



ARMY BASING TEAM

# Army Basing Programme

Edition 4 | August 2014

## HEADLINES

- In order to give priority to basing and infrastructure (B&I) across the Army, Major General Alastair Dickinson has been appointed as the Director General B&I and assumed responsibility for the capability on 1 Aug 14.
- Richard McKinney has been appointed as DIO Programme Director for the Army Basing Programme and assumed responsibility on 18 Jul 14.
- Circa 30 units have either moved within the UK (and in many cases also re-roled) or re-roled in situ over the summer period. All moves are complete or on track.
- Wiltshire Council's Strategic Planning Committee met on 30 Jul to consider the Salisbury Plain Masterplan. The committee recognised it as an important background document which will inform the assessment of future planning applications.
- The planned move of 16 Regiment Royal Artillery from North Luffenham to Thorney Island will commence this year and will now be conducted as a phased move with 30 and 49 Batteries moving in Summer 15.
- The Coordination of Briefings to Units and Families Relocating to the UK under the Army Basing Programme visit instruction has been staffed and issued. All basing related visits to Germany must comply with this instruction.

## PROGRAMME UPDATE

48 Assessment Studies have been conducted at all affected sites across the MOD and proposals for providing the infrastructure solutions to meet the Army's requirements have been agreed. The Assessment Studies have shown that the original planning was sound as the majority of unit moves are progressing as

planned and to time. In the few instances where delivery of some elements of the Basing Programme to the planned timetable will be challenging, mitigations and interim, short term infrastructure solutions have been agreed.

Circa 50 Initial Gate Business Cases (IGBC) will be staffed through the DIO and MOD Investment Approvals Committees over the summer and autumn period, of these 13 IGBC have been approved to date.

A small number of minor changes to the Army Basing Plan have been agreed and these have been communicated in a recent Army Briefing Note (ABN 66/14 dated 5 Jun 14).

## UPDATE FROM GERMANY

In Summer 2014 1 Regiment Army Air Corps (1 Regt AAC) will rebase from Princess Royal Barracks Gütersloh, where they have been since 1993, to Royal Naval Air Station Yeovilton. 1 Regt AAC formed up at Hildesheim, Germany, in Jan 1983, from three AAC squadrons that trace their history back to World War II RAF squadrons - 651, 652, and 661 (Air Observation Post) (AOP) Sqn RAF. These former RAF AOP squadrons were retitled 651, 652 and 661 Squadron Army Air Corps respectively, and the Regiment was equipped with the Lynx and Gazelle helicopters. More recently, 1 Regt AAC's role has been as a LYNX equipped Regular light utility helicopter regiment, under command of Joint Helicopter Command and, since 2005 the Regiment has had Squadrons continually deployed on Operations TELIC and HERRICK. The Regiment ceased flying LYNX helicopters in Sep 13 and is now converting to the WILDCAT helicopter that will enter service with the Royal Navy and the Army in 2014 and 2015 respectively. As part of the Army activity in the fielding of WILDCAT, the 2 current LYNX Regiments (1 Regt AAC and 9 Regt AAC in Dishforth) will merge into a single Regiment, titled 1 Regiment AAC and comprising 4 WILDCAT squadrons, to be based at Royal Naval Air Station Yeovilton. The introduction of

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the new WILDCAT Battlefield Reconnaissance Helicopter will see 1 AAC at the leading edge of the Army's future Reconnaissance capability.



In parallel with the rebasing of 1 AAC, there are a number of Germany units now in the process of disbanding as part of Army 2020 and preparing their estate for eventual return to the Federal authorities. These are 3 MERCIAN and 16 Tank Transporter Squadron in Fallingbommel, 28 Engineer Regiment from Hameln, and 2 Logistic Support Regiment in Gütersloh.

Attention is now focussed on the 2015 moves, which are essentially a series of Arms Plot moves in a concentrated period over the school summer holidays. Acknowledging the complexity of 2015 rebasing activity, a series of Unit Movement Planning Conferences are being held with all units and organisations that are due to rebase in 2015, while separate work is ongoing with Agility Ltd who will provide the Removals Service under the MOD Unaccompanied Baggage scheme. The processes and procedures involved will be fully communicated to the BFG population through publications such as Sixth Sense and Garrison magazines, on BFBS radio, through HIVEs and on social media.

The Army Basing Team and HQ Support Command in UK will ensure that housing, schooling, medical and welfare support will be provided for returning families. We welcome and encourage liaison visits to Germany units by UK providers in these areas; which for maximum effect should follow the recently promulgated Coordination of Briefings instruction. The procedure and Staff Clearance requirement for visits to Germany is detailed in 2010 DIN07-018 which units must follow. The Germany Firm Base will continue to be provided by HQ BFG and Westfalen Garrison, supporting 20 (Armoured Infantry) Brigade as it remains in Paderborn/Sennelager and Gütersloh until accommodation is ready on Salisbury Plain late in the decade.

## SPTA MASTERPLANNING

Wiltshire Council's Strategic Planning Committee met on 30 Jul to consider the Salisbury Plain Masterplan. At the meeting, the MOD's approach to the master planning process was praised and the Committee recognised the Masterplan as a critical background document to be taken into account in the next phase of focussed planning applications. The MOD will continue to liaise closely with the Planning Authority during the preparation of these applications and will seek their endorsement of the approaches being taken. Each planning application will be subject to public consultation in line with the normal processes.

### Somme Road Cycle Route

Development of a cycle path connecting Perham Down, Tidworth, Bulford and Larkhill has been permitted by Wiltshire Council. The initial proposal is to construct a 'pilot section' between Wellington Academy on Somme Road and Perham Down. This will provide greater access, enable soldiers to cycle to work and also provide members of the public with a safe and useable cycle path that connects the areas across the Plain. The pilot will be a joint project involving Tidworth Garrison, Wiltshire Council, Community Area Transport Group and 22 and 26 Engineer Regiments in Perham Down, with the latter taking on the construction of the pilot project.

This is also seen as a Great War commemoration project and it is intended, subject to planning permission, to be built between 2014 and 2018. It is also intended to commemorate Wiltshire's fallen from the Great War with information boards along the route.

## CLOSURES IN GERMANY

It has been determined that the continued existence of a Germany-based inventory holding depot at Dülmen is no longer justifiable given the diminishing requirements of BFG. The majority of activities will cease by October 2015 and, following the realisation of disposal opportunities, all remaining inventory will transfer to the UK by September 2016, with site handover from DIO to the German Federal authorities by December 2016.

The Haltern and Oerbke/Hörsten training facilities will close in March and May 2015 respectively, and will be released to the Federal authorities by May and August 2015 respectively.

## UK 2014 UPDATE

A number of the 2014 ABP unit moves are already complete with planning on track to successfully deliver the remainder. The planning for 2015 serials is well underway.

### 2014 completed moves

<i>Unit</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
2 PWRR	Woolwich	Cyprus
1 R ANGLIAN	Bulford	Woolwich
1 MERCIAN	Catterick	Bulford
2 MERCIAN	Belfast	Chester
1 SCOTS	Edinburgh	Belfast
3 RIFLES	Redford, Edinburgh	Dreghorn, Edinburgh
241 Sig Sqn	Colerne	Bicester
251 Sig Sqn	Bulford	Bramcote
3 MED Regt	Catterick	Preston
SCOTS PDIC	Canterbury	Edinburgh
65 Fd Sqn RE	Hameln	Kinloss
HQ 8 Engr Bde	Upavon	Minley
91 Sup Sqn	Hullavington	Aldershot
25 Engr Gp	Div CRA	Minley
MSSG Trg Element	Larkhill	Hermitage
178 Inv Coy	Formation	Aldershot
1 R IRISH	Re-role in situ	Tern Hill
73 MI Coy Staff	Formation	Hermitage

3 and 27 Regts RLC planned location swap to Aldershot and Abingdon respectively has been delayed. 9 Regt RLC in Hullavington, RRF in Tidworth, 1 LANCS in Catterick, 1 R IRISH in Tern Hill, RL and RDG in Catterick and the KRH and RTR in Tidworth will all remain in location but receive a

refurbishment and Minor New Works programme to facilitate their re-role or conversion process. Delivery of these works is expected to commence by 2015.

The occupation of Denison Barracks, Hermitage is ongoing with the HQ of SAG moving from Minley in Aug 14. Units moving into Hermitage also include MSSG, MOG (Reserves), SCBT, 73 MI Coy (Reserves) and SGMI (Reserves). The formation of HQ 11 Signal Brigade and HQ West Midlands continues and the detailed assessment for the infrastructure requirements for Venning Barracks, Donnington is being finalised. HQ 101 Logistics Brigade, HQ 11 Infantry Brigade and HQ South East and HQ 104 Logistics Brigade will re-role and restructure during Sep 14. The MERCIANS are now in Bulford and are proceeding with their AI transition programme. The detailed formation of the 'new' Brigades continues. The Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (IS&R) Brigade is forming at Upavon and the transition of 43 (Wessex) Brigade to HQ 1 Artillery Brigade & HQ South West continues.

## DIRECTORATE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

DCYP (SCE) has advanced the closure dates for both Lister School Herford and Montgomery School Hohne from Dec 15 to Jul 15, the end of the academic year, and taken the decision to cease termly boarding at King's School Gütersloh from Jul 15. SCE remains committed to maintaining a high standard of education until the last unit withdraws from Germany. Examination schedules are being factored into the planning process and SCE is working closely with parents and teachers to ensure the closures are managed as efficiently as possible and with minimal disruption to children.

Representatives from the Local Authority and a selection of schools in North Yorkshire recently visited Montgomery, Gloucester and Slim schools in Hohne for first hand experience of the environment and resources currently available to Service children. This will facilitate the transition process and enable receiving schools to be better prepared for the incoming children.

Close liaison with Local Authorities, other stakeholders and the military chain of command also continues apace. Key issues are being addressed in a pragmatic, timely and effective manner, with the aim of achieving the best for Service children always paramount.

## SPOTLIGHT ON YORK



The picturesque walled city of York is the county town for the largest county in England, Yorkshire. York is often referred to as the capital of the North. A City steeped in 2000 years of history that unfolds throughout its compact but thriving centre.

Located at the heart of North Yorkshire, the city is surrounded by two of Britain's most spectacular national parks, the North Yorkshire Moors and the Yorkshire Dales. It is within easy reach of the east coast with Scarborough, Filey and Whitby a leisurely drive or train journey away, whilst also enjoying excellent transport links to Leeds and other major cities including London.

With the world renowned York Minster situated at the heart of the city, the majority of York's historical treasures all lay within the city's Roman walls, including the York Castle Museum, Jorvik Centre, National Railway Museum and York Art Gallery. The city offers a wide range of music and performance venues, places to eat and drink, parks and open spaces and plenty of places to relax, walk and cycle.

In 1951 the Barracks were named Imphal Barracks. Imphal was considered to be the most significant battle honour won by the West Yorkshire Regiment in the

Second World War. The siege of Imphal Plain was deemed to have been raised on 22 Jun 1944 and this date continues to be observed as a Regimental day.

### **HQ 1 (UK) Armoured Division.**

The British Army's 1st Division was formed in 1809 for service in the Peninsular War and Waterloo Campaign, comprising initially of two British brigades and one Hanoverian brigade of the King's German Legion. During the Nineteenth Century the 1st Division was disbanded in peacetime, but reformed to fight in the Crimean War, the Opium Wars, the Zulu Wars and the Boer War. The Haldane Reforms of 1907 saw the 1st Division's permanent establishment. In Aug 1914 the 1st Infantry Division, as it was then known, was given its mobilisation orders to cross the English Channel. It remained in France for the entire war seeing action in Mons, Marne, Ypres, the Somme and Passchendele. After the Armistice, 1st Division was based in the Rhineland as a part of the first British Army of the Rhine. On its return to the United Kingdom the 1st Division formed part of the British Army's spearhead corps and deployed in 1936 to Palestine in a counter-insurgency role. The 1st Armoured Division was created in 1939. On several occasions during the Second World War the 1st Infantry and 1st Armoured Divisions fought

side by side: first at Dunkirk and then later during the North African and Italian Campaigns. At the end of the war, the 1st Armoured Division was disbanded. 1st Infantry Division was moved to Northern Palestine and then onto Libya and Egypt. In 1955 the 1st Infantry Division returned to the United Kingdom and remained in Colchester until 1960 when it moved to Verden where it was stationed until 1993, defending a section of the inner-German border. In 1978 in recognition of the Division's armoured capabilities it was redesignated the 1st Armoured Division. In August 1990 Iraq invaded Kuwait and the 1st Infantry Division was ideally placed to lead the United Kingdom's land forces deployed in response to the invasion. In 1993 the 1st Infantry Division moved to its current home in Herford and was redesignated as 1st (United Kingdom) Armoured Division. Throughout the 1990s the Division's soldiers were deployed on the vital peace-keeping and humanitarian aid operations in the Balkans. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century has seen the Division heavily involved in Iraq and Afghanistan. In 2014 both brigades in the 1st Division have been deployed to Afghanistan.

Under A2020, 1 (UK) Armoured Division will restructure to become HQ 1 (UK) Division commanding the Adaptable Force (AF) from Imphal Barracks, York from Summer 15. Forward elements of the Division have already been established in York and these numbers are set to grow over the coming months in order to allow the Division to hit initial operating capability targets. 1 (UK) Armoured Division has already disbanded the Divisional Engineer Group, and the Offensive Support Group will be next to depart later in the year. Some Staff Branches will also detach in Summer 15 leaving the core staff of the HQ to form up on schedule in Imphal by 1 Aug 15 ready for the challenges that lie ahead commanding the AF, and acting as the Land Forces proponent for overseas engagement. At the same time, under Army 2020 the associated Divisional Signal Regiment (1 Armoured Division Signal Regiment) will reroles, and as 1 Signal Regiment will rebase to Stafford.

## Parade

After weeks of preparation some 1,000 immaculately presented soldiers from across 1st (UK) Armoured Division participated in a significant parade at Hammersmith Barracks, Herford, on Friday 18 Jul. The parade not only marked the name change from 1<sup>st</sup> (UK) Armoured Division to 1<sup>st</sup> (UK) Division but it also represented the start of its formal farewell to Germany

as the Divisional Headquarters prepared to move back to York in 2015 after more than 50 years in the country. It also symbolized the start of major change for the Division as it transformed from an Armoured Division to a light-rolled "Adaptable Force."

The parade consisted of 18 "guards" from Units within the Division as well as from the Royal British Legion and the Division's historical armoured capability was appropriately reflected by various vehicles ranging from Challenger 2 Main Battle Tanks to AS90 self-propelled guns on display.

Guests at the historic parade included both serving and retired former heads of the Division, including its guest of honour the current head of the Army, General Sir Peter Wall, Chief of the General Staff; Her Majesty's Ambassador to Germany, Sir Simon McDonald, dignitaries from the German civilian and military communities as well as Councillor Ian Gillies, the Lord Mayor of York who said: "To have the premier division of the British Army come to establish its Command Headquarters in York is a great honour for the city and we welcome it with open arms."

The parade also saw the presentation of a prestigious Fahnenband and a Drumhead Service, believed to be the first for the Division since the end of World War Two. The Fahnenband, a ribbon of honour, is a national German award and can be added to the 'Truppenfahne', or Colours. The Fahnenband was presented to the Division in recognition of its service in Germany and carries an inscription reading "in the Service of Peace and Freedom" and was an honour the Division was proud to receive. The Drumhead Service concluded with the lowering of the 1<sup>st</sup> (UK) Armoured Divisional flag, and the raising of the 1<sup>st</sup> (UK) Divisional flag.



## ARMY 2020

Over the last three months, Army 2020 has been subject to significant external scrutiny, with reports from the House of Commons Defence Committee issued on 6 Mar 14 and from the National Audit Office on 11 Jun 14. The latter was then followed up by a hearing of the Public Accounts Committee on 16 Jun 14. Army 2020 was also subject to a second Gateway Review in May 14, which assessed the Programme as Amber for delivery confidence (successful delivery is feasible, significant issues exist but are resolvable at this stage). They congratulated the Army 2020 Team and the constituent Projects on progress made with structures, but said that now is the time to determine exactly how work on transformation should be taken forward.

The Army 2020 Core Programme Team (CPT) proposed a methodology for transformation to the Army 2020 2\* Programme Board on 1 Jul 14 and this was endorsed. The tactical detail of how the Programme will be 're-wired' is being finalised and will be reported to the next 2\* Programme Board on 18 Sep. The CPT will be conducting a review of each of the current Army 2020 Projects and this activity has already begun. The aspiration is to align the Programme gradually with the existing organisational and governance structure and the next few months will see a focus on the internal and external communications necessary to enable smooth and complete transition.

## CIVILIAN STRUCTURES PROJECT

Work continues on the Civilian Structures Project (CSP); the initiative is designed to ensure that the Army's civilian structure is aligned with the changes to the Regular Army and Army Reserves structure under Army 2020. Implementation of the revised structure is in three phases currently 2014/15 (short term), 2015/16 (medium term) and 2017+ (long term).

The Army is following the MOD's Post Mapping process to identify how posts map from the current to the future structures. Organisations undergoing structural change in the first phase (2014/15) have been subject to a series of Post Mapping Panels. The panels have compared current and future Job Specifications to determine how posts migrate into the future structures.

Civilian personnel whose employing unit is restructuring

during this first phase have been notified that their post may be subject to change and have received notification of the initial outcome of the Post Mapping Panels. At the conclusion of the appeals process and Trades Union consultation personnel in this first phase will receive final notification of the outcome of Post Mapping.

Personnel in units restructuring in later phases (2015/16 and 2017 onwards) are not part of the current Post Mapping exercise. Further information is available on the [CSP Website](#) and this is regularly updated as the project progresses.

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

### Housing Allocations Service Centre:

SFA website - [www.gov.uk/dio/sfa](http://www.gov.uk/dio/sfa)

Tel: 0800 169 6322 / 94510 8000

From overseas: 0044 1904 418000

### Education:

#### CEAS Website

[www.gov.uk/childrens-education-advisory-service](http://www.gov.uk/childrens-education-advisory-service)

Email - [enquiries@ceas.uk.com](mailto:enquiries@ceas.uk.com)

Tel: 0044 (0) 1980 618244 / 94344 8244

#### Education of Service Children Change Programme

Email – [DCYP-ESCCP@mod.uk](mailto:DCYP-ESCCP@mod.uk)

#### Learning Directorate Scotland

[www.scotland.gov.uk/About/People/Directorates/learning](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/People/Directorates/learning)

#### Army HIVEs Website

[www.army.mod.uk/welfare-support/23438.aspx](http://www.army.mod.uk/welfare-support/23438.aspx)

#### SPTA Public Consultation

Information – [www.army.mod.uk/basing](http://www.army.mod.uk/basing)

Comments to [DIO-ArmyBasing@mod.uk](mailto:DIO-ArmyBasing@mod.uk)

#### Army 2020 Transforming the British Army – An Update

[http://www.army.mod.uk/documents/general/Army2020\\_Report.pdf](http://www.army.mod.uk/documents/general/Army2020_Report.pdf)

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