

# Royal patron launches museum appeal

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Earl of Strathearn

The Duke of Cambridge has visited Stirling Castle to launch the redevelopment of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Museum.

Prince William, known as the Earl of Strathearn in Scotland, has been appointed patron of the museum's fundraising initiative called the Thin Red Line Appeal.

The museum was recently awarded development funding from HLF as well as initial support for a grant of £1.36million.

Head of the Heritage Lottery Fund in Scotland, Lucy Casot said: "Thanks to players of the National Lottery, we are able to support this wonderful regimental museum which tells the story of thousands of soldiers over 200 years of history.

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Plans can now be developed to replace current cramped conditions with bright, contemporary displays. Better access will allow many more people to visit ensuring a brighter future for the Argyll and Sutherland Museum and its important collections."

After being presented with the keys to Stirling Castle, The Duke was given an update on plans before touring the current exhibition and seeing exhibits relating to Her Majesty The Queen's role as Colonel of the Regiment.

Brigadier Bruce Russell, the Chairman of the Museum Trust said: "I am delighted that The Duke of Cambridge, The Earl of Strathearn, has given his support and encouragement to this appeal, designed to safeguard the memory of a unique part of the British Army and of the nation's proud military and cultural heritage."