



**GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR**  
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**Gibraltar**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **OFFICIAL OPENING OF RETRENCHMENT BLOCK**

The Retrenchment Block at Lathbury Barracks will be officially opened this evening, following the conversion of this building into facilities for local clubs and associations. The inauguration will be carried out by the Deputy Chief Minister, the Hon Joe Holliday.

The building forms an integral part of Gibraltar's southern defensive lines. It constitutes a two-storey stone building with a defensive frontage on its external South face and a building facade on its internal North face.

The new external works now include the following:

- The demolition of the present concrete walkway to re-expose the original underlying facade, including its stone features.
- The provision of a new traditional style open access walkway.
- The replacement of all windows and doors.
- The waterproofing of the roof.
- The cleaning of all external stonework.
- The landscaping of the forecourt areas including provision of planting and paving.
- A vehicular area that provides 42 private car spaces and collection/dropping-off points.
- Further parking has also been made available in adjacent areas south and east of the main building.

The new internal works provide for 29 units that have been allocated to various local clubs and associations. These rooms have an area of approximately 25-50m<sup>2</sup> and have been reconditioned to include new flooring, repairs to defective surfaces, new ramped access and partitions. The facilities are of a high standard.

The refurbishment includes the provision of modern services needs — these include new basic electrical and emergency installations to each room. Communal facilities include a kitchenette and toilet facilities at each level, a lift for disabled access and 4 meeting rooms.

Deputy Chief Minister, the Hon Joe Holliday said, "I am delighted that the refurbishment and upgrading of the Retrenchment Block has now been completed. This new facility for local clubs and associations provides over 1270m<sup>2</sup> of usable internal space within one building. It will serve to give a new lease of life and make valuable use of a historic facility which would otherwise remain disused and in a state of continuing deterioration. This project delivers our manifesto commitment to provide premises for clubs and associations at this location. I am confident that the many clubs and associations which have been allocated units at the Retrenchment Block will now enjoy these excellent facilities".