

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT AND CRICKLADE AREA BOARD  
**Place:** Lyneham Primary School, Preston Lane, Lyneham, SN15 4QJ  
**Date:** 25 January 2012  
**Start Time:** 6.00 pm  
**Finish Time:** 9.05 pm

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Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

Penny Bell, direct line 01249 706613 or e-mail [penny.bell@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:penny.bell@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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## **In Attendance:**

### **Wiltshire Councillors**

Cllr Peter Doyle (Chairman), Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr Peter Colmer (Vice Chairman), Cllr Mollie Groom and Cllr Bill Roberts

Cllr Toby Sturgis (Cabinet Member for Waste, Property Environment and Development Control Services)

### **Wiltshire Council Officers**

Penny Bell, Democratic Services Officer  
Alison Sullivan, Community Area Manager  
Laurie Bell, Service Director - Communications and Branding  
Alistair Cunningham, Service Director Economy and Enterprise

### **Guests**

Capt John Sunderland RN, Defence Technical Training Change Programme  
Stephen Harness, Defence Infrastructure Organisation  
B Dowling, MOD  
Ian Cambrook, Military Civilian Integration Programme

### **Town and Parish Councillors**

Cricklade Town Council – John Harmer, David Tetlow, Shelley Parker  
Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council – Stephen Walls, Sue Doyle, Johnathan Bourne  
Broad Town Parish Council – Veronica Stubbings  
Lyneham and Bradenstoke Parish Council – John Webb, Kate McFarlane, Deborah Bourne, Ann Kingdon, R Gill, Ann Allen, Derek Bunney  
Tockenham Parish Council – Diana Kirby

**Partners**

Wiltshire Police – Inspector Chris Martin

Wootton Bassett Chamber of Commerce – Suzanne Gore, Roz Paton

Extended Services – Andrea Smith

**Total in attendance: 96**

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<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>
1.	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Royal Wootton Bassett &amp; Cricklade Area Board and introduced the councillors and officers present.</p> <p>The Chairman also welcomed and introduced two of the guest speakers for the evening; Captain John Sunderland RN and Stephen Harness, Defence Infrastructure Organisation.</p>
2.	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillor John Thomson (Deputy Leader, Wiltshire Council), Councillor Carol Soden (Malmesbury Area Board, Wiltshire Council), James Gray MP, Mike Leighfield (Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council), Thomas Woodhouse (Royal Wootton Bassett Shadow Community Operations Board) and Ruth Szybiak (Cricklade Shadow Community Operations Board).</p>
3.	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30 November 2011 were agreed a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</b></p>
4.	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
5.	<p><u>Chairman's Announcements</u></p> <p>The following announcements were made (full details of which were contained within the agenda pack):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="363 1541 1495 1800"> <p><b>i. 2012: A Year of Celebrations – Funding for Community Events</b>  The Area Board had set aside a sum of money to assist with celebrations and community events associated with the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee and/or the Olympics. The application form was available at: <a href="http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/woottonbassettandcrickladeareaboard.htm">http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/woottonbassettandcrickladeareaboard.htm</a> and further information was available from Alison Sullivan, Community Area Manager.</p> </li> <li data-bbox="363 1832 1495 2024"> <p><b>ii. Draft Wiltshire Core Strategy Submission Document</b>  On 17 January 2012, Cabinet considered a pre-submission draft Wiltshire Core Strategy, and Full Council would be asked to approve the draft for consultation at its meeting on 7 February 2012. Consultation would last for six weeks commencing on 20 February 2012.</p> </li> </ul>

	<p><b>iii. Do You Have The X Factor?</b> A short film promoting the 2013 elections had been made and could be viewed at: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Y_CvgVAgvY">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Y_CvgVAgvY</a></p> <p><b>iv. New Waste &amp; Recycling Collection Service</b> The Council had reviewed its waste and recycling services in order to bring all services in line across the county and to offer an enhanced service. From March, the Council would be operating an optional fortnightly garden waste collection service, along with a fortnightly collection of plastic and cardboard and a fortnightly collection of general waste. Further information would be sent to all households in February, and more information was available by telephoning 0300 456 0105, or by visiting <a href="http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/waste">www.wiltshire.gov.uk/waste</a> .</p> <p><b>v. Help to Live at Home Update</b> A briefing note was provided which updated on the new Help to Live at Home service that the Council was delivering in partnership with the NHS and selected providers.</p> <p><b>vi. The Localism Act 2011</b> A briefing note was provided which updated on the implications of the Localism Act. Further information would be provided as it emerged, and a Plain English Guide to the Localism Act was available at: <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/localismplainenglishupdate">http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/localismplainenglishupdate</a> .</p> <p><b>vii. Royal Wootton Bassett Signs Auction</b> The Chairman was pleased to announce that a total of £3,320 had been raised when two large Wootton Bassett town signs and two template Royal Wootton Bassett signs were auctioned on eBay. The money raised would be donated to the charity Help for Heroes.</p> <p><b>viii. Armed Forces Covenant Scheme</b> In August 2011 the Ministry of Defence published information about £30million funding for a new Community Covenant Grant Scheme, intended to provide financial support to projects at a local level. Wiltshire Council was encouraging groups and organisations to apply, and more information about the criteria and application process was available at: <a href="http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/AboutDefence/WhatWeDo/Personnel/Welfare/ArmedForcesCovenant/ArmedForcesCommunityCovenant.htm">http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/AboutDefence/WhatWeDo/Personnel/Welfare/ArmedForcesCovenant/ArmedForcesCommunityCovenant.htm</a></p>
6.	<p><u>40-Unit Extra Care Scheme in Cricklade Area</u></p> <p>In January 2011, Wiltshire Council's Cabinet approved the Older People Accommodation Development Strategy, which identified a need for a 40 unit extra care scheme within the Cricklade area. In order to progress this, it was proposed to establish a working group with representatives of the local</p>

	<p>community to identify a suitable site for this development and to work together to deliver this facility through the agreement of the design and specification.</p> <p>Representations would be invited from the Town Council and other partners together with interested members of the local community to be part of the process. The recommendation was that this group would become a sub-group to the Cricklade Shadow Community Operations Board which reported to the Area Board. The terms of reference would be produced in due course.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The Area Board agreed that the proposed working group to be formed to look at the feasibility of this initiative would be assigned to the Cricklade Shadow Community Operations Board as a sub group, and would report on progress to the Area Board via this medium.</b></p> <p>In order to progress this, Councillor Peter Colmer agreed, at the request of Councillor Jacqui Lay, to include representation on the group from Purton/Lydiard when developing the group's Terms of Reference.</p>
7.	<p><b><u>Task Group Reports and Decisions</u></b></p> <p>Updates were received as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i. Community Area Transport Group</b>  The notes of the meeting held on 12 January 2012 were received and noted. The next meeting of the Community Area Transport Group would be held on 15 March 2012.</li> <li><b>ii. Neighbourhood Planning Forum</b>  A meeting had taken place on 14 December 2011 and it was agreed to support continued work towards the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for the Community Area. The next meeting would be held on 1 February 2012, when it was expected to formally endorse Terms of Reference and begin to draw up a programme of work.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>Councillor Mollie Groom was appointed as the Area Board's second representative to the Neighbourhood Planning Forum.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>iii. Cricklade Shadow Community Operations Board (COB)</b>  A report was provided which updated on the outcomes of the second round of consultation that had been carried out in December 2011. By the end of January, all group consultation would be complete and more work done on understanding the service provision for each location.</li> </ul> <p>Before the Area Board meeting on 28 March 2012, it was anticipated that a firmer proposal would be available, based on desktop appraisal of options, and a brief would be drawn up for initial feasibility exercises to</p>

	<p>take place.</p> <p><b>iv. Royal Wootton Bassett Shadow Community Operations Board (COB)</b>  The Shadow COB had continued to meet since the last Area Board meeting. Of note was the presentation at the Wiltshire Council Cabinet meeting in December 2011, and the resulting support and encouragement of the Cabinet. The Cabinet agreed a proposal from the leader of the Council that the Transformation Team formally sought partners to deliver the proposal, particularly with the MOD in relation to the Defence Training Centre at Lyneham. This dialogue was ongoing.</p> <p>An equalities workshop event was held by the Shadow COB at the beginning of December. The Shadow COB had noted all of the discussion and feedback and would be reflecting on this through the next phase of work.</p> <p>The Shadow COB also noted that one of the weaknesses had been in the field of communications and as the project continued, it was seeking ways to address this. Officers from Wiltshire Council had offered additional support.</p> <p>In response to a question regarding provision of a pool in the Royal Wootton Bassett area, Mark Stone, Transformation Director, reported that Wiltshire Council was currently entering into conversations with the MOD regarding funding for the wider campus proposal, as per the request from Cabinet. In the interim, various options were bring considered including a proposal for the provision for a temporary facility for a 12-week period, but further feasibility work was required before a decision could be made. The Council would work to ensure that a pool was available in line with the original timescale commitment from the Area Board.</p> <p><b>v. Voices Working Group</b>  Councillor Jacqui Lay reported that the Wiltshire Voices Project, which had been supported by the Area Board through a Performance Reward Grant, had been under way since October 2010. The focus of the project was to work with people suffering from memory loss.</p> <p>After some initial meetings, a meeting of the Steering Group would be held on 30 January 2012, and it was hoped that work would begin to plan a community event, to be held in March.</p>
8.	<p><u>Funding Applications</u></p> <p><b>a) Community Area Grant Scheme</b>  The Area Board considered the following applications to the Community Area Grant Scheme:</p>

i. Jenner Hall

The sum of £5,000 was requested to assist with the repair of the roof.

**Decision**

**The Area Board awarded the sum of £5,000 to the Jenner Hall.**

***Reason: The application met the Community Area Grant Criteria 2011/12 and demonstrated a link to the Community Plan.***

ii. Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Extended Services

The sum of £2,500 was requested for Play Schemes.

**Decision**

**The Area Board awarded the sum of £2,500 to Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Extended Services.**

***Reason: The application met the Community Area Grant Criteria 2011/12 and demonstrated a link to the Community Plan.***

Councillor Allison Bucknell took the opportunity to remind people of the Community Cinema project, which was starting with its first event on 2 March 2012 in Wootton Bassett School at 7pm. Tickets were £5 per person and the first screening was of 'Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy'. More information would be distributed via the Community Area Network.

**b) Area Board Projects Scheme**

The Area Board considered an application for £5,000 for a project to help support the local business and economy by increasing visitor numbers throughout the Community Area.

**Decision**

**The Area Board awarded the sum of £5,000 to this Area Board Project.**

It was requested that, as part of this project, more comprehensive information on the heritage, history and attractions of each community should be incorporated into the Visit Wiltshire website.

It was also requested that regular updates on the progress of this project should be reported to the Area Board, and that the relevant contact details of members of the Chambers should be passed to the members of the Area Board.

**c) 2012 Community Projects and Events**

The Area Board considered an application for £600 from St Bartholomew's Flower Guild for a Jubilee weekend flower festival.

**Decision**

**The Area Board awarded the sum of £600 to St Bartholomew's Flower Guild.**

9.	<p><u>Break - refreshments and networking opportunities</u></p> <p>A 30-minute interval was held for refreshment and networking opportunities.</p>
10.	<p><u>Partner Updates</u></p> <p>Updates from partners were received as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="363 521 1495 887"> <p><b>i. Wiltshire Police</b></p> <p>The written update from Wiltshire Police was received and noted, and Inspector Chris Martin reported that Wiltshire was now the safest county in the country.</p> <p>The number of thefts from motor vehicles had risen quite significantly in the period, so the Police were strongly advising people to secure their vehicles properly. The Police also advised that owners of quad bikes installed trackers to their bikes, as this significantly reduced the chances of locating them should they be stolen.</p> </li> <li data-bbox="363 925 1495 1032"> <p><b>ii. Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service</b></p> <p>The written update was received and noted. There were no further updates.</p> </li> <li data-bbox="363 1070 1495 1178"> <p><b>iii. NHS Wiltshire</b></p> <p>The written update was received and noted. There were no further updates.</p> </li> <li data-bbox="363 1216 1495 1581"> <p><b>iv. Parish and Town Councils</b></p> <p>The written updates from Broad Town Parish Council, Cricklade Town Council, Purton Parish Council and Royal Wootton Bassett &amp; Cricklade Town Council were received and noted.</p> <p>Lyneham &amp; Bradenstoke Parish Council reported that a budget of £3,000 was available to offer grants to communities for events that would celebrate the Diamond Jubilee. There was also the idea of holding a first ever fete for Lyneham, so anyone interested in getting involved should contact the Parish Council.</p> <p>Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council was holding a 'community breakfast' at the Memorial Hall on Saturday 4 February from 10am until midday. Everyone was welcome to attend and would be encouraged to take part on a consultation exercise.</p> </li> <li data-bbox="363 1805 1495 2029"> <p><b>v. Chambers of Commerce</b></p> <p>The Royal Wootton Bassett Chamber of Commerce had carried out a customer high street survey to get people's opinions on what was good and bad about the high street.</p> <p>The Chamber was also keen to hear from any groups or businesses</p> </li> </ul>



	<p>looking to increase visitor numbers to their businesses or to the area.</p> <p><b>vi. Westlea Housing Association</b> The written update was received and noted.</p> <p><b>vii. Community Groups</b> Updates from the Wootton Bassett Sports Association and Rural North Partners were received and noted.</p>
11.	<p><u>Economy and Enterprise</u></p> <p>The main theme for the evening was Economy and Enterprise, which included a presentation from the MOD on the future plans for the RAF Lyneham site.</p> <p>Presentations were received as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capt John Sunderland RN, Chief of Staff, Defence Technical Training Change Programme.</li> <li>• Stephen Harness, Senior Town &amp; Country Planner, Defence Infrastructure Organisation.</li> <li>• Ian Cambrook, Military Civilian Intervention (MCI) Programme Manager, Wiltshire Council.</li> <li>• Alistair Cunningham, Service Director Economy &amp; Enterprise, Wiltshire Council.</li> </ul> <p>Please see Appendix 1 to the minutes for summary details of the MOD presentations that were given.</p> <p>Following the presentations, a question and answer session was held, which provided an opportunity for questions to be asked of any of the guest speakers. The following is a summary of the key points and issues that arose from this session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was some concern regarding the level of policing for the area with the RAF site being vacant, particularly considering the additional cuts to the number of Wiltshire Police Officers that would happen by the end of the financial year. This was acknowledged as an urgent issue and was currently being considered. Wiltshire Police reported that the Neighbourhood Policing Team would remain in place, but was keen for the MOD to replace the Police Officer as soon as possible.</li> <li>• The presentation of the site, including features such as the Comet at the main entrance, would be considered along with the overall plans of the site and would need to take into account all of the services which would be based at the site.</li> <li>• Facilities for young people, such as the bowling alley, were acknowledged as urgent issues for the local community and were in the process of being considered.</li> <li>• Defence Technical Training services were being withdrawn from a</li> </ul>

number of stations around the country, but this should not necessarily be taken to assume that those stations would close altogether.

- The Secretary of State's announcement that Defence Technical Training would move to Lyneham should go some way to reassure the community that there was a commitment and intention to progress these plans, but there was a lot of work to be done to get there.
- Concern was raised regarding the number of children anticipated to come to the area, and the mechanisms for preparing for their education. Unfortunately the MOD posting methods were complex and it was not always possible to provide schools with forewarning of new pupils, but this was recognised as an important issue and efforts would be made to minimise the impacts on the children and on the local schools.
- Wiltshire Council was working hard to mitigate the impact of the changes that were happening at RAF Lyneham, such as support for local businesses, working with the Chambers of Commerce, developing an Incubation Centre in Royal Wootton Bassett to assist new businesses and the 'Fredricks Wiltshire' fund to provide funds for businesses that wanted to expand.
- It was acknowledged that much of the MOD housing in Lyneham would remain occupied during the transition period which should minimise the impact on local businesses. A number of contractors would also be coming to the area during the development stages of the project which would also go some way to help the local economy.
- Local businesses were encouraged to join their local Chamber of Commerce, and to determine what the main concerns were and work together to achieve positive outcomes during the difficult times. Working with neighbouring community areas was also encouraged.
- The closure of the Hive in September was causing some concern for the local community. This was recognised as an issue for local people and was currently being considered along with the other local issues that had been identified by the community.
- Some concern was raised regarding the security of the site whilst it remained unoccupied during the transition period, particularly with the increase in scrap metal crimes. It was reported that the houses would mostly remain occupied which should help with security issues, but the security of the main site was currently being discussed in detail as part of the developing plans for site, though detailed arrangements for continuing security could not be made public.
- The size and layout of the site did allow for some flexibility in its use, and there was a possibility that other services could be based there that would potentially attract visitors.
- Part of the normal planning process for the site would include a full transport assessment and a study of the impact of people travelling to and around the site. It was hoped that sustainable modes of travel would be used where possible.

Please see Appendix 2 for a list of frequently asked questions regarding the future plans for RAF Lyneham.

	<p>Finally, Councillor Allison Bucknell, as the local member for Lyneham, encouraged local people, groups and businesses to feed any questions or issues they might have in to the Lyneham Steering Group. Details of the Lyneham Steering Group were available through the local councillors.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked all of the guest speakers for attending the meeting and for contributing to such a valuable discussion.</p>
12.	<p><u>Visiting Cabinet Representative</u></p> <p>Councillor Toby Sturgis, Cabinet member for Waste, Property, Environment and Development Control Services, provided an update on his portfolio responsibilities as follows:</p> <p><b>Waste</b></p> <p>The key priority with regards to waste was the rollout of the Council's new services, which included a fortnightly collection of plastic bottles and cardboard, a fortnightly collection of black box recycling, an optional fortnightly collection of garden waste and fortnightly collection of general household waste. Landfill taxes were rising and Wiltshire Council was keen to exceed its target of achieving a recycling rate of 50%.</p> <p><b>Property</b></p> <p>When Wiltshire Council became a unitary authority, it inherited some 95 buildings from the four district councils. Plans were on course to dispose of these unwanted buildings and create four main Council hubs. This would reduce the Council of the burden of these inefficient buildings, and would also reduce the Council's carbon footprint.</p> <p><b>Environment</b></p> <p>The Council was driving efficiencies through its Transformation Programme, and the County Hall refurbishments were on course to achieve energy cost savings of 40%. There were also initiatives to encourage households to have cavity wall and loft insulation installed to further improve efficiencies.</p> <p><b>Development Control</b></p> <p>The Draft Wiltshire Core Strategy would shortly go before Council for endorsement for public consultation, which would last for 6 weeks from 20 February 2012. This was a very comprehensive plan for Wiltshire would cover the period to 2026. Other developments included the implications of the Localism Bill, further details of which were expected to emerge soon, and the Council was also working to develop a new IT system to replace the systems that were inherited from the former authorities.</p> <p>The following questions and comments arose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concessions were available for households or organisations with specific</li> </ul>

	<p>requirements, such as surgeries or large households. Any queries should be directed to the Waste Team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weighted woven plastic sacks were available upon request for any households that had difficulty storing the large recycling bins.</li> </ul> <p>The Chairman thanked Councillor Sturgis for his update.</p>
13.	<p><u>2012 - A Year of Celebrations</u></p> <p>Laurie Bell, Director of Communications, reported that a 2012 Working Group had been formed following the decision at the previous Area Board meeting, and work was underway to bring ideas to life for 2012 events.</p> <p>A report was circulated which outlined Wiltshire Council's plans to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with a celebration event to be held in Salisbury. The precise date of the event could not be confirmed at this time but would be either 1 May or 2 May 2012.</p> <p>Each Area Board was invited to have a 'jousting tent' at the event, to showcase the history and democracy of their local areas. Specific details regarding the size of tent and facilities required was now needed in order to progress the arrangements of the event.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b>  <b>The Area Board delegated the responsibility of determining the specific details of requirements for the Diamond Jubilee event to the 2012 Working Group.</b></p>
14.	<p><u>Evaluation and Close</u></p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting and requested that people took a moment to complete the feedback forms.</p> <p>Specific thanks were extended to the guest speakers who had all contributed throughout the meeting.</p> <p>The next meeting of the Royal Wootton Bassett &amp; Cricklade Area Board would be held on Wednesday 28 March 2012, 6pm at Cricklade Town Hall.</p>

## Defence Technical Training Change Programme (DTTCP) Presentation to Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board 25 Jan 12 Summary

### Defence Technical Training Now

- Tri-Service, all ranks
- Trainee technician to postgraduate Chartered Engineer +
- 3 disciplines:
  - Aeronautical Engineering
  - Electro-Mechanical Engineering
  - Communications & Information Systems
- Type of training
  - Phase 2 (initial specialist training) & Phase 3 (career, refresher and equipment-specific courses)
  - Technical, Contextual & Military
  - Residential (and Distributed)

### Context

- Defence Training Review, Strategic Defence & Security Review (2010)
- Current training delivery
  - Formal specification, design, delivery and appropriate accreditation.
  - Volume, content & quality of training to meet Army / Royal Navy / Royal Air Force declared need
  - Knowledge, Skills, Attitudes & Behaviours
  - Wide variety of training delivery (in-house, out-sourced, partnerships)
- Continuous need for training
  - Ever-changing military need (new threats, tactics, technologies, equipment)
  - Continuously developing workforce (career development, turnover)
- 21st Century drivers
  - Learning methodologies & technologies.
  - External and internal expectations.

### DTTCP Vision

*‘The provision of a cost-effective, affordable system for the timely provision of the correct numbers of suitably-skilled, flexible military personnel trained in aeronautical engineering, electro-mechanical engineering and communications and information systems, in order to contribute to the delivery and maintenance of operational capability within Defence.’*

- Keeping pace with ever-changing technology & operational needs
- Exploiting new learning methods and technologies
- Making the most efficient use of our people
  - Student & staff time
  - Access to learning at own base / when operational
  - Meeting ever-increasing expectations
- Efficiency of estate, training infrastructure and support

.....whilst ensuring continuous output of trained personnel for the Front Line.

## DTTCP Objectives & Benefits

### Strategic Objectives

- Maximize training efficiency
- Improve training environment and experience
- Deliver Technical Training within allocated resources (£ and people)

### End Benefits

- Increased ability to deliver to the Front Line Commands' requirement
- Lower operating costs & lower capital investment
- Higher training retention rate

### Type of training

- Phase 2 (initial specialist training) & Phase 3 (career, refresher and equipment-specific courses)
- Technical, Contextual & Military
- Residential (and Distributed)

### •Scale (*today*)

- c.25,000 students per year ('turnover')
- c.5,200 students at any one time (the 'Standing Student Population')
- Approx 46% Army, 31% Royal Air Force, 23% Royal Navy
- c.3,700 military & Civil Service staff across 9 sites

## Secretary of State for Defence's Statements 18 Jul 11

### SofS Oral Statement on 'Defence Transformation' [Official Record 18 Jul 11: Col 643](#)

The Defence Technical Training programme will move to Lyneham, guaranteeing its future. More details of these and other estate-related decisions are in the written statement I have laid today. The planning work, including the investment required to adapt sites, will now get under way, based on this strategic direction. It will involve consultations with local communities as appropriate and other statutory obligations that we will need to fulfil.....

### Written Ministerial Statement [Official Record 18 Jul 11: Col 66WS](#)

.....RAF Lyneham is the preferred location for future defence technical training. This confirms that the Department will withdraw from Arborfield in Berkshire and Bordon in Hampshire, releasing the sites for sale by 2014-15 at the latest.

## Context (reminder...)

- Defence Training Review, Strategic Defence & Security Review (2010)
- Current training delivery
- Continuous need for training
- 21st Century drivers
- Programme assumptions & constraints:
  - Phased build & moves of training to Lyneham.
  - Each phase subject to normal Departmental / Government investment approvals and scrutiny

## Where is the programme now?

### Timetable

- Must have moved from Bordon and Arborfield by 2015
- Aspiration for DTT fully established at Lyneham by 2020

### Approach

- Phased building and moves of training to Lyneham
- Each Tranche (phase) requires Ministry of Defence (and Treasury) approval
- Reduction in the current numbers

### Early stages of planning

- How we will / might deliver the training at Lyneham is yet to be decided
- Implications for infrastructure, potential employment and exact scale are yet to be determined but there are the following assumptions.
  - Need the whole site and the Service families Accommodation
  - No training need for a fully operational airfield

- Technical training plus the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) Regimental Headquarters on site
- Possibly 1,950 students and staff (excluding contractors) at Lyneham by 2015
- Possibly 4,300 students and staff (excluding contractors) when fully established
- Not final nomenclature decided. Not (yet) styled Defence Technical College

## **Progress to Concept Master Plan**

- Detailed examination of the site to identify the best use of the existing assets
- Scoping of ecological and land quality surveys to identify where further work would be required
- Consideration of a wide range of environmental / sustainability issues such as access, utilities, historic environment, landscape, community amenities
- Concept Master Plan prepared to scope consultations, further detailed surveys of the site and assessments
- Site to be developed in tranches, but important that Concept Master Plan caters for the whole programme's needs
- Results of this work will then be used to inform the development of a consultation master plan.

## ***Lyneham Site Planning Phases***

- Detailed engagement with Wiltshire Planning Department
- Detailed engagement with National Bodies to identify further work / surveys needed
- Early public consultation (consistent with the approach taken by Wiltshire Council to Community Involvement) - Contacts to be provided
- Formal consultation in lead-up to Planning Applications

### **Current Intentions:**

- First Planning Applications to establish the principle of the use of the site for Defence Technical Training
- Ministry Of Defence competition for detailed design / construction
- Further public consultations as part of preparations of detailed Planning Applications
- Training established by end 2015
- On-going community consultation over site issues throughout this process and after training is established

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**Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board – 25 January 2012**

**Future of Lyneham**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

- 1 Q How many RAF personnel are left at RAF Lyneham, and when will the final RAF person leave the base?**
- A** Current RAF/dependant population is approximately 1,000, reducing to zero by December:
- Apr 2012 – No 1 Air Mobility Wing (approx 300 staff) moves to RAF Brize Norton.
- Sep 2012 – All remaining moves (C130J Hercules simulators, Tactical Medical Wing, 47 Air Despatch Squadron, Royal Logistics Corps) to RAF Brize Norton completed. All remaining services close down. Approx 100 staff remain, reducing to zero by Dec 2012.
- 31 Dec 2012 – RAF Lyneham closes; MOD retains site ownership.
- Defence Technical Training (DTT) is likely to establish a team of approximately 30 at Lyneham by October 2012
- 2 Q What is happening to the empty houses “outside the wire”?**
- A** Some of the Service Family Accommodation (SFA) may become temporarily surplus. The housing is owned by Annington Homes Ltd who will rent out the housing during that period, so it does not remain vacant. The MOD will continue to liaise with the local community over these changes. When DTT is fully established it is expected that all SFA will be required to serve the staff / student population.
- 3 Q What provisions are in place to support the families during the drawdown?**
- A** SFA and Army Welfare are supporting the needs of individual families. The Community Development Worker will leave at the end of Mar 2012 and there are no current plans to replace this post.
- 4 Q What is the future of the Youth Club (RAF facility)?**
- A** In September 2012 the Youth Club will close and the Airplay programme will cease. Future requirement for Youth Club is to be determined.
- 5 Q What support will be offered to maintain support groups and activities (e.g. parent and toddler groups provided by the RAF) ?**
- A** No RAF facilities will be available to support these groups from September 2012. The closure of some facilities may occur much earlier as a result of the reduced availability of RAF personnel to administer and support these facilities.

- 6 Q When will the RAF HIVE close?**
- A** The HIVE is currently scheduled to close when the RAF withdraws from Lyneham. The MOD is aware of the important role played by the HIVE and Community Centre. Discussions are underway to establish how services may be continued during the transition period between the RAF withdrawal and establishment of DTT at Lyneham.
- 7 Q What support is the business community getting to tide them over until the DTTC is fully up and running?**
- A** Talks continue with Chambers of Commerce and Wiltshire Council. Lyneham will be included in the new Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership and Wiltshire Council is opening an incubation centre at Wootton Bassett to support the creation of new business in the area later this year.
- 8 Q How many local jobs will there be for non-military personnel?**
- A** Services (as at other MOD sites) are contracted on a service (not employee) basis. Details of employment opportunities will not be known until these services have been specified and potential contractors' proposals received.
- 9 Q Will the local NHS medical provision cope with the additional families?**
- A** On-site medical support will be provided for military staff and students. NHS provision for others will be considered as part of the normal Planning Process.
- 10 Q Who is going to maintain those parts of the site which are outside the wire, e.g. clearing ditches in winter, tree cutting, grass cutting, etc?**
- A** MOD continues to own the site and will seek to maintain the same maintenance regime currently operated.. Responsibility for grass-cutting around SFA housing remains with Modern Housing Solutions (MHS).
- 11 Q Who is responsible for the security of the site?**
- A** Security at MOD sites is subject to continuous assessment. The site at Lyneham will be maintained in accordance with MOD policy, which will reflect the use and occupancy of the site. For obvious reasons of security, exact details of the composition of the security force will not be publicly released.
- 12 Q Who is responsible for security of the vacant housing?**
- A** Policing of the SFA estate is the responsibility of Wiltshire Police.
- During the transition period of 2012 RAF police will provide irregular patrols of the SFA estate for deterrent purposes.

- 13 Q With the departure of the MOD Community police presence, will the police house be retained, and will there be a replacement police officer?**
- A The incumbent MOD Community Constable is due to retire at the end of March 2012. At present there are no plans to replace him.
- 14 Q Who will look after the MOD / Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) (formerly Defence Estates) owned play areas?**
- A Play areas within the SFA 'patch' will continue to be maintained as part of the MHS contract.
- 15 Q What will happen to the civilian houses that rely on RAF Lyneham for water supplies?**
- A Where the lease documents state the MoD is obliged to provide this service to surrounding homes it will continue to do so.
- 16 Q What will happen to the memorials at RAF Lyneham?**
- A As owner of the site, MOD will retain responsibility for the memorials.
- 17 Q What is going to happen to the Crèche and Pre-School?**
- A The operation of the Bumble Bees Crèche and the Little Alberts Pre-School are self-financing albeit that they rely on MOD accommodation. The need for continued provision of the accommodation has been noted and is subject to further discussion.
- 18 Q How are the Primary and Secondary schools supposed to deal with the variable numbers of pupils? There is little warning when families arrive?**
- A Where information is known about bulk transfers of military personnel, MOD shares this information with the schools. DIO Housing does not currently have a mechanism for forewarning the individual pupil numbers when families arrive / leave ad hoc.
- 19 Q Is there going to be any flying back at Lyneham when the DTT is up and running?**
- A There is no DTT requirement for an operational airfield. It is expected that the runway will be re-developed for training purposes.
- 20 Q How many people are likely to be based at Lyneham DTT at any one time?**
- A Exact numbers have yet to be determined. It is currently anticipated that possibly 1,950 students & staff will be at Lyneham by 2015, rising to 4,300 when training is fully established. This does not include contractor staff involved in support to training / the establishment.
- 21 Q Will people based at the DTT be using much of the facilities outside of the wire (e.g. pubs, shops, restaurants)?**
- A The DTT site will have a significant permanent staff population and large, albeit changing, student population (with courses ranging from 1 week to a year. Students will not be 'confined to camp'. It is anticipated that the SFA will be fully occupied.

- 22 Q Is there likely to be much additional traffic generated by DTT?**
- A Traffic volumes will be subject to detailed assessment and discussion with Wiltshire Council Planning Department.
- 23 Q Is there likely to be much noise generated by DTT?**
- A Noise will be taken into account in site design. Noise Assessment is also a component of the formal Planning Process. However, the site will no longer be an operational airfield.
- 24 Q What is DTTCP?**
- A The Defence Technical Training Change Programme is a complex MOD change management programme whose aim is to modernise technical training for the Armed Forces to: reduce staff and trainee manpower costs and respond to Service and learner requirements; rationalise training estate to provide sufficient accommodation of the right quality in the most cost-effective way.
- 25 Q What does Defence Technical Training involve?**
- A DTT is the training of Army, RN and RAF Aeronautical Engineers, Electro-Mechanical Engineers and Communications & Information Systems specialists, from initial training throughout their careers. It ranges from trainee technician to postgraduate Chartered Engineer+ and covers Technical, Contextual & Military aspects. DTT is currently delivered at 9 sites.
- 26 Q When will training start at Lyneham?**
- A The move of DTT to Lyneham will be phased. It is anticipated that training will commence at Lyneham by 2015. It is anticipated that a Planning Application seeking to establish the principle of the use of the site for DTT will be submitted from early to mid 2013.
- 27 Q How will the local community be kept informed of developments?**
- A DTTCP will work with the Community Area Board as its prime focus for community liaison in addition to formal discussion with Wiltshire Council Planning Department. MOD will welcome support from both the Community Area Board and Planning Department when we come to planning consultation. DTTCP will make further details available as soon as the programme develops, both through MOD's website and through Wiltshire Council.