

Co-locate cases and will be funded by cash from the Scottish Government's Innovation and Investment Fund (IIF) granted last week.

The project will be managed by Link Housing Association, with details of the development expected to be announced shortly.

Elsewhere, Linwood based Linstone Housing Group will also benefit from IIF money as they undertake the £640,000 regeneration of two tower blocks in Paisley's West End.

The two grants mark the second wave of Renfrewshire projects to benefit from IIF cash, following on from almost £4m secured by the council during the first tranche of funding.

Council Housing convener Cllr Kenny MacLaren, said: "This is excellent news for Johnstone and Renfrewshire, with the Innovation and Investment Fund is contributing

"Obviously I was delighted with last week's news, resulting in the first general needs housing being built by the council in around 30 years, but the success of our housing association partners is also great news.

"I look forward to these new developments taking place and the opening of these new properties – providing much needed affordable housing in Renfrewshire – taking place as soon as possible."

Over £200 million has been invested in new affordable housing projects across Scotland. The Scottish Government's £55 million Innovation and Investment Fund (IIF) is being matched by almost three times that amount from councils, housing associations and private developers.

Savings achieved mean that nationwide, 652 housing association homes will need £13 million less in public

value for taxpayers' money.

"We called for fresh thinking and new ideas and in response councils, housing associations and private developers have risen to the challenge magnificently.

"Housing associations have embraced the new financial reality by proposing new housing developments delivered at subsidy levels that would have been unthinkable a few years ago.

"In fact, we are getting around 220 extra housing association units based on the lower subsidy compared to last years grant rates."

"Altogether this package will support 3,000 jobs in the construction sector demonstrating how targeted capital investment can give our economy a real boost, a central plank of the Scottish Government's new Government Economic Strategy.



## A special celebration

A JOHNSTONE school celebrated a big birthday by planting some very aptly-named trees.

Auchenlodment Primary on Aspen Place celebrated their 50th birthday with 50 events over the course of a year.

On September 9, the school held a thanksgiving service, followed by a balloon race when 50 gold and 200 red eco-friendly balloons were

released. From there the pupils watched a tree planting of a very special aspen tree which was donated by Oxfam, the Aspen is a tree which is indigenous to Scotland but very rare at present.

The school's tree was a sapling grown from a mother tree in Robert Bruce's cave in Arran and now makes the school site one of special historic

interest. These events highlighted the success of the school in the community and everyone had a fantastic day which began with each pupil being presented with a special 50th Anniversary badge and with a lovely piece of birthday cake - a treat from local bakers Greggs.

Good luck to Auchenlodment for the next fifty!  
**More pictures next week!**

# BARNET & CO



## The Beauty Centre

94 Main Street, Barrhead, Glasgow G78 1SE



The p  
presiden  
presiden  
For m  
01505 3

## 'Thi

A JOH  
stealing  
Royal  
Jackson  
a set of  
29. Wh  
Sheriff  
McGree  
mediate

RETAI  
new ga  
The  
October  
any cus  
The  
custome  
The  
Scotland  
restricti

## Cha

THERE  
Kilmac  
The e  
There  
the day  
stalls, p

63