Poole Branch Headquarters Acquisition Proposal

Branch Chairman: Tony Harvey

Branch Secretary: Ian Talbot

Estimated Property Budget: £350,000

Funding Source: Poole Branch Property Trust Fund

Poole, Dorset – 2026

Updated August 2026

Version 8



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
POOLE BRANCH

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POOLE BRANCH – HEADQUARTERS ACQUISITION PROPOSAL

Securing a Permanent Home for Our Veterans & Community

1 BACKGROUND

Since the closure of the previous premises in 2023, the Poole Branch of the Royal British Legion has continued to operate and grow without a permanent base.

This proposal outlines the plan to secure a new headquarters to support veterans and beneficiaries across:

- Poole
- Parkstone
- Branksome
- Wider Bournemouth area

2 OBJECTIVE

To establish a sustainable, non-profit community hub that will:

- Support beneficiaries and veterans
- Deliver structured activities (breakfast clubs, support sessions, events)
- Provide a central point for engagement and outreach

3 PROPERTY PROPOSAL

- Target acquisition budget: **£350,000**
- Funding source: **Poole Branch Property Trust Fund**
- Property type: Community-use building (non-licensed / non-trading)

4 FINANCIAL OUTLOOK (SUMMARY)

Year	Projected Income
Year 1	£0
Year 2	**£2,000**
Year 5	**£12,000**

- Income derived from room hire, events, and community use
- No reliance on bar or trading income

5 KEY PRINCIPLES

- Focus on beneficiaries, not members-only use
- Operate as a sustainable charitable asset
- Align with RBL "Connect" Strategy
- Maintain financial discipline and oversight

6 RISKS & CONTROLS (SUMMARY)

Risk: Income underperformance
→ **Mitigation:** Conservative projections & phased activity rollout

Risk: Property costs variability
→ **Mitigation:** Benchmarking against previous premises

Risk: Low utilisation
→ **Mitigation:** Community partnerships & programmed activity

7 APPROVAL REQUEST

The Poole Branch respectfully seeks:

- Trustee approval to proceed
- Authority to progress property acquisition within agreed budget
- Continued oversight and reporting to Trustees



Example of potential premises

www.britishlegion.org.uk | Poole.Chairman@RBL.community

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BRANCH PROPERTY TRUSTS

The Royal British Legion
Finance Department
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London SE1 1AA

+44 20 3027 2100
info@britishlegion.org.uk

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Annual BPT Statement for the year ended 30 September 2024

BPT Fund Code:	RP0512
BPT Name:	Poole BPT - North Rd
Branch Number:	BR2434

	£	£
BPT balance as at 30 September 2023		**7,795.59**
Opening Balance Adjustment*		15,715.17
Income		
Disposal Proceeds	689,284.83	
Investment Income Earned (Head office)	117.55	
Rental income	1,177.08	
CCLA Interest		
Total income	**690,579.46**	690,579.46
Expenditure		
Branch Expenditure		
Commercial Expenditure	-44,504.92	
Trust fund Expenses		
Transitional Funding	-5,336.40	
Total Expenditure	**-49,841.32**	-49,841.32
BPT balance as at 30 September 2024		**664,248.90**

*This is an adjustment to historical rental income credited to the BPT following discussions with the branch.

Please Note, this is not your BPT (Property) BFI Statement, these are sent out on a Quarterly basis.

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1. Trustee Summary

The Poole Branch of the Royal British Legion seeks approval to acquire a permanent headquarters property within the Poole area following the closure of the North Road Club in 2023. The branch currently operates without a dedicated base which limits its ability to deliver welfare support, host events and expand engagement with veterans.

This proposal outlines a plan to acquire a suitable building within Poole, Parkstone or Branksome with an estimated acquisition budget of £350,000 funded primarily through the Poole Branch Property Trust Fund.

The facility will:

- Deliver structured support for beneficiaries
- Provide a central hub for veteran engagement
- Enable partnerships with local organisations
- Support remembrance and community activity

Poole Branch is one of the closest Royal British Legion branches available to veterans living in the Bournemouth area, further strengthening the importance of establishing a permanent headquarters within Poole.

This proposal is aligned with the Royal British Legion's *Strategy to 2035*, delivering against the three core pillars of **Connect, Remember and Support** by strengthening community engagement, expanding remembrance activity, and improving access to welfare services.

2. Executive Summary

This proposal presents a strategic plan to establish a permanent headquarters for Poole Branch of the Royal British Legion. The facility will provide a stable base for branch operations, veteran support services and community engagement.

The building will function as:

- A community support hub
- A meeting and engagement space
- A base for welfare and outreach services

The branch is not seeking to create a profit-generating venue, but a **sustainable community asset that supports beneficiaries without detracting from its core charitable mission.**

The proposed headquarters will act as a local delivery hub for the Legion's strategy, enabling improved connection, increased participation in remembrance, and earlier access to support services for the Armed Forces community.

3. Expansion of Poole Branch Coverage – BCP Area

Following the closure of the Bournemouth and Winton Royal British Legion branches, there has been a significant reduction in accessible Legion presence within the Bournemouth area.

Nearest Branch to Poole in each area are Christchurch, Ferndown and Broadstone, leaving a large area not covered by RBL, but a very large veteran presence in Bournemouth area.

As a result, Poole Branch has increasingly become the nearest active Royal British Legion branch for many veterans and beneficiaries previously supported by those branches.

This has led to a natural expansion of the Branch's geographic reach, now covering parts of Bournemouth in addition to Poole.

Key impacts include:

- Increased demand for support services from beneficiaries based in Bournemouth
- Greater need for accessible meeting and engagement space within a central location
- Additional responsibility for delivering remembrance and community activities across a wider area

The proposed headquarters will enable Poole Branch to effectively support this expanded catchment area by:

- Providing a central, accessible base for beneficiaries from both Poole and Bournemouth
- Supporting increased demand for welfare, engagement, and community activities
- Strengthening the Royal British Legion's presence in an area where local branches have closed

This expansion reflects both a practical necessity and an opportunity to ensure continued support for the Armed Forces community across the wider Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) area.

Without the establishment of a permanent headquarters, there is a risk that beneficiaries within the Bournemouth area will face reduced access to Royal British Legion support services.

This proposal not only restores provision in Poole but actively compensates for the loss of Royal British Legion presence in Bournemouth, ensuring continued support across the wider BCP area.

This expansion of reach supports the Legion's strategic ambition to strengthen connections across communities and ensure accessible support for the Armed Forces community, regardless of location.

4. Background

Since the closure of the North Road Club in 2023, Poole Branch has lacked a permanent meeting space. This project seeks to restore a stable operational base for branch activities.

The absence of a permanent base limits the branch's ability to deliver against the Legion's strategic priorities, particularly in creating consistent opportunities for connection and accessible support services.

5. Strategic Need

Since losing its headquarters in 2023, Poole Branch has:

- Lost a central meeting space
- Faced reduced engagement opportunities
- Experienced temporary membership decline (When building closed)

At the same time:

- Bournemouth and Winton branches have closed
- Demands for services has increased
- Poole Branch is now covering a wider geographic area

This creates a clear gap in provision across the BCP region.

Without a permanent base:

- Veteran engagement will remain limited
- Welfare delivery will be restricted
- Growth will be constrained.

Establishing permanent headquarters directly supports the organisation's commitment to provide accessible, community-based support, enables earlier intervention, and build stronger, more connected Armed Forces communities.

6. Project Vision

To establish a welcoming and sustainable community hub supporting veterans, Royal British Legion members and the local Poole community.

The facility will act as a local anchor point for delivering the Royal British Legion's strategic pillars of Connect, Remember and Support.

7. Community & Veteran Impact

This project will deliver measurable impact aligned to the Legion's strategic outcomes by reducing isolation, increasing participation in remembrance, and improving access to support services

The headquarters will support veterans through social engagement, welfare meetings and remembrance activities while providing a community venue for local organisations.

8. Project Objectives

• Secure a suitable property in Poole

• Establish a permanent branch headquarters

• Provide meeting and event space for veterans and the community

• Ensure long-term financial sustainability

These objectives collectively contribute to the delivery of the Royal British Legion's strategic pillars by strengthening connection, enabling remembrance activity, and improving support provision.

9. Armed Forces Community Evidence (2021 Census)

The 2021 UK Census identified approximately 1.85-million-armed forces of veterans across England and Wales representing around 3.8% of the adult population.

Dorset is estimated to have around 58,000 veterans and a wider armed forces community exceeding 100,000 people.

10. BCP Armed Forces Community Statistics

The Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole council area has a population of approximately 400,000 residents.

This suggests there may be approximately 14,000–16,000-armed forces veterans living within the BCP region.

With this significant veteran population, establishing a permanent Poole Branch headquarters will ensure accessible support and community engagement.

The establishment of a permanent headquarters will enhance the branch's ability to deliver these aims in line with the Royal British Legion's wider strategic direction.

11. Role and Aims of Royal British Legion Poole Branch

Royal British Legion branches exist to support the armed forces community and promote remembrance.

- Provide welfare support and advice for veterans
- Promote remembrance and organize commemorative events
- Encourage community engagement
- Support national Royal British Legion campaigns
- After engagement activities:
- This supports the **Connect** pillar by increasing opportunities for meaningful community interaction.
- After welfare / support activities:
- This supports the **Support** pillar by improving access to services and enabling earlier intervention.
- After remembrance activities:
- This supports the **Remember** pillar by increasing participation and accessibility of remembrance activity.

Branch Activities & Use of Premises

The proposed headquarters will deliver a structured programme of activities aligned to the Royal British Legion's "Connect" pillar, focusing on reducing isolation, supporting beneficiaries, and strengthening community engagement.

The building will operate as a multi-use community hub, ensuring consistent utilisation throughout the week while maintaining a clear beneficiary focus.

Core Veteran & Welfare Activities:
- Monthly veterans breakfast club (including Chatter Group)
- Monthly welfare drop-in sessions with BCP support organisations
- Armed Forces community coffee mornings
- Small group support sessions for vulnerable veterans

Community & Partnership Use:
- Dance and community activity classes
- AA and support group meeting point
- Meeting hub for local associations, including homelessness support
- General community meetings and group hire

Royal British Legion & Organisational Use:
- RBL Dorset meeting hall use
- Poppy Appeal training seminars
- Volunteer training sessions
- Recognition and thank you events

Flexible Community Space:
- Community café-style environment (BS Café concept)
- Informal meetings and veteran drop-ins

Planned activities include:

- Monthly veterans breakfast club including Chatter Group
  - Outcome – Reduces isolation
  - Impact – Regular engagement for vulnerable veterans
- Friendly Veteran Knitting Group – with Poppy Appeal Attached
- Guest Speaker for Branch Meetings
- Monthly welfare drop-in sessions – Support from local BCP groups, which can advise including homelessness, Veteran Welfare.
  - Outcome – Access to support services
  - Impact – Early intervention for housing, mental health and financial issues
- Armed Forces community coffee mornings for all Associations, no matter what cap badge.
- Information and advice sessions (benefits, housing, mental health support)
- Guest speaker events and presentations
- Remembrance planning and community engagement events
- Small group support meetings for isolated or vulnerable veterans
- Partnership sessions with local charities and support organisations

These activities are designed to provide consistent, meaningful engagement for beneficiaries, rather than ad-hoc social use.

KEY PRINCIPLE: This is not a social club – it's a beneficiary-focused support hub.
This approach ensures alignment with the Legion's strategic focus on delivering meaningful, outcome-driven support for beneficiaries.

Beneficiary Focus

The primary purpose of the proposed headquarters is to support beneficiaries of the Royal British Legion, particularly veterans and their families.

While members and the wider community will support delivery of activities, the facility is not intended as a members' social club, but as a community support hub aligned with the Legion's charitable objectives.

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CONNECT PILLAR DELIVERY – POOLE BRANCH HQ

Reducing Isolation • Building Connections • Supporting Veterans

Our proposed headquarters will deliver a wide range of activities that bring people together, provide access to support and strengthen the Armed Forces community across Poole and the wider BCP area.

WHAT WE WILL DELIVER
Key Activities

Veterans Breakfast Club
Monthly breakfast and Chatter Group – reducing isolation through regular peer engagement.

Welfare Drop-in Sessions
Access to advice and support (housing, mental health, financial etc.)

Coffee Mornings
Armed Forces community coffee mornings for all associations and cap badges.

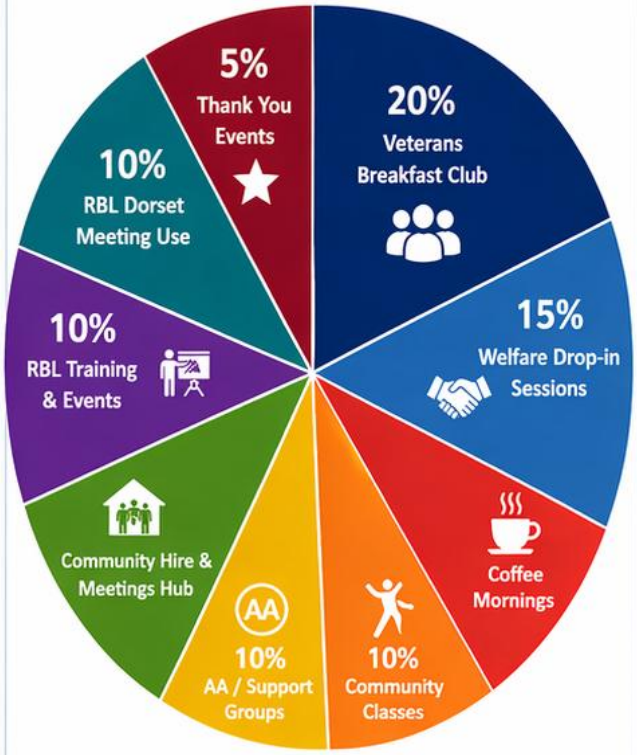
Community Classes
Dance and community activity classes promoting wellbeing and social connection.

AA / Support Groups
AA meetings and other support groups providing a safe and welcoming meeting point.

Community Hire & Meetings Hub
Meeting space for local associations, including organisations supporting those who are homeless, and other community groups.

RBL Training & Events
Training hall for Poppy Appeal seminars, volunteer training and 'thank you' events.

HOW THE BUILDING WILL BE USED
% OF TOTAL USAGE



BALANCED, PURPOSE-LED USE

A mix of veteran-focused activities, community use and RBL operational activity ensures high utilisation of the facility and maximum benefit to the Armed Forces community and wider local area.

CONNECT IMPACT – THE OUTCOMES WE DELIVER

Reducing Isolation
Regular opportunities for social interaction and peer support help reduce loneliness and improve wellbeing.

Access to Support
Welfare drop-ins and partner services provide early access to advice and practical help.

Community Engagement
A welcoming hub that brings veterans, families and the wider community together.

Volunteer Development & Recognition
Training, seminars and thank you events strengthen and recognise our amazing volunteers.

Stronger RBL Presence
Supports RBL Dorset activity and ensures a sustainable, visible Legion presence in the BCP area.

KEY PRINCIPLE

This building is not a social club – it is a structured delivery hub aligned to the Royal British Legion's CONNECT pillar, focused on reducing isolation, improving wellbeing and strengthening community engagement across the Armed Forces community.

WEEKLY ENGAGEMENT MODEL (EXAMPLE)

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	WEEKEND
Welfare Drop-in	Coffee Morning	Community Hire / Classes	Veteran Support Group	Training / Events	Community Use / Hire

EXPECTED ANNUAL IMPACT

1,500+	50+	20–40	5–10	
Visits per year	Structured sessions	Participants per core activity	Partner organisations	Stronger connections, improved wellbeing and reduced isolation across our community

ALIGNMENT WITH RBL CONNECT PILLAR

This project directly supports the RBL's Connect pillar by providing a welcoming, accessible environment that brings people together, reduces isolation and improves quality of life.

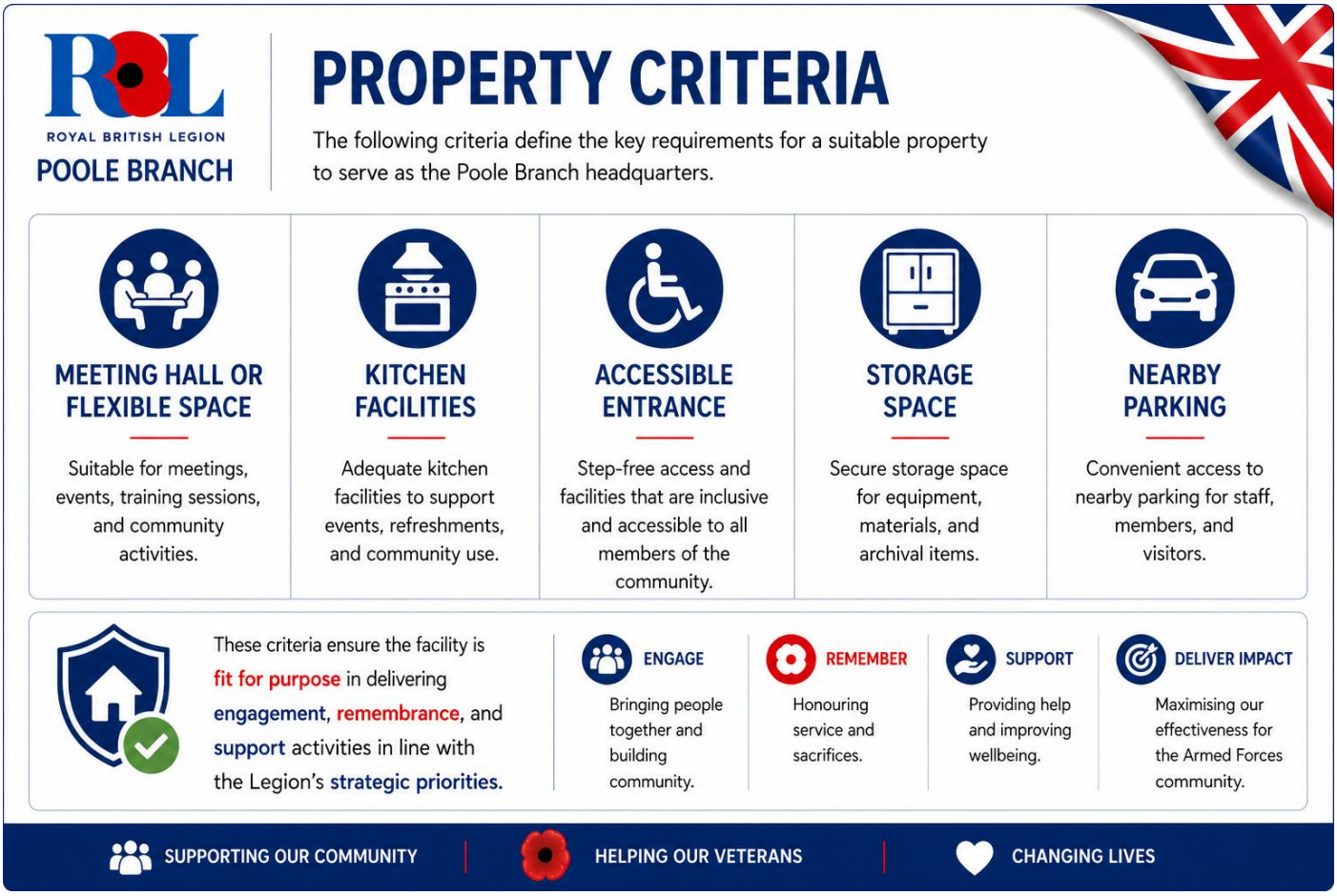
TOGETHER WE CONNECT, SUPPORT AND STRENGTHEN OUR ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY

12. Property Budget & Funding

Estimated property acquisition budget: £350,000 funded through the Poole Branch Property Trust Fund.

The acquisition of a suitable property supports the organisation's strategic enablers, particularly in ensuring assets are aligned to deliver long-term outcomes for the Armed Forces community.

13. Property Criteria



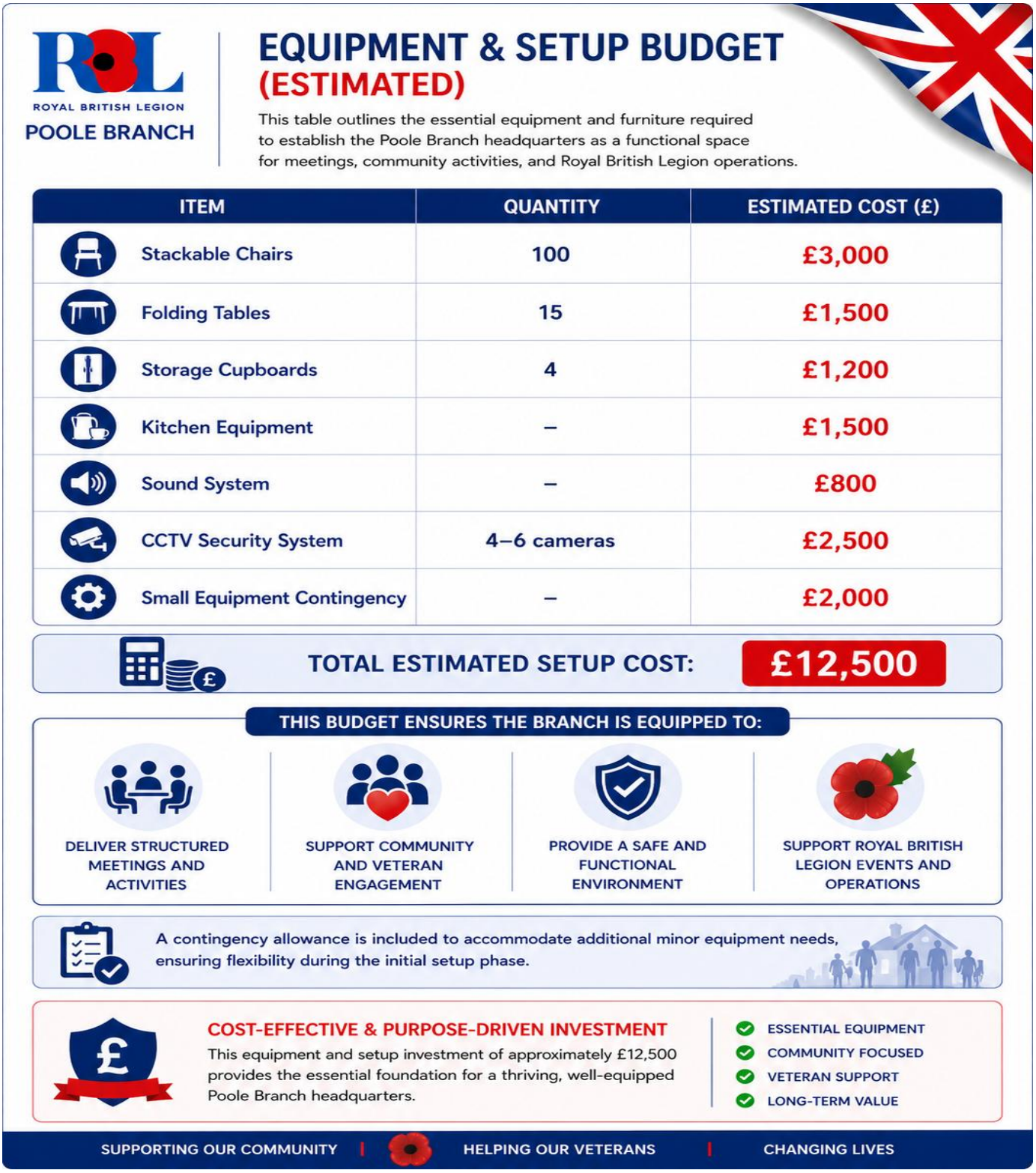
14. Property

Example of suitable properties within the £300k-£350k range include community halls, former social clubs and commercial units suitable for conversion.





15. Equipment & Setup Budget



This investment enables the effective delivery of structured activities aligned to the Connect, Remember and Support pillars.

16. Security & Building Protection

Security measures will include CCTV monitoring, alarm systems, controlled keyholder access and incident reporting procedures.

These measures ensure the facility operates safely, sustainably, and in line with organisational standards

17. Building Maintenance & Asset Management

A planned maintenance schedule and asset register will ensure the building and equipment remain well managed.

Solar Panels and Sustainability

The project will explore installing solar panels on the building to reduce electricity costs and improve environmental sustainability. This will help manage long-term operating costs.

This supports long-term sustainability and ensures the asset continues to deliver value in line with strategic objectives.

18. Income/ Outcome Streams

- Hall hire
- Community events
- Fundraising activities
- Partnerships with local organisations

Income Breakdown

Income projections are based on comparable community buildings and local hall hire rates withing the Poole and Bournemouth Area.

Typical community hall hires rates range between £15-£30 per hour, with average utilization of 2-4 bookings per week in similar facilities.

These projections are intentionally conservative and aligned with comparable Branch Occupied Properties.

These income streams support a sustainable operating model while enabling continued delivery of community engagement and support activities.

Worst Case Scenario

Based on projected income streams (5-year forecast) – Conservative / Worst Case Assumptions

Income Stream	Year 1 (£)	Year 2 (£)	Year 3 (£)	Year 4 (£)	Year 5 (£)	5-Year Total (£)
Room Hire (community / meetings)	-	1,000	2,000	4,000	5,000	12,000
Events & Functions	-	500	1,000	2,000	2,500	6,000
Community Partnerships	-	300	600	1,000	1,500	3,400
Donations / Grants (restricted)	-	200	400	1,000	1,500	3,100
Fundraising Activities	-	-	500	1,000	1,500	3,000
Refreshments & Cafe (net)	-	-	500	1,000	1,000	2,500
TOTAL ESTIMATED INCOME (Worst Case)	-	2,000	5,000	10,000	12,000	29,000

Scenario	5-Year Income (Worts Case) (£)	5-Year Cost (£)	Result (£)
Worst Case	29,000	22,000	-£7,000
Expected	40,000	22,000	Break-even
Strong	60,000	22,000	+£8,000

Worst Case Explained

The worst-case scenario reflects a conservative position where income generation is slower than anticipated across all income streams.
In this scenario, the projected shortfall of **£7,000** over 5 years would be manageable through existing reserves, phased activity rollout, and controlled expenditure.

Break-even & Surplus Path

The project is expected to reach operational **break-even by Year 2**, with **surplus generation from Year 3 onwards**, driven by increased utilisation, strengthened community partnerships, and a more established programme of activities.

Sustainable Community Model

This approach ensures financial exposure remains low while maintaining a sustainable, non-trading community model aligned with Royal British Legion guidelines.

Assumptions: Income in Year 1 is minimal as the building becomes operational and activities ramp up.
Income levels reflect a cautious uptake of room hire, events, partnerships, and fundraising.

Operational Constraints

The Poole Branch recognizes that it is not permitted to operate as a commercial trading entity.

The proposed RBL Poole Branch headquarters will:

- Not functioning as a profit-generating venue
- Operate solely as a community and beneficiary support facility

Income generation will be limited to hall hire, events, and community use, in line with Royal British Legion guidelines.

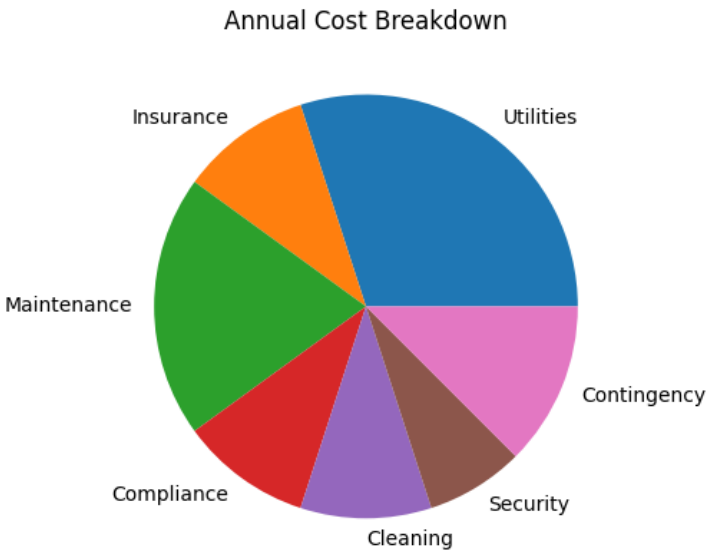
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ANNUAL RUNNING COSTS (ESTIMATED BREAKDOWN)

Based on comparable RBL properties and previous North Road Club data
(adjusted for inflation and reduced scale):

ITEM	ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST	JUSTIFICATION
Utilities (electricity, water, heating)	£6,000 – £7,500	Based on similar community building
Insurance	£2,000 – £2,500	Standard for public use building
Maintenance & repairs	£4,000 – £5,000	Scaled from North Road Club
Compliance (fire, electrical, safety checks)	£2,000 – £2,500	Legal Requirements
Cleaning & consumables	£2,000 – £2,500	
Security & monitoring	£1,500 – £2,000	CCTV & Monitoring
General contingency	£2,500 – £4,000	10–15% buffer
TOTAL ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST:	**£20,000 – £26,000**	

This reflects a realistic operating model for a non-trading community facility.



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19. Why is another property needed?

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LOCAL PROVISION & JUSTIFICATION

There are existing Royal British Legion-associated venues within the wider area, including Broadstone, Corfe Mullen, and Ferndown.

HOWEVER:

Not Geographically Central	These venues operate independently and are **not geographically central** to Poole.
No Dedicated Base	They do not provide a **dedicated base** for Poole Branch operations.
Travel & Accessibility Barriers	Travel and accessibility can be a **barrier for beneficiaries** within the Poole area.
No Permanent Base	Poole Branch currently has **no permanent base** following the closure of the North Road Club in 2023.
Clear Gap in Provision	Establishing a headquarters in Poole addresses a clear gap in provision and supports the Legion's commitment to delivering **accessible, community-based services.**

POOLE & SURROUNDING RBL BRANCH LOCATIONS



SINCE 2023

The closure of the North Road Club has left Poole without a permanent headquarters or dedicated base.

A dedicated headquarters in Poole is essential to ensure **local accessibility**, support our **beneficiaries** effectively, and **strengthen the presence and impact** of the Royal British Legion in the Poole community.

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY | HELPING OUR VETERANS | CHANGING LIVES

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20. Five-Year Financial Forecast

INCOME JUSTIFICATION

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The income projections are based on realistic and conservative community use of the headquarters building. Estimated annual income from Year 2 onwards is expected to come from a combination of hall hire, community events, fundraising activities, and partnerships with local organisations.



SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS AND OUR COMMUNITY

EXAMPLE INCOME SOURCES INCLUDE:

HALL HIRE
Hall hire for community groups and private functions

FUNDRAISING EVENTS
Royal British Legion fundraising events

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES
Community activity nights and social events

CHARITY & REMEMBRANCE
Charity and remembrance events

PARTNERSHIPS
Partnerships with local organisations using the facility

These projections are intentionally conservative to demonstrate financial sustainability while allowing the branch to grow activity levels over time.

INCOME PROJECTIONS (5-YEAR FORECAST)

Income Stream	Year 1 (£)	Year 2 (£)	Year 3 (£)	Year 4 (£)	Year 5 (£)	5-Year Total (£)
Room Hire (community / meetings)	-	1,000	2,000	4,000	5,000	12,000
Events & Functions	-	500	1,000	2,000	2,500	6,000
Community Partnerships	-	300	600	1,000	1,500	3,400
Donations / Grants (restricted)	-	200	400	1,000	1,500	3,100
Fundraising Activities	-	-	500	1,000	1,500	3,000
Refreshments & Cafe (net)	-	-	500	1,000	1,000	2,500
TOTAL ESTIMATED INCOME	**-**	**2,000**	**5,000**	**10,000**	**12,000**	**29,000**

INCOME ASSUMPTIONS (CONSERVATIVE MODEL)

EXAMPLE

Income Source	Assumption	Example Calculation	Estimated Annual Income (From Year 2)
Hall Hire	Regular bookings for community groups and small private functions	• Approx. 1–2 bookings per week x £40–£60	£1,000 – £2,000
Events	Small-scale events and community activities	• Events held throughout the year	£500 – £1,000
Fundraising	Occasional fundraising activity and donations	• Approx. £40–£125 per month	£500 – £1,500
Partnership Contributions	Use by local organisations and support groups	• Contribution or hire from partner organisations	£300 – £1,500
Refreshments / Café (net)	Light refreshments supporting activities (non-trading)	• Modest net contribution from café / refreshment sales	£500 – £1,000

SUMMARY

This model reflects a low-utilisation starting point, ensuring projections remain credible and achievable. Income growth is expected to increase steadily as:

- Awareness of the facility improves
- Community partnerships develop
- Regular activities become established
- Utilisation of the facility increases

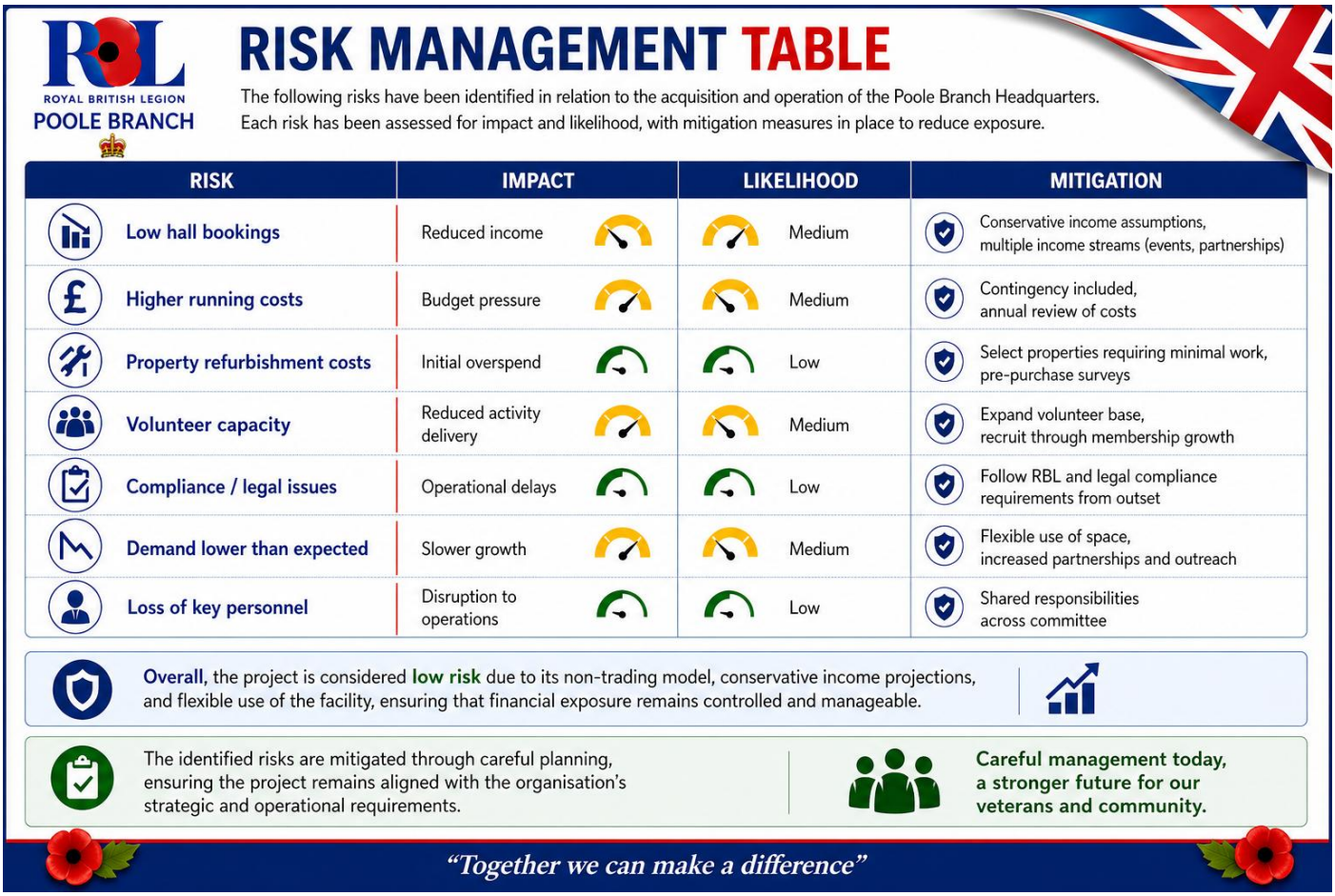
This supports a break-even position by Year 2 and gradual movement into surplus, without reliance on commercial trading.

Conservative assumptions ensure sustainability while allowing the branch to grow activity levels over time and maximise community benefit.

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21. Risk Management & Mitigation

The Poole Branch recognises that any property acquisition and community project carries a degree of risk. However, these risks have been carefully assessed and mitigated through conservative financial planning, controlled operational delivery, and a focus on sustainable community use.



22. Community Partnerships

The branch will collaborate with local organisations, charities and veteran groups to maximize community impact.

This collaborative approach aligns with the Royal British Legion's strategic focus on strengthening partnerships to maximise impact for the Armed Forces community.

23. Community Use & Social Impact

The headquarters will provide a central meeting space for veterans, remembrance events and community engagement activities.

The facility will enhance local delivery of the Legion's strategy by providing a central, accessible hub for connection, remembrance, and support

24. Next Steps & Approval Request

The branch requests trustee approval to proceed with property search and acquisition within the £350,000 budget.

25. Poole Branch Membership

Poole Branch has an active membership made up of Royal British Legion members, veterans, and supporters of the armed forces community.

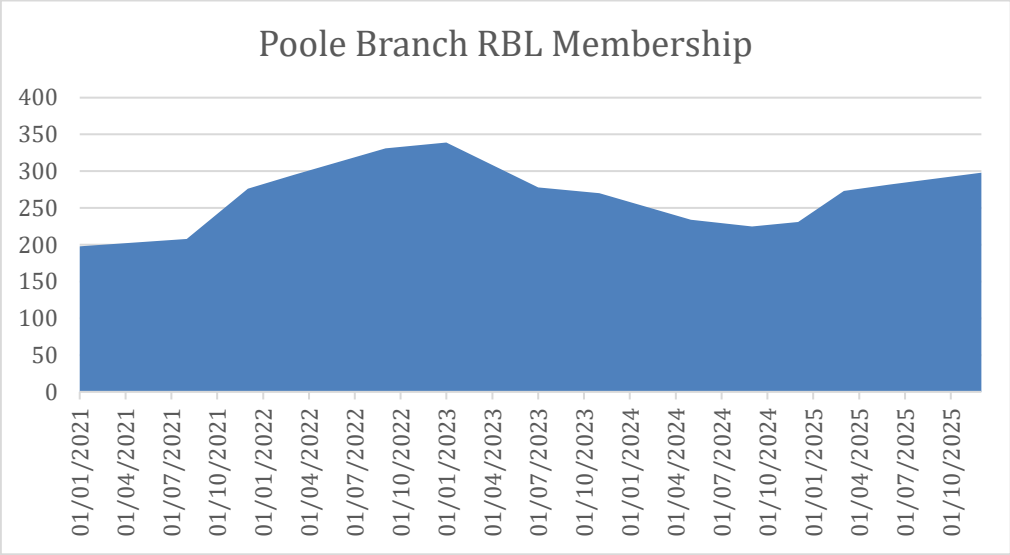
Following the closure of the North Road Club in 2023, the branch experienced a temporary decline in membership due to the loss of a permanent meeting location. Without a dedicated venue, it became more difficult to host regular meetings, social activities, and engagement events for members.

Despite these challenges, the branch has continued to operate and maintain its activities within the local community. Membership has since begun to recover and grow again, demonstrating the continued support for the Royal British Legion within the Poole area.

The establishment of a permanent headquarters will provide members with a stable and welcoming meeting place where branch activities, remembrance events, and community engagement can take place more effectively.

A permanent venue will also help the branch attract new members and volunteers, strengthening the long-term sustainability of the Poole Branch and ensuring continued support for veterans and the wider armed forces community.

The recovery of membership following the closure of the previous club demonstrates the continued strength and resilience of the Poole Branch and highlights the importance of establishing a permanent headquarters.



A permanent headquarters will strengthen membership engagement and support long-term growth, contributing to the sustainability of the branch and its strategic impact.

26. Project Statement

The establishment of a permanent headquarters will strengthen the Royal British Legion presence in Poole and support veterans and the community for many years to come.

This proposal presents a realistic, financially sustainable, and strategically necessary project.

Its address:

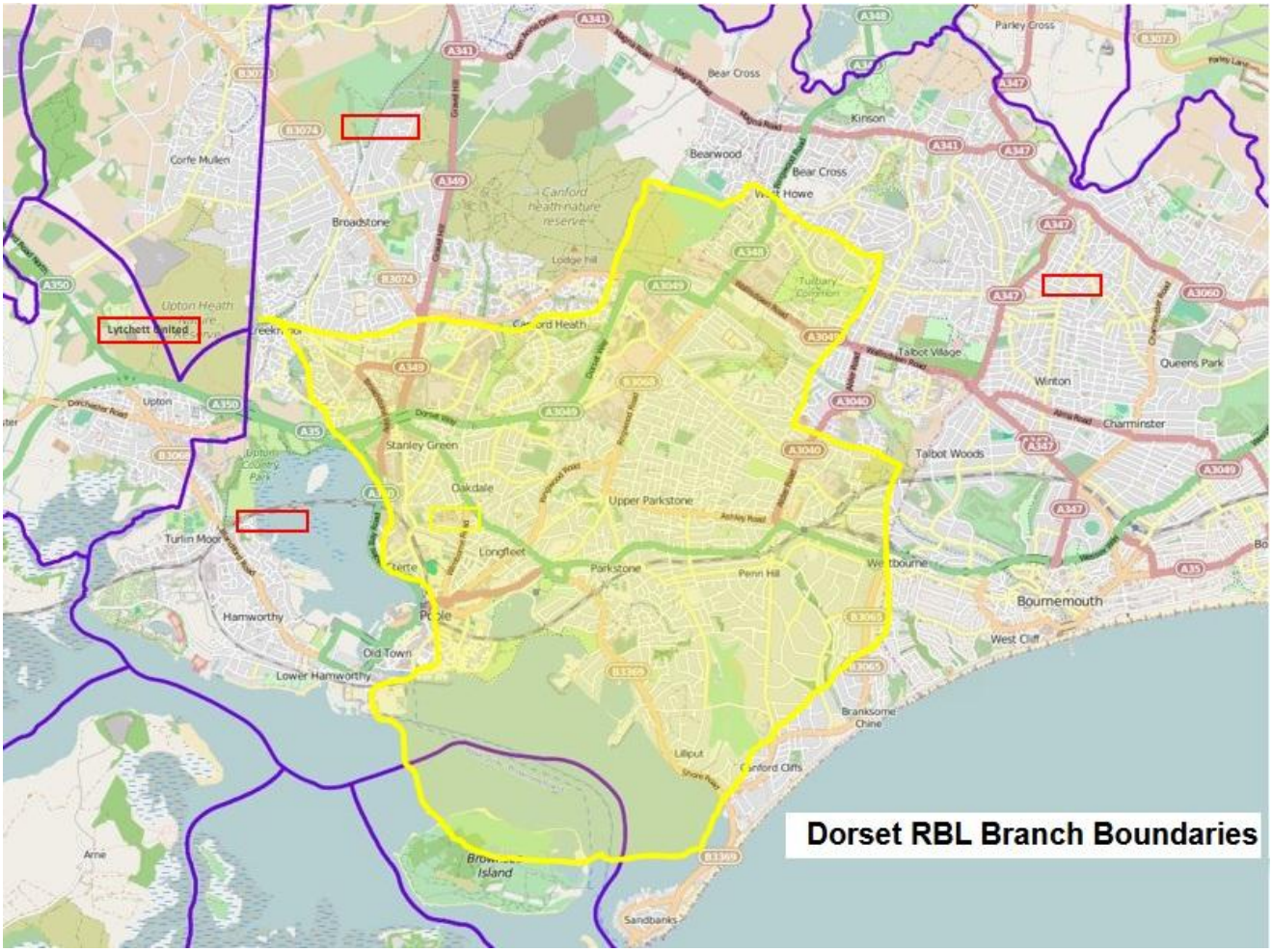
- Loss of local RBL Facilities
- Increased demand across Poole and Bournemouth
- Need for structured veteran support

This proposal represents a strategically aligned investment that will enable the Royal British Legion to deliver its Connect, Remember and Support pillars effectively at a local level.



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
POOLE BRANCH

POOLE BRANCH RBL BOUNDARIES



12-Month Timeline for Property

Months 1-2: Identify potential properties and engage estate agents.

Months 1-2: Conduct viewings and due diligence.

Months 3-4: Negotiate purchase and begin legal process.

Months 7-9: Complete purchase and undertake minor refurbishment.

Months 9-10: Prepare building and officially launch the new headquarters.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
POOLE BRANCH

Supporting our Armed Forces Community

The Royal British Legion is at the heart of a national network, providing lifelong support to the Armed Forces community – serving, ex-serving and their families.

WHAT WE DO

SUPPORT
We offer practical, emotional and financial support to serving personnel, veterans and their families when they need it most.

CAMARADERIE
We bring people together through our Branch community, friendship and shared experiences.

REMEMBRANCE
We honour the sacrifice of those who have served and continue to promote Remembrance in our local community.

ADVOCACY
We stand up for the Armed Forces community and campaign on the issues that matter.

WELFARE
We provide information and guidance to help people access the support they are entitled to.

GET INVOLVED

Whether you're a veteran, family member or supporter, there are many ways to get involved:

- Become a Member
- Volunteer your time
- Make a donation
- Attend our events

Together, we can continue to support those who serve and have served.







TOGETHER WE REMEMBER. TOGETHER WE SUPPORT.

For more information, please contact Poole Branch

Poole.Chairman@RBL.community RBL Poole Branch

"When you go home, tell them of us and say,
For your tomorrow, we gave our today"

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www.britishlegion.org.uk

The Royal British Legion is a charity registered in England & Wales (219279) and Scotland (SC037673).