

Education & Training Initiatives

Selkirk CARS is promoting and developing a three-year educational programme in conjunction with local schools, community organisations, and interested individuals aimed at encouraging community involvement and raising the awareness, understanding and enjoyment of Selkirk's rich heritage.

The educational programme will adopt a contextual 'living heritage' approach to interpretation that aims to engage with all sections of the community, from adult through school age audiences, using a variety of methods, both physical and digital, as well as seeking opportunities to maximise national and international awareness of the town's history and heritage to both attract additional tourism to the town and enhance the visitor experience where possible.

In parallel with the education programme, Selkirk CARS will develop a programme of relevant traditional skills awareness and training events for both building owners and local construction professionals and contractors.

The traditional skills awareness and training programme aims to promote the need for regular building maintenance to prevent costly future repairs, whilst also providing increased knowledge and skills in the use of appropriate traditional repair techniques.

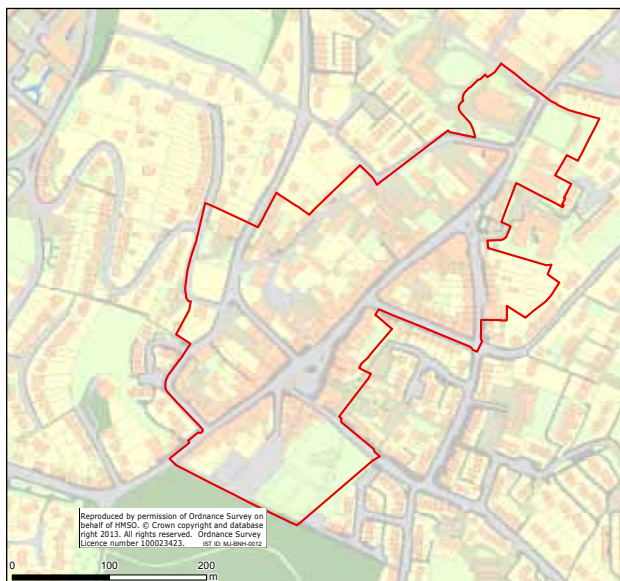
Further Information Conservation Standards

Grant eligible works must be undertaken by a suitable experienced building professional (works over £5,000) and / or building contractor and must be to accepted conservation standards. All potential applicants for grant support are encouraged to discuss their proposals with the Selkirk CARS Project Officer in advance of submitting a formal application.

Contact Details

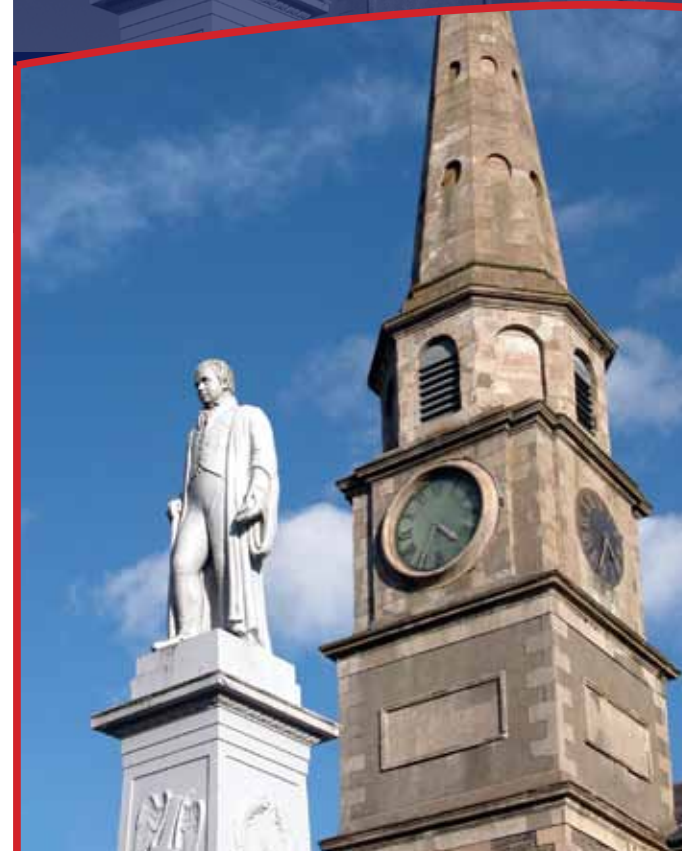
For general information about Selkirk CARS or specific information about the grant scheme or education and training programmes please contact:

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www.scotborders.gov.uk/selkirkCARS

Selkirk Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme



Selkirk CARS

Selkirk Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) is a partnership project developed by Scottish Borders Council in conjunction with a community based Selkirk CARS Steering Group, which successfully obtained funding from Historic Scotland in January 2013 for a heritage led regeneration project for Selkirk town centre. Selkirk CARS is focused on a range of heritage and conservation based regeneration activities within the town centre over a five year period. The scheme will offer grant aid towards repair works to traditional buildings as well as supporting complementary initiatives, such as Community Heritage Projects and Traditional Skills Training, to increase awareness and understanding of the town's rich heritage. The project has an overall budget of just over £1million, funded by Historic Scotland (£795,000) and Scottish Borders Council (£215,000) and will run until March 2018.

The overall Selkirk CARS is made up of four distinct components, each with their own budget and targets, which will offer the community a variety of ways to become involved with the initiative. These are:

Priority Buildings Grants

Funding has been allocated to specific buildings identified by the Selkirk CARS Steering Group as being located in prominent positions and currently having an adverse impact on the town centre due to their condition or appearance. The scheme aims to help these buildings establish a sustainable future as well as demonstrating the benefits of Heritage Led Regeneration. Normal maintenance work is not eligible and the works must be carried out to conservation standards by a suitably experienced professional / contractor.

Seven Priority Building Projects have currently been identified and a programme of repairs will be developed and implemented for these projects during the overall lifespan of the Selkirk CARS project.



General Repair Grants To Property Owners

The majority of older properties within the defined Selkirk CARS boundary (see map) are eligible for consideration for grant aid for traditional repair and restoration works, including shopfronts and commercial properties. Normal maintenance work is not eligible and the works must be carried out to conservation standards by a suitably experienced professional / contractor. Grant aid cannot be offered for works already completed.

Grant aid will generally be in the range of 50% to 75% for repair works and up to 90% for reinstatement of original architectural features up to a maximum of £15,000 of funding for major repairs and £5,000 of funding for minor repairs.

Applications will be invited in a series of rounds, initially four times per year, and will be assessed via a set of scoring criteria (to include need, prominence, quality and deliverability) by a panel drawn from the Selkirk CARS Steering Group members. The Small Grants Scheme will only be open to properties located in the Market Place



the first year that the grant funding is available. Thereafter any project throughout the identified CARS boundary will be eligible to apply.

Grant offers can be made to owners up to March 2016 and all grant-aided works must be completed and claims finalised by March 2018.



Public Realm

The Selkirk CARS will contribute to a programme of works developed by Scottish Borders Council associated with improvements to the streetscape of Market Place in Selkirk town centre and in particular the enhancement of materials and finishes appropriate to an outstanding conservation area.

The main programme of works will be developed with the local community and is scheduled to be undertaken in 2017.

