



By email to: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Friends of Dundonald Castle

[REDACTED]
Head of Partnerships & Projects

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25 April 2019

Dear Mr [REDACTED]

Friends of Dundonald Castle visitor centre – Asset Transfer Request

I am writing to confirm our support for your application to South Ayrshire Council for an asset transfer request for the visitor centre and adjacent land.

Having reviewed your draft application, we find it comprehensive and well informed based on your existing running of the centre, a long-term relationship with HES, and clear support and engagement from the local community. For avoidance of doubt, my response reflects our interests as managers of Dundonald Castle. I note you have consulted my colleagues for our statutory remit in planning applications affecting scheduled monuments.

Historic Environment Scotland, through Scottish Ministers' Scheme of Delegation, care for Dundonald Castle, Ayrshire under a 1952 Guardianship Agreement, which has passed to South Ayrshire Council as owners of the Title now. Within the Guardianship Agreement sits a visitor centre, built and funded by South Ayrshire Council and occupied by the Friends of Dundonald Castle. We have a partnership agreement with you to provide all key keeping duties and run the visitor centre both for HES visitors and for wider community events.

I should note that the existing visitor centre and the adjacent land under your application is within the land covered by the 1952 Guardianship Agreement. In the context of your plans, we will ensure the visitor centre and any additional land is formally excluded from our Guardianship Agreement with South Ayrshire Council through a Minute of Variation. This makes a clear asset transfer to you for the land and clarifies any statutory legal assumption that we might have an interest for the maintenance of the building in the future. We will need to seek Scottish Ministers approval for this change in boundary.



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If you have any questions about this letter or seek further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

