

ARMY BASING PROGRAMME (ABP): AMESBURY AREA BOARD UPDATE - 17 Jan 19

PROGRAMME UPDATE. Significant progress has been made on the delivery of barracks developments and Service Families Accommodation (SFA). The completion of this working and living accommodation is critical to enable the Service personnel and their families to move to the UK this summer. With less than six months to go until the units start relocating to Wiltshire detailed planning is being refined to ensure a smooth transition. To support those moving MOD funded a two day visit to Germany in Sep 18 for Wiltshire Council to brief families and provide information on education, healthcare, employment, service provision and the local area. In addition to the wide range of information provided through Wilts Ccl, British Forces Germany and the ABP, families have also received support from Army Families Federation, HIVE and through British Forces Broadcasting Service (BFBS). Once all school places have been allocated Directorate of Children and Young People (DCYP) will fund a visit for all Head Teachers from the local schools to meet with the families in BFG and answer any queries they may have on the schools their children will attend.

INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY:

Housing:

- New builds (LOVELL): 917 total. Mix of Offr & Other Ranks. Includes some bungalows.
 - Ludgershall: 242. Corunna Estate.
 - Bulford: 225. Plumer Estate.
 - Larkhill: 450. Alanbrooke Estate.
- Progressing extremely well and will deliver sufficient to support re-basing in summer 2019.
- Some housing at Bulford and Ludgershall already available for occupation (but none have yet been allocated).
- Bulford and Ludgershall anticipated to be completed summer 2019.
- Larkhill anticipated to be completed spring 2020.
- Ludgershall: Planning applications for spoil and arisings at the Ludgershall SFA site and old vehicle test track (behind SFA) in determination. Decisions in Feb 19?

Barracks:

- Significant new build and reconfiguration in barracks at Perham Down, Tidworth, Bulford, Larkhill. Managed and delivered by Aspire Defence Ltd.
- Progress: Delivery of the Infrastructure Programme on track to deliver sufficient infrastructure to enable the return of troops which begins in summer 2019.
- Key Assets: Those assets which enable troops to return from Germany or move garrison location. 88 assets are identified as Key and of the 88, 38 are complete with the remaining 50 in various stages of build and on programme.
- Total Assets: To date 56 assets have been delivered (including the 38 Key) and brought into service. Approx. 77 assets are currently in delivery.
- FY 18/19 is the peak construction year requiring approx. 1,200 skilled workforce delivering across 5 sites.
- Medical/Dental Centres: Provision of increased capacity for Medical & Dental facilities is underway seeing completion of the extension and refurbishment of the medical centre in Bulford and further progress of the new Medical & Dental centre at Larkhill (ETC Mar 20). The re-provision will conclude 2020 with the extension and refurbishment of the Bulford medical/dental.

Highways. S106 requirements.

- Majority of preliminary works and site surveys complete.
- Ludgershall Wellington Academy Toucan Crossing: Started Jan 19. ETC – Apr 19
- Bulford Junctions 15 (Rose & Crown), 16 (Salisbury Rd-Double Hedges), 13D (Amesbury – Porton Rd roundabout (Toby Carvery). Technical approval granted. Planned for May 18 - Jul 19; preliminary works by Wessex Water ongoing; by Virgin Media – yet to start. Meeting with Wilts & Bulford Parish Council 4 Feb.
- Tidworth Junctions 22 (Ram), 36, 37, 21 (Esso Garage, Ordnance Rd, Meerut Rd), 20 (Station Rd). May 19 – May 20. Technical approval pending. Will be delivered in sequence – not concurrently.
- Scheduling and scope subject to further discussion with Wilts Ccl.
- Cycleways at Larkhill and Bulford; subject of further discussion/planning.
- Highways - Highway improvements schemes for Larkhill (Ross Rd) and Tidworth (VCP 2) garrison entrances are underway and will be complete before the movement of troops begins. (ETC for both - May 19). This work provides safer, more controlled, access to and exit from garrisons which also satisfies local planning conditions. Larkhill Ross Rd junction & Tidworth VCP2 entrance – works commenced.

Other

- Ashdown Estate Tidworth - A338 'strip'. Tree remediation plan agreed with Wiltshire Council. Preliminary fencing erected as permitted development. Intent is to re-plant in Mar 19 (subject to contract).
- Environmental: In excess of 2 hectares of new trees will be planted to form a new woodland at Double Hedges to off-set and increase the number of trees impacted by the programme of works.

ARMY BASING TRANSITION

Service Families Housing:

- For those currently assigned to/will be assigned to units that are rebasing and requiring housing - all applications should have been submitted.
- Housing allocation panels will take place between 4 and 12 Feb.
- Families should have addresses and move dates by the end of Mar.
- Principal movement window is 1 Jun – 30 Sep. Advance parties before that date; Rear parties afterwards.
- Some personnel could start to trickle post into the area from early 2019 (i.e. business as usual activity).
- Allocations will be a combination of existing housing and new-build. The rebasing moves are not predicated on the completion/availability of all new build housing.
- New-build housing delivery progress means it unlikely and further hirings will be required or leases extended.
- Whilst the long-term intention is that housing 'patches' support their adjacent/associated barracks – initially there will be some dislocation. The final lay down will have be 'grown into' over time e.g. we are not moving the families of the Royal Artillery regiments currently in Tidworth to Larkhill (where the regiments will relocate to).

Movement:

- Movement planning has been underway since early 2018.
- Detailed movement planning will occur from Feb 19 onwards.
- Assessment is that we could see circa 35 families move in per day at the peak periods Jun-Sep 19.
- Additionally, there will be concurrent movements of soldiers into barracks and the arrival of unit freight.
- Account is being taken of road restrictions/road works – and routes will be planned/recommended.

Schools:

- Larkhill - St Michaels Primary School: Opened Sep 18.
- Ludgershall – Eagle Primary School: In construction.

Pre-School:

- Early Years: A new Early Years facility at Tidworth is now in construction which will provide a purpose-built environment for pre-school children. Redesign and refurbishment of the existing early years at Bulford will provide the uplift to numbers required for the increase in military families moving to SPTA.

Communications:

- Regular engagement continues with multiple stakeholders, including the local community, to keep interested parties informed of what's happening when and the impact to the surrounding area.
- <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/army-basing-programme>
- <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/army-basing-news>
- <https://www.army.mod.uk/who-we-are/future-of-the-army/army-basing-programme/>
- <https://insidedio.blog.gov.uk/category/army-basing-plan/>
- <https://aspiredefence.co.uk/project-allenby-connaught/army-basing-programme/>
- <https://corporate.lovell.co.uk/news/lovell-breaks-ground-on-mod-army-basing-programme-abp-on-salisbury-plain/>
- <https://www.wyg.com/projects/regular-army-basing-plan>
- <https://aff.org.uk/resources/army-basing-programme-winter-2018-edition/>
- <https://salisburyplainhive.blogspot.com/>
- <https://www.forces.net/>
- Twitter:
 - ArmyBasingProgramme@ArmyBasing
 - [@LovellSalisbury](https://twitter.com/LovellSalisbury)

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL. Coordination of the Army Basing Programme with Wiltshire Council is done through the Wiltshire Council Army Basing Steering Group (ABSG). (DONM – 30 Jan 19).

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