4 February 2019

Legacy of Scotland's role in slavery

Dear Ms Ewan

Thank you for your letter of 10 January highlighting the research programme Historic Environment Scotland is undertaking to examine how the profits from slavery impact upon the historic built environment. The Committee considered your letter at its meeting on 24 January and broadly welcomed the research but would be grateful for some further information.

We note from your letter that the research will focus on the Properties in Care but also on the wider historic built environment. While we understand the research is in its fledgling stages, the Committee would appreciate some more information about the specific areas the research will consider and its possible outcomes. We also understand from your letter that given the scope of this work you expect it to take place over a number of years. The Committee would appreciate a more definitive timescale if possible or alternatively regular updates from HES setting out the estimated timeframes for completion. Finally, the Committee would appreciate some additional information about the proposed cost of the research and details of how the project will be funded.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely

Joan McAlpine MSP, Convener,
Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee