Nottingham Castle Transformation Project secures National Lottery Investment!

Nottingham City Council is pleased to announce today that it has received a grant of £13.9m from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) towards the Nottingham Castle Transformation Project.

Fittingly, the congratulatory announcement from HLF will be delivered by Robin Hood once the news arrives by a messenger who will approach the Castle on horseback. Around 10.30 today.

The news will be celebrated by a gathered group of school children from Haydn Road Primary School and characters from the Castle's 1,000 years of history.

(This is a CGI image of how the site may look once the transformation is complete)

Comment from our Portfolio Holder

Cllr Dave Trimble, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture said:

“We’re delighted with this news and very grateful that the Heritage Lottery Fund has given the scheme their vote of confidence. Securing this funding means we can push on with the next phase of the scheme. We look forward to delivering this major project which is so significant for our City, for tourism, and our economy and is a source of pride for the people of Nottingham.”

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Comment from HLF East Midlands

Jonathan Platt, Head of HLF East Midlands said:

“Nottingham Castle will forever be linked in our imaginations to the outlaw Robin Hood and his Merry Men. There are, however, many other wonderful stories that are part of its history, including political rebellion, riots and intrigue. With the help of National Lottery players, this extraordinary historic building will once more become a focal point for Nottingham.”

About the Heritage Lottery Fund

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. For more information please visit: www.hlf.org.uk or Twitter @heritagelottery

What does this mean for the project?

As our newsletter subscribers will know, a dedicated team has worked on the proposals for the last 18 months – with detailed plans and designs submitted in August 2016 to HLF.

The approval of these proposals is a major milestone for the project, which enables progression to the next stage, technical design and procurement before starting work on site.

The cost of the scheme is £29.4m. This project complements Nottingham City Council’s strategic plan to develop the southern gateway of the city centre.

(These images are visuals for the new visitor centre)
Are there any more plans to share?

The centrepiece of the scheme will be the creation of new galleries dedicated to Robin Hood, Nottingham’s famous outlaw (left), and the story of rebellion in the city.

Other plans include...

- Restoration to the gatehouse/Palace galleries
- Remodelling of the landscape and grounds
- An adventure play area
- A new visitor centre (see above)
- Improved experience of the caves
- Improved experience of Brewhouse Yard Cottages which are situated at the foot of the Castle rock.

The images above show the proposed Robin Hood galleries and the visitor area to introduce the caves.

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**A big thank you**

Lastly; we’d really like to thank you, our newsletter subscribers for the continued support. We wouldn’t have got this far without public support for the transformation.

There’s still lots of work to do so please keep spreading the word - share this newsletter and keep in touch via [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com)

Keep an eye out for November’s newsletter for more pictures from the announcement event at the Castle.
with family, friends and colleagues