

Training Centre: Plans take shape



message

message:supplement

The newsletter of Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Service

2009

2010

April - November

User Groups
Consultations to
develop requirements

May 09 - January 10

Site and building plans
developed to include
feedback on requirements

January - March

Finalising requirements
and plans submitted for
planning approval

May

Design freeze on
plans (agreed
any outstanding
issues)

The New Training Centre

introduction

Welcome to this *message* supplement, updating you of the progress towards implementation of the new training centre at Newbridge.

This supplement gives you a first look at the site plan and some of the training buildings and facilities; all of which have been submitted to the planning department of the City of Edinburgh Council for consideration and approval. Subject to all necessary consent and approvals to the plans being secured, the new training centre is scheduled to be ready in Spring 2012.

As many of you will be aware, the need for a new purpose built training centre for the Service was identified as part of the Service Improvement Plan (SIP). The SIP has already delivered much of what it set out to achieve, and the new training centre will be a major milestone in terms of continued service improvement.

It will provide LBFRS with a purpose built facility that will ensure access to the resources necessary to develop and maintain the safety critical skills required of firefighters to carry out their duties safely and competently.

The development will unite the training facilities and accommodation currently at Ferry Road, and the Scottish International Fire Training Centre at McDonald Road onto a single site.

We will however, retain our carbonaceous fire training facilities at Fillyside in Edinburgh, this will enable us to continue to meet the requirement to train in fire behaviour techniques.

The coming two years will be a busy and exciting time for the organisation as we progress towards our fully functioning new training centre.

During the continued preparation and planning towards the move to the new site, staff training will continue to meet the organisation's needs.

Further updates will feature in the *message* and on the Intranet to ensure that everyone in the Service is kept updated on progress and the significant milestones along the way.



Peter Heath
Head of Training and Development

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- P2: Building blocks and Training Assets**
- P3 - P4: Site Plan**
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- P7: Benefits to Staff & Contact Information**

2010

Early 2011

Spring 2012

July - December

Prepare tender specifications and identify contractors for the building work

Building work begins on site at Newbridge

Building works complete and new training centre to open

building blocks and

training assets

The new training centre will be built on the land beside the existing Operational Support Centre (OSC) at Newbridge. The OSC will undergo a major building programme to accommodate the training centre classrooms, offices, breathing apparatus service area and showers that will replace the current facilities at Ferry Road and McDonald Road in Edinburgh.

Within the domestic, commercial/industrial building and ship units there will be state-of-the-art fire simulation with synthetic smoke capabilities. This will allow us to develop realistic and challenging fire and search scenarios.

The flexibility of the layouts and configuration of the various buildings used for fires will provide a wide range of adaptable situations to ensure safety critical training is both challenging and realistic, whilst in a safe and controlled environment.

The USAR facility has been located next to the industrial building, with communications between the two facilities to enable complex, integrated and realistic training scenarios - with the added opportunity to incorporate rope access from the roof of the industrial building into the USAR area.

A brief outline of the new centre's main features:

- Three storey domestic building and adjacent two storey traditional house with a pitched roof
- Four storey commercial/industrial building with roof anchor points for rope rescue
- A purpose built ship unit on three levels (decks)
- A purpose built rope rescue building incorporating a tower crane section
- A 35m section of motorway with central barriers and ditched and banked verges
- A railway level-crossing next to the motorway section
- A railway carriage and section of railway
- An Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) facility with breaching, shoring and rubble pile
- Large open area for training – e.g. for mass decontamination training
- Technical support building incorporating two briefing rooms, technical support room and storage area
- Two further briefing rooms to provide onsite (dirty) briefing facilities
- Open water storage tank which will be used for the internal water supply for training and for 'working near water' safety training

multi-agency opportunities

In addition to providing Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Service with the essential resources necessary to support the safety critical training for staff, the resources will also provide the potential for engaging in multi agency training across a wide range of scenarios and situations.

This will build upon the existing good interagency relationships and the development of integrated emergency management principles.

Plan of the site at Newbridge

Industrial/Commercial Building:

For more detailed information please see pages 5-6.

Urban Search and Rescue:

For more detailed information please see pages 5-6.

Open water area:

This will provide resource for pumping from open water.

Open Area

The open area will be put to grass and provides an ideal area for off road training, for example our Moffet Mounty forklift trucks. The area can also be used as part of a range of scenarios such as extended search areas and space for developing leadership and team building.

Ship facility:

The ship facility is constructed over three levels to realistically replicate the layout of a ship. With Leith docks within the Lothian region the need for realistic training facilities to develop ship firefighting tactics is essential. This facility incorporates an engine room, shaft tunnel, vertical shaft and ladder, with fire scenarios incorporated into the design. Access to the ship is via either a vertical ladder fixed on the outside to simulate ship to ship transfer or via the external fixed gantry access.

Rope Rescue/Vertical Access

This building houses a unique rope rescue structure which includes a simulated tower crane/open shaft tunnel to create a confined space rescue scenario.

The structure is arranged with platforms and ladders to provide a range of options for ascending and descending. This is a unique facility that will provide the opportunity for teams to develop and maintain their skills.

The building can also be integrated into the training building adjacent to the ship facility.

Highway and railway facilities:

The highway training facility provides a length of motorway/road with two lanes on one side and a single lane on the other with a large open space to create additional lanes if necessary. With authentic road furniture and markings this provides a realistic road traffic collision area.

The railway training area is integral to this part of the site with a railway level crossing at the end of the highway section and a full size railway carriage. This provides for training involving railway incidents and roadway incidents or incidents involving both at the same time.

Hard standing open area:

The large open tarmac area in front of the technical support building is 40 meters square and provides the space for a wide range of training including mass decontamination, foundation skills training such as pump and ladder work and includes a drill tower adjacent to the domestic buildings.

OSC

Technical Support Building:

This single storey building houses two briefing rooms, technical support room (workshop) and storage area with first aid room, toilet facilities and tea prep areas.

The briefing rooms provide space for briefing teams in what is often termed dirty briefing areas (areas in which firegear may be worn) and for debriefing and delivering some training elements.

The technical support room provides an indoor space for a range of training activities such as technical training on road traffic collision vehicles. With a storage area and covered court area this building is an integral component of the new training centre.

Two further briefing rooms are provided further down the training park and provide onsite access to briefing and debriefing rooms. Because of their location they also integrate with the overall layout of the site and add to the concept of a hazard village.

Domestic buildings:

For more detailed information please see pages 5-6.

Training:

ue and vertical access training facility. It structure and vertical shaft with access area.

at first and second floor levels with a wide depending via ropes. With its own storage area the conditions necessary for our rope access s in rope rescue.

other scenarios for example, as a quay side

KEY:



New Training Centre
Agreed Build for 2012



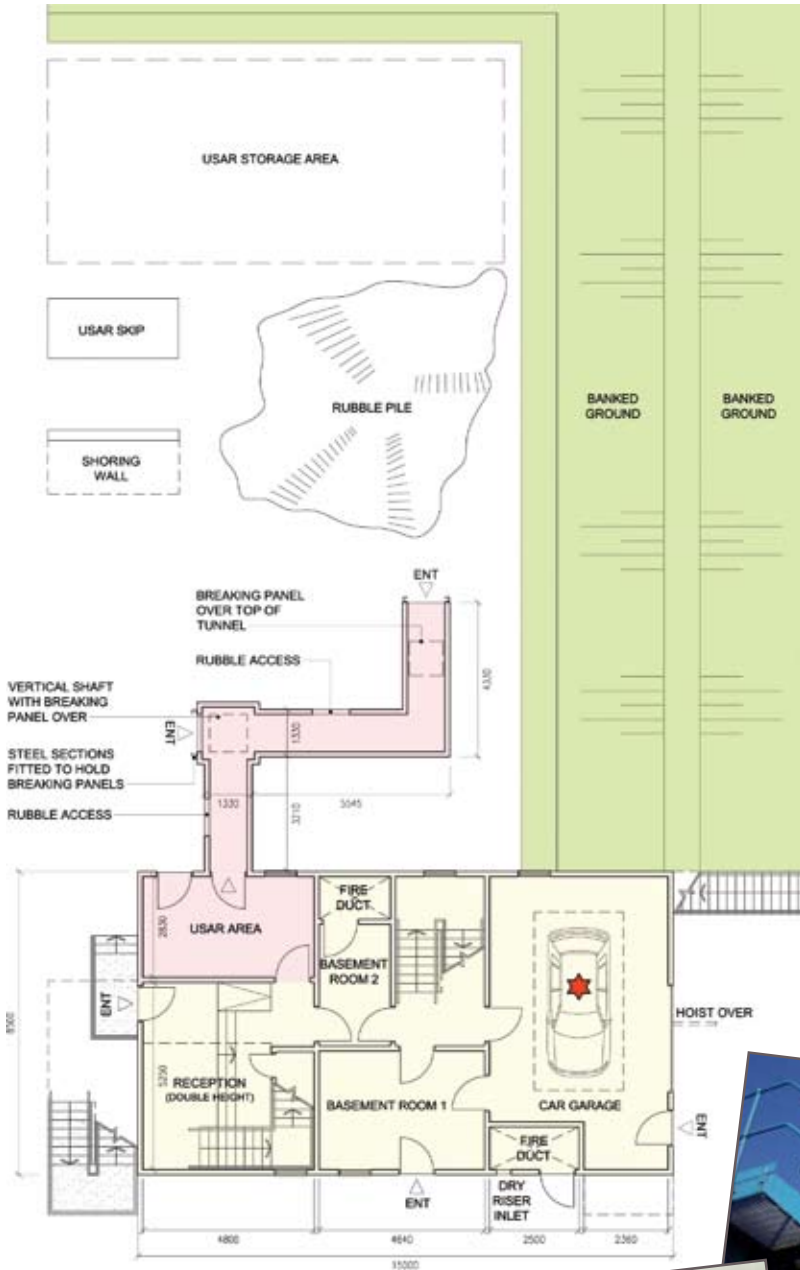
Hatched Area
Proposed future site developments

Highlights of plans

Urban Search and Rescue facilities

USAR

GROUND FLOOR PLAN



The USAR facilities are integrated with the industrial building to enable collapsed building scenarios to be developed involving standing buildings and the USAR tunnels.

The tunnels provide the facility to carry out breaching and shoring activities in addition to the confined space working associated with USAR work.

The rubble pile provides for realistic search of collapsed structures and the use of listening equipment.



Above: Firefighters training at the current SIFTC

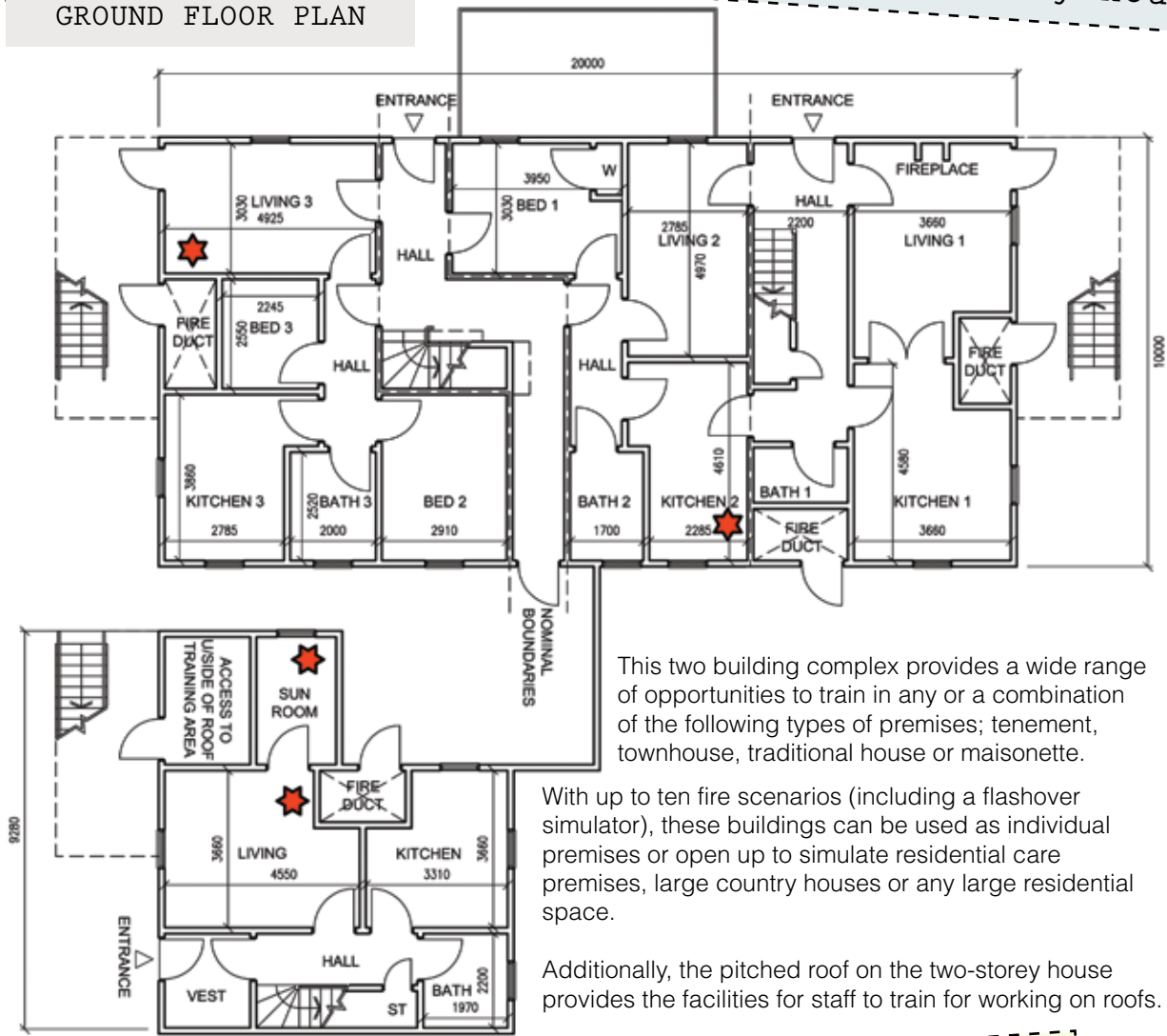


Aerial view of the new training centre

domestic buildings 1 & 2

three storey building and two storey house

GROUND FLOOR PLAN



This two building complex provides a wide range of opportunities to train in any or a combination of the following types of premises; tenement, townhouse, traditional house or maisonette.

With up to ten fire scenarios (including a flashover simulator), these buildings can be used as individual premises or open up to simulate residential care premises, large country houses or any large residential space.

Additionally, the pitched roof on the two-storey house provides the facilities for staff to train for working on roofs.

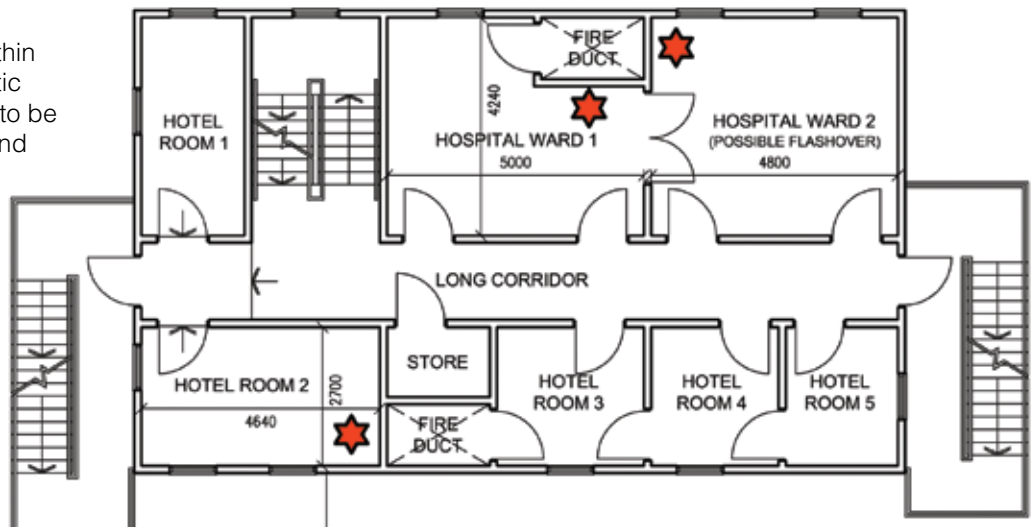
industrial/commercial buildings

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

The flexibility that this building provides includes the capacity to create office environments, cellular office/secure accommodation, open plan working areas, basement areas, a garage environment and hospital ward amongst other arrangements.

Again, the range of fires within this building enables realistic and challenging scenarios to be developed for firefighting and searching.

The flat roof area has anchor points from which rope access teams can abseil into the adjacent urban search and rescue (USAR) area, ensuring that the building and USAR facilities are fully integrated.



See USAR on page 5.

contact information

Peter Heath



As Head of Training & Development Function, I have been working closely with the SIP Project board and other training centre project team members to develop the workplan for the training centre.

This has included collating and progressing the work completed by the themed working groups from across the service to identify the issues arising and ensure that they have been incorporated into final design.

This has ensured that what we are planning meets the needs of the Service and Fire and Rescue Board in supporting the future training and development of our staff in safety critical training.

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Laurie Aitken



Having been seconded onto the SIP project team, I have been actively involved in all aspects of the planning and implementing of each element. I regularly deputise for the Project Manager and through him, report to the Project Board.

The main focus of my work has been liaison between all internal and external stakeholders to ensure that the project moves forward from initial conception and design to planning permissions and ultimately its construction.

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Alasdair Perry

As Service Improvement Plan (SIP) Project Manager my role is to oversee the various projects forming the SIP and to report on progress to the SIP Project Board.

This includes the New Training Centre where my role is to coordinate the activities of the various parties involved, both internally and externally to ensure the needs of the Service are met in the most efficient and effective manner.

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changes for OSC and training staff

The move to the training centre will involve the training staff integrating with the existing staff at the Operational Support Centre (OSC) and sharing the same building.

In addition to the work already undertaken, there will be increased activity and engagement with staff from the OSC and Training and Development in the coming year to establish working arrangements that accommodate all of the business needs at the premises.

This work is continuing right up to the opening date and beyond to ensure that all the staff involved are engaged in making the most of our workplace.

You can view the full planning application online by visiting the City of Edinburgh Council's website:
www.edinburgh.gov.uk

From there you can access the Planning and Building Standards Portal and the detailed plans:

The reference is 10/00829/AMC