



HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD
EACHDRAIDHEIL
ALBA

Joan McAlpine MSP, Convener,
Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee
By email
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10 January 2019

Dear Ms. McAlpine,

Legacy of Scotland's role in slavery

Thank you for your letter to Alex Paterson, dated 5th December which has been passed on to me, as Head of Visitor Experience, Content & Learning as it directly links to my remit.

Historic Environment Scotland (HES) is very conscious of the need for increased clarity in this area and you may be interested to know that we will be undertaking a research programme looking into how the profits from slavery impacted on the historic built environment of Scotland and to identify ways to acknowledge that impact. Initial meetings have been held but the planning stage for this co-ordinated programme of research will begin fully in early 2019.

We anticipate that this research will focus not only on the Properties in Care estate but also on the wider historic built environment i.e. Scotland's towns, cities, country estates, industrial sites. We are already in contact with relevant academics and other national and cultural heritage bodies with the aim of taking forward an ambitious research project. Given the scope of this work we expect it to take place over a number of years.

I hope you find this information useful,

Yours Sincerely,

p.p.

LORNA EWAN