

THE PEACE MUSEUM

Registered Charity Number 1061102 Registered Company Number 03297915
The Peace Museum is an Accredited Museum

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SPECIFICATION FOR NEW PREMISES.

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The Peace Museum has operated in Bradford for over 25 years. It is a unique UK institution, with over 8,000 items in its collection, drawing from national and international sources. It has an exhibition gallery in central Bradford and a thriving education programme across the north of England. Its successful operation has meant that it has now grown out of its existing premises and is looking now to expand both as a visitor attraction and an education provider.

1. LOCATION

- a) Premises for a museum that appeals to people from across the UK and beyond need to be accessible by rail.
- b) Relationships have been built up in Bradford with the council, with schools and other groups which the Museum would wish to maintain.
- c) Therefore, Bradford remains the preferred location, though other sites in West Yorkshire could possibly be considered.
- d) In addition, a city centre location would mean that visitors, schools and other groups could easily combine a visit to The Peace Museum with visits to other central cultural attractions, adding to the Museum's appeal.

2. ESSENTIAL GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- a) Physical accessibility.
This applies not just to galleries but to offices and other space(s). If premises extend to more than one floor, lift access would be essential to all parts.
- b) Security.
We expect that arrangements for entry would need to be similar to those at present as current staffing levels would not permit a permanent staff presence in the entrance area. An alarm system is necessary.
- c) Suitable storage for the collection.

3. DETAILED REQUIREMENTS

- a) The existing premises amount to about 200 sq.m., of which about 2/3 is Gallery. We are looking for more than 200sq.m, **preferably in the range 400-500sq.m.**
- b) We recognise that we could deal with a larger space with current staffing.

A Permanent Exhibition Gallery and a Temporary Exhibition Gallery

- a) Both are essential.
- b) It is desirable that we have both these spaces to a standard that would enable us to borrow material from national collections, i.e we need to meet the standards of best practice set out by national museums.
- c) A greater area than at present would be desirable.

A space separate from the galleries / a teaching space

- a) The education potential of the premises would be increased if we had a separate room for school and other parties to use for eating lunch and so on.
- b) In addition, such a room would be useful to accommodate other groups and to place refreshments in during events.
- c) This space could be a potential income generator.

Storage

- a) We need to make sure that there is sufficient storage for the collection. At least 60sq.m of storage space is needed and more would be desirable.
- b) The collection is at the heart of the museum. Within any space used for collection items, it must be possible to control and maintain professional museum standards of light, temperature and humidity.
- c) This space should not be in an attic or basement. Ideally it would be centrally within the museum with as few external walls as possible. Services such as water and drainage should not be positioned in, above or near the store.
- d) Should there be sufficient space, it might be possible to allocate part of it to "active storage" i.e. publicly accessible storage. We understand that project funding might be available for such a facility.

Publicly accessible support space:

- a) Reception area and toilet facilities. In this area facilities for public coat and bag storage would be needed.
- b) Refreshment facilities e.g a vending machine would be an asset but we do not need space for a cafe.
- c) The toilet facilities would include accessible toilets, as well as baby and adult changing facilities. This does require adequate space and would require negotiation with a landlord. (Funding is likely to be available for accessibility improvements of this kind.)

Behind the scenes space needs to include:

- a) Space for exhibition preparation in addition to the galleries/classroom areas. This could be within the storage area.
- b) A greater area of office space than at present is necessary. We anticipate a need for space for a minimum of 6 people, perhaps 60 sq.m.
- c) In addition, non-Collection storage (for chairs and tables for example), might need 20 sq.m

- d) A kitchen area for the use of staff and volunteers, but with sufficient space to prepare refreshments at events and for possible room lettings.
- e) A room for meetings (of the Board etc) is needed of about 20 sq.m

4. TOTAL SPACE REQUIRED

We have found it difficult to be precise about how much space we would be looking for. The very approximate figures we have given, with an allowance of 200 sq.m for the Galleries plus 60sq.m for reception and toilet area, plus an allowance of 20sq.m for a kitchen area would give a total of 460sq.m. Realistically premises available for rent may already include kitchen and toilet areas that are more, or perhaps less, than we are thinking we need.

We are flexible in our approach and recognise that the perfect premises probably don't exist.