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Allied Irish Bank (GB) finances five-star expansion at Loch Lomond

The £1.4 million redevelopment of The Loch Lomond Guest House and Lodges, financed by Allied Irish Bank (GB) is now complete.

Partners James Carr and Diane Edward secured funding from Allied Irish Bank (GB) in 2015 to build eight luxury lodges and a guest house on the banks of Loch Lomond, next to The Cruin, the busy wedding venue owned by Carr's family.

The five-star lodges opened in late 2015, and now the £800,000 centrepiece guest house has opened its doors, and already achieved five-star status from VisitScotland.

Diane Edward said: "We've designed the guest house, and the lodges, to really blend with and enhance the stunning scenery we're surrounded by here at Loch Lomond.

"The encouragement from Allied Irish Bank (GB) has made this long-term project a lot more bearable and really gave us confidence that we had a sound, exciting business plan."

Alison Kennedy, relationship manager at Allied Irish Bank (GB) said: "As specialists in the hospitality sector, we knew as soon as we visited the site for The Loch Lomond Guest House and Lodges that this was a winner, and a sound investment for the bank.

"James and Diane's passion for creating a unique offering for Loch Lomond, one that builds on James's family's adjacent business and knowledge of the area, made us determined to become part of the project."

Allied Irish Bank (GB)'s specialist hospitality team in Scotland and the North East of Scotland has worked on a number of high-profile deals this year, including the opening of Point A Hotels in Glasgow. Allied Irish Bank (GB) is also headline sponsor of the Prestige Hotel Awards, which seeks out Scotland's top 100 hotels as nominated by guests.