

## **REGIMENTAL COUNCIL BRIEFING 30 JULY 2022**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This briefing follows-on from the written brief circulated by Spike in May. Copies are available if you have not had sight of this written brief.

The purpose of this briefing is to:

1. Ensure that Association Branches and the wider Association membership are kept informed fully of progress with the *Living Barracks Project*.
2. Provide an insight into what the redeveloped museum footprint might look like once completed.
3. Provide a reminder of the current planned timescales associated with the *Living Barracks Project*.

As a reminder, to manage and lead the redevelopment of our Regimental Museum the Museum Committee has formed a working group consisting of Spike Thornton, Gerry O'Neill, Andrew Herberts, Grant Horsburgh and Peter McCutcheon.

### **THE REDEVELOPED MUSEUM FOOTPRINT**

Current planning indicates that the space allocated to the redeveloped museum within O and A Blocks will be similar to the existing museum footprint.

That said, while our Collection will provide the majority of displays and will occupy the majority of the 21 available galleries, it is likely that some displays and possibly some complete galleries will contain items from the existing Berwick Burrell Collection and the Berwick Town Museum.

This presents us with an opportunity to broaden the scope of the KOSB Regimental Museum to attract a wider audience by presenting an account of the history of Berwick's military past and its community links to the military, the story of the Barracks from 1717 and, from 1881 as the sole occupants of the Barracks, the Regiment's contribution to the continuing history of Berwick.

However, within this concept of a wider museum, we have set out some clear red lines which the partner organisations are aware of:

1. We retain full ownership of our Collection.
2. We retain ownership of the curation and interpretation of our Collection.
3. We are provided with sufficient space to tell the story of the Regiment.
4. We are provided with security of tenure within the Barracks.
5. A long-term, sustainable operating model with income generating opportunities to cover costs is implemented.

Now, let's look at the current planned layout.

## **FUNDING**

English Heritage are the project fund-raising lead and have considerable experience in this field. However, the KOSB are required to raise £100k towards project costs. In addition, it is anticipated that a fund in the region of £2m will be required to enable the KOSB to run a long-term sustainable operating model for the redeveloped Regimental Museum.

### **March 2022**

Project awarded £4.2m towards East Block costs by Community Development Fund.

### **May 2022**

Project applied for £360k grant from Heritage Lottery Fund towards research and preliminary work.

### **October 2022**

Outcome of research and preliminary work grant bid announced.

### **January 2023**

KOSB launch fund raising appeal.

### **October 2023**

Project applies for Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £4.5m to complete work on East Block.

### **February 2024**

Outcome of Heritage Lottery Fund grant bid announced.

## **CURRENT TIMESCALES**

### **October 2022**

Regimental Museum closes and decant to storage within G Block begins.

Detailed 12-month research phase commences to meet Heritage Lottery Fund requirements.

Specialist staff recruited to assist with conservation and curation of our Collection.

First phase 36-month preliminary work on East Block commence, including:

- converting the mob store into a temporary cinema
- securing the building fabric
- upgrading the utilities
- building the glassed-over atrium to the rear of East Block
- upgrading public lavatories
- upgrading the gymnasium.

### **March 2024**

Planned start date for second phase work on East Block.

### **Spring 2026**

Planned opening of the redeveloped Regimental Museum.