

HEAT CASE STUDY:

Future-proofing tenements with Edinburgh World Heritage

Allocated funds £330,256

1-2. Edinburgh World Heritage Trust, 2021

THE ASK

Edinburgh World Heritage (EWH) applied for funding to support a complex energy efficiency improvement project in a post-war block of flats. The project was complicated by its location: a World Heritage Site.

WHY IT WAS SELECTED

EWH's project improved energy efficiency and comfort levels for people in these properties, while providing useful insights that will help with future retrofit projects in listed buildings.

THE PROJECT

A range of energy efficiency and conservation measures were applied as part of the whole house retrofit of a block of flats. A total of 83 improvements were installed, with 12 flats and two commercial units benefiting from external works, and 11 of the flats and one commercial unit from additional internal works.

Improvements included double or triple glazed windows which echoed Basil Spence's original design for the building, the insulation of attic and flat roof and cavity walls, LED lighting, Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery (MVHR), and more efficient heating systems with smart controls.

Yann Grandgirard, EWH

"Without this support, we probably wouldn't have been able to complete this complex project. We're grateful for the trust the GEF team had in this project throughout, despite the various challenges we faced. The project's success is also the GEF's success."



How this project serves the GEF aims

Putting the planet and people first
Occupants now have increased levels of comfort in flats that were previously damp and draughty.



We're already making an impact and will continue to do so
Expected new Energy Performance Certificates bands range from B to C for the 12 flats and the commercial unit. Before the works, they were C to D for the flats and G for the commercial unit.



We must keep evolving
The whole house approach means multiple measures contribute to carbon savings, delivering an estimated 67% decrease in carbon emissions.



Support where it's needed most
Navigating energy efficiency improvements in listed buildings is a major challenge in the transition to Net Zero, and this project has shown it's possible to get it right.

