shall work with relevant local and national partners to ensure that information on the historic environment is updated and made accessible to everyone; information sources include HES designations database, the local archives collection and the Sites and Monuments Record maintained by Falkirk Community Trust.
- 8.3.14 We shall pursue the production of a Falkirk Council hosted and managed, online register of local historic assets including listed buildings, list of addresses of properties in conservation areas, list of scheduled monuments, lists of inventory and non - inventory historic gardens and designed landscapes with locational data and other associated information such as that procured through the Glorious Gardens project.
- 8.3.15 We shall investigate with relevant partners the integration of local records with the proposed Scotland's Historic Environment Data System as set out in Scotland's Historic Environment Data Strategy, April 2014.
- 8.3.16 We shall encourage and support communities in the development and implementation of knowledge capture projects such as Scotland's Urban Past, which is a five-year nationwide project about the history of Scotland's towns and cities, led by Historic Environment Scotland and supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

**“ The Historic Environment is a key aspect of the Scottish tourism industry.”**

**“Our Place in Time”**

**The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland 2014**



Kings Court, Falkirk



### Increased Access

- 8.3.17 We shall encourage communities to access and find uses for historic assets and we shall work with key external partners such as Falkirk Community Trust to identify mutual priorities in relation to the development of tourism and cultural uses for historic buildings and sites. Opportunities to explore include Falkirk Rocks Festival, Funny in Falkirk, Big Roman Week, local folk festivals and drama performances.
- 8.3.18 We shall promote the development of new heritage and landscape trails in the local area in conjunction with local communities and external partners. Included in a series of proposed projects are the Falkirk Battlefield Trail and visitor centre in conjunction with the 1745 Association, Scottish Battlefields Trust, Callendar Estate and Falkirk Community Trust and an Antonine Wall trail within the Falkirk Council area. Potential trails based around the history of the Carron Iron Company, the town of Bo'ness and the town of Grangemouth will be explored.
- 8.3.19 We shall support Scottish Canals in the potential redevelopment of Rosebank Distillery as an example of local industrial heritage reinvigorated in a key landmark building.
- 8.3.20 We shall investigate the potential for joint working with Scottish Canals and FVC on funding bids for restoration of Dollar Park which is close to Rosebank Distillery.
- 8.3.21 We shall submit a bid for £2.5M from Heritage Lottery Fund for the restoration and repair of historic features within historic Zetland Park in Grangemouth; works proposed include restoration of the cenotaph and public realm, feature lighting to illuminate the cenotaph, refurbishment of the fountain including reinstatement of missing components and restoration and relocation of Grangemouth Old Town Clock.
- 8.3.22 We shall support Falkirk Community Trust in exploring and developing sustainable new uses within the Walled Garden in Kinneil Estate; suggested uses include small scale businesses such as bio - char manufacture and allotments.

Rosebank Distillery, Forth & Clyde Canal, Camelon



### Growing Skills

- 8.3.23 We shall continue to support the work of Scotland's Garden and Landscape Heritage in their Glorious Gardens Project, a pilot project over three years to record local and regionally significant non - inventory designed landscapes in the Falkirk Council and Clyde and Avon Valley Landscape Partnership areas. This project has been designed to grow knowledge and skills for volunteers; it will also increase appreciation of their local historic environment. Skills developed through this project include the identification, research, survey, manual and electronic recording of data, interpretation and evaluation of historic gardens and landscapes. Working in partnership with a contractor, Northlight Heritage, this project has benefitted from in kind support from Falkirk Council and funding from HLF through the Clyde and Avon Valley Landscape. One of the aims of this project is to devise a flexible method for recording historic gardens and landscapes which can be applied in other areas to increase knowledge in some cases, initiate consideration for conservation and/or statutory designation. The data procured will be made available to the public via CANMORE, the online catalogue for Scotland's archaeology, buildings, industrial and maritime heritage. A bid has been submitted for grant funding from Historic Environment Scotland to complete work in the Clyde and Avon Valley Landscape Area in 2017 - 2018 and in the Falkirk Area in 2018 - 2019. If funding is secured, we shall convene further discussion with the Glorious Gardens project leader on the possible development of a conservation strategy for historic gardens and designed landscapes in the Falkirk Council area, which will include a conservation guide for landowners.
- 8.3.24 We shall continue to conduct knowledge transfer and skills raising sessions on all aspects of the historic environment with planning officers and other disciplines as is considered appropriate through in house seminars and talks by external specialists from time to time.
- 8.2.25 Through the Careers in a Modern Producer Economy project we will complement mainstream training provision by using heritage to influence the prevailing culture, nurture pride in Falkirk's manufacturing tradition and raise awareness of career opportunities.



Apprentice Day, High Street, Falkirk



Callendar House Kitchen

### Community Involvement

- 8.3.26 We shall pursue greater engagement with local heritage groups and local communities; potential opportunities include online questionnaires and charrettes on place statements for the new local development plan, discussions on creation of interpretation panels and similar local information sources and workshop sessions with community groups to increase awareness of this strategy. We will investigate the scope for additional partnership working with Historic Environment Scotland in relation to the suggested linking of this Strategy with community involvement in place making as described above.
- 8.3.27 We shall consult communities on the Buildings at Risk Action Plan to gather local support for the re - use of redundant and vacant historic buildings at risk in their area ; we shall encourage local groups and others who are interested in developing proposals to explore opportunities for community stewardship of heritage assets. We shall direct them to funding sources and specialist assistance for community based and community driven heritage projects.
- 8.3.28 Working in partnership with Historic Environment Scotland, we shall encourage communities to identify important historic environmental assets in their areas and to take advantage of their rights under the "Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to take into control land or buildings owned by public bodies that they believe they can restore through innovative funding. We will also encourage communities and local history groups to develop projects which celebrate their cultural heritage and enhance the tourism potential of our area and, where staff resources allow, assist them to access sources of external funding to realise their aspirations.
- 8.3.29 Through the Falkirk Stories: community storytelling project we shall compile a comprehensive archive of memories, images and other responses to Falkirk's heritage to be hosted on a website platform to act as an enduring legacy of the Falkirk: Landscape, Industry and Work project.



### Increased Appreciation

The national series of focus years such as The Year of Architecture, Innovation and Design 2016, The Year of History Heritage and Archaeology 2017 and recurring events such as Doors Open Days, Scottish Apprenticeship Week, promote and instigate activity by communities involved with all aspects of the historic environment.

- 8.3.30 We will explore joint objectives with partners to enable local communities to celebrate every facet of the historic environment that fits with local and national objectives.

Falkirk Community Trust has developed a series of events, programmes and activities for 2017 - Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology - based on 3 key themes: The Romans (in recognition of the extensive presence of the Antonine Wall in our area), Industry (to mark the rise and decline of local industry) and The Horse (marking the dependency of mankind to the horse as acknowledged by the area's iconic Kelpie's sculptures). Horse themes activities under consideration include a large scale event focusing on horsepower at Helix Park, home of The Kelpies, equestrian themed exhibition, a film, commemorative pavement slabs and library displays. Roman themed activities suggested include exhibitions in Callendar House, digital storytelling workshops, event for World Heritage Day in association with Dig It and a joint project with Parks, Libraries and Heritage to build the Antonine Wall out of books. Activities celebrating the legacy of the local iron industry include a film, an exhibition, possible joint project with Historic Environment at the new Engine Shed in Stirling and restoration of Carron memorials in Larbert Churchyard.

Other Falkirk Community Trust activities include a public consultation on the future use of the refurbished Falkirk Steeple, promoting the Jacobite connection with Callendar House and ancestral tourism.

- 8.3.31 We shall seek out partners such as the local Stirling Chapter of the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland, the Central chapter of the Royal Town Planning Institute and Falkirk Delivers for the development of local award schemes which celebrate and raise awareness of the value of the historic environment. Falkirk Delivers BID promotes responsible development through their Taking a Pride Initiative. Suggested awards include best practice in the conservation and repair of historic buildings, best practice in the conservation and repair of shopfronts or other minor works, and best creative re - use and adaptation of historic buildings - the last being bi-annual only. An annual awards ceremony could be promoted on line and in local media to raise community awareness of the value of preservation and enhancement of historic environment.
- 8.3.32 We shall support Forth Valley Traditional Building Forum with their proposed future programme for local secondary schools on historic buildings, traditional building skills and materials including skills demonstration events and Summer Schools.
- 8.3.33 Through the Celebrating our heritage: art, tourism and events project we will hold a programme of events, festivities and promotions designed to raise awareness of Falkirk's heritage, attract visitors and encourage local people to explore the heritage network.



Falkirk Steeple Refurbishment

## 8.4 Action Plan

Ref.	Theme	Action/Project	Lead	Partners	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
8.3.1	Effective Management and Protection	Review and update planning policies and guidance	PEU, Falkirk Council						
8.3.2	Effective Management and Protection	Review and update Conservation Area Appraisals and CAMPS as required	PEU, Falkirk Council						
8.3.3	Effective Management and Protection	Programme of Character Appraisals of Areas of Townscape Value	PEU, Falkirk Council						
8.3.4	Effective Management and Protection	Disseminate knowledge of and promote maintenance	FVTBF, Falkirk Townscape Heritage Initiative	HES, Scottish Canals, FVTBF, FCT					
8.3.5	Effective Management and Protection	Promote factoring of communal properties	Falkirk Delivers, BID	PEU, Falkirk Council					
8.3.6	Effective Management and Protection	Review of Areas of Special Advertisement Control	Development Management, Falkirk Council	PEU, Falkirk Council					
8.3.7	Effective Management and Protection	Explore funding for improvement projects	PEU, Falkirk Council	Local Groups, HES, HLF, FET, FCT					
8.3.8	Effective Management and Protection	Explore forming of Steering Group to continue monitoring of former THI Schemes	PEU, Falkirk Council	Falkirk Council, FCT, Local Groups					
8.3.9	Effective Management and Protection	Devise Buildings at Risk Action Plan	PEU, Falkirk Council	Falkirk Council, HES, Local Groups					
8.3.10	Effective Management and Protection	Agree joint priorities with key local partners	PEU, Falkirk Council	FCT, HES					
8.3.11	Effective Management and Protection	Establish Falkirk Heritage Alliance	Falkirk Community Trust	Falkirk Council, Scottish Canals, CSGNT, local stakeholders					
8.3.12	Enhancement of Knowledge	Explore options for developing knowledge of historic assets and applying new technology and techniques to surveying and recording	PEU, Falkirk Council	HES, Forth Valley College, volunteer groups, local universities and schools					
8.3.13	Knowledge Sharing	Update records	HES, FCT, PEU, Falkirk Council						
8.3.14	Knowledge Sharing	Create web based local information resource	PEU, Falkirk Council	Glorious Gardens Project					
8.3.15	Knowledge Sharing	Integrate local records with national SHED data	HES	PEU, Falkirk Council					
8.3.16	Knowledge Sharing	Encourage local knowledge capture projects	Local Groups, HES	PEU, Falkirk Council					
8.3.17	Increased Access	Encourage new uses - tourism and cultural uses - for historic sites	PEU, Falkirk Council	Falkirk Council, FCT, FET, Local Groups					



Ref.	Theme	Action/Project	Lead	Partners	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
8.3.18	Increased Access	Promote local heritage and landscape trails	PEU, Falkirk Council	1745 Association, Scottish Battlefields Trust, Callendar Estate, FCT, HES					
8.3.19	Sustainable Use of Assets	Support new uses for Rosebank Distillery	Scottish Canals	PEU, Falkirk Council					
8.3.20	Sustainable Use of Assets	Investigate funding for restoration of Dollar Park	PEU, Falkirk Council	Scottish Canals, HLF, FVC					
8.3.21	Sustainable Use of Assets	Submit funding bid for Zetland Park	PEU, Falkirk Council	Local Groups					
8.3.22	Sustainable Use of Assets	Support new uses for Walled Garden in Kinneil Estate	PEU, Falkirk Council, FCT	HES, Local Businesses, Falkirk Allotment Society					
8.3.23	Growing Skills	Continue to support Glorious Gardens Project	Scotland's Garden and Landscape Heritage	PEU, Falkirk Council, HES					
8.3.24	Growing Skills	Continue to convene in house knowledge transfer events	PEU, Falkirk Council	HES, other external agencies					
8.3.25	Growing Skills	Careers in a Modern Producer Economy	Falkirk Community Trust	Falkirk Council, Scottish Canals, CSGNT, Forth Valley College, local stakeholders					
8.3.26	Community Involvement	Pursue involvement with local community	PEU, Falkirk Council	Local Groups, HES, A+DS					
8.3.27	Community Involvement	Consult Local groups on Buildings at Risk Action Plan	PEU, Falkirk Council	Local Groups, HES					
8.3.28	Community Involvement	Encourage communities to develop heritage projects and take control of historic buildings	PEU, Falkirk Council	Local Groups, HES					
8.3.29	Community Involvement	Falkirk Stories: community storytelling	FCT	Falkirk Council, CSGNT, Scottish Canals, Local Community, Local Groups					
8.3.30	Increased Appreciation	Explore partnership working on projects such as focus year events and similar	PEU, Falkirk Council, FCT	HES, Falkirk Council					
8.3.31	Increased Appreciation	Devise Local Award Schemes	PEU, Falkirk Council	RIAS, RTPI, Falkirk Delivers BID					
8.3.32	Increased Appreciation	Support focussed programmes for secondary schools	Forth Valley Traditional Building Forum	PEU, Falkirk Council, Forth Valley College					
8.3.33	Increased Appreciation	Celebrating our heritage: art, tourism and events	FCT	Falkirk Council, CSGNT, Scottish Canals, Local Community, Local Groups					



Larbert House



## 9. Monitoring Performance

### 9.1 Measuring Success

A national model for measuring success is under development. The national strategy suggests that successful delivery of its vision and key aims relies on collaborative working and making the most efficient use of resources. Monitoring and measuring success for this local strategy will rely on assistance and in some cases leadership from partners.

The Built Environment Forum Scotland (BEFS) has been working with stakeholders to develop a Performance Measurement Framework (Framework) to inform the delivery of the national strategy. Results are set out in Our Place in Time: Measuring Success Analysis of consultation responses and recommended next steps Final Report 13/02/15.

Historic Environment Strategy for Falkirk Outcome	How this will be measured
<b>The historic environment of the Falkirk Area is protected and safeguarded for the long term; its contribution to better place making is recognised and valued.</b>	Number of demolitions of listed buildings and scheduled monuments.
	Number of approved developments affecting the Antonine Wall, Battlefields, Inventory and Non - Inventory Designed Landscapes and Sites with Remnant Designed Landscape Features.
	Number of buildings at risk rescued and brought into use.
	Number of enforcement actions affecting the historic environment.
	Number of planning applications for sustainable use of listed buildings and unlisted buildings in conservation areas.
	The programme of Character Appraisals for Areas of Townscape Value is progressing in accordance with programme.
	A Buildings at Risk Action Plan is developed, approved and adopted.
<b>The application of new technology and techniques to survey and record historic assets are understood and available.</b>	Number of opportunities explored for the application of new techniques and new technology in partnership with external agencies and education providers.
<b>The range, quality and quantity of easily accessible information on the historic environment in the Falkirk area has improved. Local records align with aims and principles of national records as set out in Scotland's Historic Environment Data Strategy, April 2014.</b>	Number of opportunities for knowledge transfer created (talks, meetings, events) where audience profiles demonstrate widespread impact on local community and other stakeholders.
	Data of Falkirk's historic assets in a range of formats and from various sources is monitored;
	Consultations/questionnaires with local stakeholders on accessible records regarding quality and effectiveness.
<b>Access to local historic assets has increased.</b>	Number of opportunities for new uses in historic sites and buildings and new heritage and landscape trails explored through partnership working with others.
<b>Skills related to better understanding of the historic environment in the Falkirk area have been grown.</b>	Number of volunteers trained and spread of skills gained. Number and range of knowledge transfer events.
<b>Projects for the sustainable use of historic assets are under development with funders and other project partners.</b>	Number of projects explored and developed.
<b>Engagement with local communities is captured through a range of initiatives and events.</b>	Number and range of opportunities created for engagement and evaluation surveys.
<b>The historic environment of the Falkirk Area is promoted and celebrated.</b>	The further development of the heritage product within the Falkirk area contributes to an increase in visitor expenditure as per targets set out in the Falkirk Area Tourism Strategy 2015 - 2020. Analytics relating to visitor numbers and expenditure are provided to the Council in an annual STEAM report. Measures of outcomes from Awards Schemes and events such as Doors Open Day, Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology etc. demonstrate cultural, social and economic success. Visitor numbers and ratings are contrasted with other tourism offers in the local area.
	Measures of outcomes from Awards Schemes and events such as Doors Open Day, Year of History, heritage and Archaeology etc demonstrate cultural, social and economic success.

## 9.2 Reviewing Progress

To measure ongoing attainment of success and, more significantly, to identify and learn from failure, an annual review of progress will be provided over the five year currency of the adopted strategy; this review will be submitted for scrutiny by key stakeholders including the relevant Falkirk Council Committee(s), Falkirk Community Trust, Scottish Government and Historic Environment Scotland.

**“ The key is that all work to a shared vision and agreed aims for the historic environment. The strategy provides a framework that will enable collaborative work to ensure the most efficient use of available resources - and allows collective identification of opportunities, overlaps and gaps in activities and the ability to tackle key issues together for the benefit of the historic environment, individuals and communities alike.”**

**“Our Place in Time”  
The Historic Environment Strategy for  
Scotland 2014**



Kinneil House, Bo'ness



# 10. Further Information Sources

## 10.1 Links to Planning Policies, Supplementary Guidance, Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans

Falkirk Local Development Plan (Planning Policy Context on The Historic Environment):

Available at [www.falkirk.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/localplan)

Supplementary Guidance:

SG04 Shopfronts

SG09 Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Designations

SG07 Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Site (Under preparation)

SG16 Listed Buildings and Unlisted Properties in Conservation Areas

Available at [www.falkirk.gov.uk/sg](http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/sg)

Conservation Area Appraisals and Conservation Area Management Plans

Available at [www.falkirk.gov.uk/conservation](http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/conservation)

## 10.2 Links to sites and monument record and HES Designations

Sites and Monument Record:

<http://collections.falkirk.gov.uk/search.do?view=lightbox&keyword=sites&db=object>

HES Designations:

<http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designations>

## 10.3 Falkirk's Buildings at Risk

[www.buildingsatrisk.org.uk/search/planning\\_authority/187](http://www.buildingsatrisk.org.uk/search/planning_authority/187)



Larbert Old Parish Church

## 10.4 THI Community Engagement Programme 2013 - 2018

### Wider Town Centre/Falkirk Community Events

#### Launch Event

Event to promote the THI project. The THI Team provided information on what the THI does and what it means for the community, as well as what it means to live in a conservation area. We had demonstrations from stonemason and traditional signwriter. Our exhibition of old photographs of Falkirk and old films were very popular.

2014 • 512 Visitors • Sign-making activity: 70 children

#### Our Falkirk Steeple Exhibition

Exhibition about history of steeple, its uses, context in Falkirk and importance as a public timepiece. The Heritage Engagement Officer led craft activities in the exhibition on Saturdays and a group visited the exhibition from the Sensory Centre.

2014 • 3502 Visitors • 56 Children at Craft Sessions

#### Stories in Stone Exhibition

We worked with architecture students from Glasgow School of Art exploring the architecture of buildings in Falkirk Town. The GSA students produced 11 sketches and 13 3D models of the buildings which were displayed in the exhibition.

2015-2016 • 2,877 Visitors

#### Falkirk's Shops Exhibition

Exhibition exploring the history of Falkirk's shops from the Victorian to the Post-War period. This included architects drawings which were on display for the first time.

2016 • 1631 Visitors

#### Lost Falkirk Exhibition

Exhibition about aspects of town centre which have changed or disappeared (i.e. cinemas, Wynds/roads, Aitkin's brewery, Old Town Hall).

2017

#### Our Built Heritage Exhibition

Exhibition about impact of projects like the THI. Why conservation of historical buildings is important.

2018

#### Travelling Exhibition

Travelling exhibition about work and legacy of THI.

2017-2018

#### Photography Competition

Working with Falkirk Delivers we had a photography competition to find out what the town centre meant to the local community.

2015 • 7 entries

#### Photography Exhibition

Then and now comparisons of old and new photos of town centre.

2018

#### Artist in Residence

An artist will be appointed to complete a 12-month residency. They will use art to start conversations with the local community.

2017-2018

#### Falkirk Apprenticeship Day

Free drop-in event with traditional building skills demonstrations.

2014, 2015, 2017, 2018

#### Festival of Architecture High Street Installation

Worked with Arka Architects and architecture students from the University of Strathclyde on a Festival of Architecture project. A 'cube' like installation was produced on the High Street exploring the architecture and history of the town.

2016

#### Chalk Art

In partnership with Falkirk BIB we commissioned a local artist to create chalk art around the Steeple for the duration of the Steeple works. The art includes references to Steeple history and the shops at the base of the Steeple.

2016-2017

#### Steeple 200 Weekend



## Doors Open Day Events

Special Event across Doors Open Day weekend to celebrate the Steeple's 200th anniversary, in partnership with Falkirk Council, Falkirk Community Trust, Falkirk BID and Falkirk Local History Society. Event included live music, traditional market heritage street games, tours of the Steeple, Steeple Exhibition, THI information stall.

2014 • Steeple Tours: 400+ Visitors

### Steeple Tours

Public Tours of the inside of Falkirk Steeple.

2015 • 200 Visitors

### THI Stall

Information on Falkirk THI Project and Events.

2015 • 40 Visitors

### Exploring Historic Shops

For Doors Open Day Lindsay Lennie gave a talk about the history of shops before leading a walk exploring Falkirk examples.

2016 • 15

### Let's Build LEGO Drop-in Event

Doors Open Day event for the younger generation. Children created buildings and other designs in Lego, Duplo and Soft Bricks.

2016, 2017 • 80 Visitors

### Primary and Secondary Schools Events School

#### Town Heritage Walk

The THI Heritage Engagement Officer took Primary 2 pupils from St Andrews School on a walk around the town centre.

2013 • 54 (2 P2 Classes)

### Picturing Our Steeple School Art Project

Artist Susheila Jamieson delivered this heritage art based project to primary schools. The artist worked with P6 or 7 pupils to create artwork based on the Steeple. The artwork produced was displayed alongside the Steeple Exhibition.

2014 • Four Local Primary Schools

### Steeple History Teacher CPD

CPD for Teachers based on the Steeple Education Pack. Looking at exploring the history of the Steeple both in and outside the classroom.

2015 • 3 Teachers

### Steeple Education Pack

Pack of Learning Resources for Teachers about the history of Falkirk Steeple. Produced for Steeple 200 anniversary.

2014 • Distributed to 38 schools

### Falkirk's Shops: First Impressions

Historic Environment Strategy for Falkirk 2018

Artist Sarah Wakeford has been working with P6 or/and P7 pupils at four local Primary Schools on this art project exploring historic shopfronts.

2016 • Four Local Primary Schools

### Architecture Education Pack

Pack of Learning Resources for Teachers exploring different architecture styles of buildings in Falkirk town centre.

2016-2017

### Exploring Heritage on Your Doorstep CPD

The THI Heritage Engagement Officer will lead a CPD for Teachers exploring how built heritage can be used as a learning resource both inside and outside the Classroom.

2016-2017

### Heritage Trail Pack for Teachers

Create a Town Heritage Trail Resource for Primary School Teachers.

2017-2018

### Falkirk Town Heritage Trail App

## Heritage Interpretation Events

Smart Phone App walking tour/heritage guide to Falkirk town centre.

2017

### Volunteer Tour Guides

A number of volunteers were trained to become Tour Guides of the town centre.

2017

### Falkirk Local History Society

#### Research Group

The THI supported 10 members of FLHS who had never undertaken historical research before. The members of the group picked a building in the town centre and researched into its history. The groups also explored the buildings through art sketches of architectural details.

10 members of FLHS

#### Calatria

September 2014:

Special Edition of Calatria on Falkirk Steeple

November 2015:

Special Edition of Calatria on Falkirk Town Centre

2016-2018: Two further editions of Calatria Walks

FLHS delivered a number of walks for the THI.

2014 • 2 Walks • 10 attendees

2016 • 4 Walks • 20 attendees

### Talks/Consultations

#### Talk at FLHS Meeting

The THI Heritage Engagement Officer delivered a short talk at the start of the FLHS Meeting about the THI and the launch event.

2014 • 60 FLHS members

#### Callendar House Talks

Heritage Engagement Officer delivered three lunchtime talks at Callendar House to members of the public about the THI.

2015 • 40 attendees approx

#### Talk to Falkirk Probus Club

Heritage Engagement Officer talked to Probus Club about the THI.

2015

#### 3D Scanning Talk

Doug Pritchard from Herriot Watt University presented a talk in Callendar House about 3D scanning and built heritage.

2015 • 28 people

### THI Public Realm Consultation

Informal consultation with the public about plans for improving the Public Realm.

2016

### THI Seminar Programme 2016 - 2017

Looking after Traditional Shopfronts:

Tuesday 22nd November 2016

### Dampness & Organising Shared Repairs:

Wednesday 30th November 2016

### Looking after your Roof - leaks:

Wednesday 7th December 2016

### Looking after the Exterior Walls of your Property - stone decay and repair, harling and paint issues:

Wednesday 11th January 2017

### Looking after your Windows and Doors - draughts, leaks and broken windows

Wednesday 18th January 2017

### Energy Efficiency in Traditional Buildings:

Wednesday 1st Feb 2017.



## 10.5 Local Trails and Information Panels

### Existing:

Bo'ness Town Trail,  
Falkirk Heritage Trail,  
Airth Paths Leaflet,  
Denny Paths Leaflet,  
Bonnybridge Interpretation Panel,  
Antonine Wall Paths Leaflet,  
River Avon Heritage Trail.

### Under Development:

Falkirk Battlefield Trail,  
Antonine Wall Trail,  
Braes Paths Leaflet,  
Larbert and Stenhousemuir Path Leaflet,  
Grangemouth Town Leaflet.

### Future Projects Under Consideration:

Carron Iron Company Trail,  
Bo'ness Heritage Trail.



Falkirk Steeple



Slamannan Parish Church, Slamannan

## 10.6 Funding Sources

### Historic Environment Scotland

#### Historic Environment Repair Grant

A scheme which helps with the cost of repairs to buildings of special interest.

#### Grants for Places of Worship Scheme

Help with the cost of urgent repairs to listed places of worship.

#### Historic Environment Support Fund

A small fund used to provide support for one-off heritage events.

#### Organisational Support Fund

Providing financial support to organisations responsible for the operation, management or safeguarding of historic environment assets.

#### Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS)

Support for regeneration and conservation initiatives over a five-year period.

#### Ancient Monument Grant Scheme

Funding for the conservation and maintenance of Scotland's ancient monuments.

#### Archaeology Programme funding

Funding for research and intervention projects to further our knowledge of the historic environment and rescue archaeological information.

#### Thatched Buildings Maintenance Scheme

Financial support for the repair of historic traditional thatched properties.

#### Maintenance Plan Grants Scheme

Help with the preparation of maintenance plans for historic buildings.

#### Landscape Management Plan Grants Scheme

Help towards the preparation of landscape management plans for Inventory gardens.

#### Centenary Memorials Restoration Fund

Financial support for communities for the conservation and repair of war memorials.

### Falkirk Environment Trust

Falkirk Environment Trust is a local charitable trust which aims to support environmental projects by awarding grants and supplying advice and support.

FET operates Small Grants Schemes - £10k total fund level every year with max grant up to £2k. Funded training for surveys is available.



## Heritage Lottery Fund Programmes

**Sharing Heritage** (£3,000 to £10,000) - is part of the Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology 2017. The Sharing Heritage programme is for any type of project related to national, regional or local heritage in the UK

**Young Roots** (£10,000 to £50,000) - The Young Roots programme is for projects that engage young people with heritage in the UK.

**Heritage Enterprise** (£100k to £5m) - The Heritage Enterprise programme is for projects that seek to achieve economic growth by investing in heritage. It is primarily for enterprising community organisations to help them rescue neglected historic buildings and sites and return them to a viable productive use.

**Our Heritage** (£10k to £100k)

**Outcomes for heritage:** With our investment, heritage will be: better managed in better condition better interpreted and explained identified/recorded.

**Outcomes for people:** With our investment, people will have: developed skills learnt about heritage changed their attitudes and/or behaviour had an enjoyable experience volunteered time.

**Parks for People** (£100k to £5m) Historic public parks and cemeteries are valued places at the centre of local communities. Help to conserve them with funding of £100,000-£5million.

**Resilient Heritage** - Resilient Heritage programme will accept applications for grants of between £3,000 and £10,000 for activities currently supported through Start-up Grants programme.

**Landscape Partnerships** (£100,000 to £3,000,000) - From majestic mountains to open countryside and windswept coasts, conserve areas of distinctive landscape character.

### Heritage Grants over £100k

"Heritage includes many different things from the past that we value and want to pass on to future generations, for example: archaeological sites; collections of objects, books or documents in museums, libraries or archives; cultural traditions such as stories, festivals, crafts, music, dance and costumes; historic buildings; histories of people and communities; histories of places and events; the heritage of languages and dialects; natural and designed landscapes and gardens; people's memories and experiences (often recorded as 'oral history'); places and objects linked to our industrial, maritime and transport history; and natural heritage including habitats, species and geology.

**Parks for People** (£100,000 to £5million) Parks for People is for projects related to historic parks and cemeteries in the UK.

**Our Heritage** (£10,000 to £100,000) The Our Heritage programme is for any type of project related to national, regional or local heritage in the UK

## Useful contacts

Planning and Environment Development Services  
Falkirk Council  
Abbotsford House  
David's Loan  
Falkirk FK2 7YZ  
01324 504950  
[planenv@falkirk.gov.uk](mailto:planenv@falkirk.gov.uk)

For further information on world heritage sites, scheduled monuments, battlefield sites, listed buildings, conservation areas, historic gardens and designed landscapes, historic marine protected areas in Scotland:

<http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designations>

# Our Future in the Past

Historic Environment Strategy for Falkirk 2018



Zetland Park, Grangemouth



**Falkirk Council**  
Development Services