

Connolly Barracks Reimagined – Ground Floor Plan

This plan shows the transformation of the historic Officers' Building into a modern, accessible community hub for Longford, as part of the THRIVE Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme.

Key Features on the Ground Floor

- **Reception Area:** The main entrance and welcome point for all visitors.
- **Museum Experience:** Dedicated space to showcase Longford's history and music, supporting local arts and culture.
- **Community Café:** A new café located on the ground floor, with direct access to the performance/conference space for events.
- **Flexible Multi-Purpose Hall:** A large, adaptable space for community events, performances, and gatherings.
- **Creative Makerspace:** Workshop and studio areas for creative activities and training.
- **Meeting Rooms & Offices:** Spaces for community meetings, small events, and project administration.
- **Sensory/Flexible Room:** Inclusive space designed for comfort for all users

Restoration and Modernisation

- The building is being carefully refurbished, with upgrades for energy efficiency, new windows and doors, and repairs to the roof and rainwater systems.
- Non-original extensions and partitions are being removed to restore the original H-shaped layout.
- A new lift is being installed, providing universal access to all principal spaces.
- Feature lighting will highlight the building's heritage.

Sustainability and Accessibility

- The project includes energy-efficient systems, a green roof, solar PV panels, and sustainable drainage.
- Step-free access, ramps, and accessible parking ensure the building is welcoming to all.



Opportunities for the Ground Floor

- **Social Integration:**

A welcoming space for people from all backgrounds to meet, mix, and build connections, especially important in Longford's diverse community.

- **Community Events & Activities:**

Hosting of public events, workshops, classes, performances, and exhibitions that are open to all.

- **Meeting Spaces:**

Community groups, clubs, and voluntary organisations can book rooms for meetings, support groups, and activities.

- **Creative Opportunities:**

Makerspace and flexible event areas support local artists, craftspeople, and creative projects, including festivals and public art.

- **Learning & Training:**

Spaces for educational workshops, music lessons, and training sessions

- **Accessible Gathering Point:**

Fully accessible facilities ensure everyone, including people with disabilities can participate in community life.

- **Tourism & Visitor Engagement:**

The ground floor will act as a gateway for visitors, increasing footfall and supporting local tourism initiatives.

- **Volunteering & Community Leadership:**

Opportunities for local people to get involved in running events, exhibitions, and community programmes.

