

Shovel ready

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Many people have asked what People's Quantitative Easing might deliver in the short term - especially [as it is now looking more likely](#) that such a programme will be needed long before the next General Election.

As example, I note [the Scottish government](#) came up with a list of what it called shovel ready projects in 2012 when a downturn in construction suggested that real boost was needed for this sector. Alex Salmond said then (as First Minister at the time) that:

In March — at his request — I wrote to the Prime Minister outlining infrastructure projects worth £300m from the north to the south of Scotland that are 'shovel ready' to stimulate the Scottish economy and help keep Scotland out of recession.

What were those projects? This is the list, and I would be amazed if it could not be replicated around the UK:

Ullapool Pier - Passenger access system, traffic management, new berthing dolphin and replacement linkspan, £4m

Gourock-Dunoon Pontoons £2m

Kennacraig Phase 2, £4m

A96 Threapland, £6m

A68 Pathhead to Tynehead Junction, £6m

A95 Lackgie, £4m

A702 Candymill Bend and Edmonstone Brae, £4m

A737 Head Street Roundabout, £1.5m

A876 Kincardine Bridge Refurbishment, £14m

A75 Hardgrove to Kinmount, £10m

M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements: Advance Public Utilities, £37.8m

Health Maintenance to ensure assets are safe, effective and person centred, £50m

Accelerating Schools for the Future — worth £30.8m

University projects worth £35m including: University of Glasgow - Centre for Virology Research; University of Dundee - Phases 2 and 3 - refurbishment of Duncan of Jordanstone; University of Abertay / Dundee College - Dundee Academy of Sport; University of Edinburgh - Centre for Humanities and Social Sciences.

Dundee Central Waterfront, £4.5m

Fife Energy Park - Site Development, £3.5m

ITREZ Technology Innovation Centre, £4m

ATOS Building - Forress Enterprise Park, £3m

Inverness Campus, £6m

Forres Enterprise Park - Extension of Roads, £2m

Forres Enterprise Park - Provide 2 Units, £3m

European Marine Science Park - Ground works, £3.5m

Creative Clyde, £1.7m

National Renewable Infrastructure Plan - Hunterston Quay Upgrade, £2m

Priority investments within Local Authority Strategic Housing Investment Plans, £15m

Clyde Gateway developments at Bridgeton Cross, Dalmarnock Cross, Rutherglen and Shawfield, £37m

Ayr Gaiety Theatre regeneration, £1m

National Records of Scotland - Thomas Thomson House - urgent roof repairs, £1.5m

Historic Scotland - Abbotsford House - restoration to bring into public use, £0.7m

Historic Scotland - Lews Castle development, £1m

Forestry Commission Scotland - upgrade of visitor facilities at David Marshall Lodge,

Aberfoyle and Queen's View, Perthshire, £1m

National Parks - visitor facility improvements within the National Parks, £1m

Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh - commence replacement of the Garden's ageing glasshouses, £1.5m

TOTAL £302m

Add in broadband roll out, small business investment, flood works, plus the start of council house building and things begin to look very shovel ready very quickly.