



Army Basing Programme

Newsletter

Edition 15 - Sept 17

PROGRAMME UPDATE

UK – The Army Basing Programme (ABP) continues to deliver at pace across a range of locations to provide suitable living and working accommodation for units that have already moved under the ABP and to enable the return of Service personnel and their families from British Forces Germany (BFG) and the remaining UK to UK moves in 2019. Edition 15 of the ABP Newsletter covers the following:

Page 1 – Programme Update

- Minister Defence Personnel and Veterans visits ABP.

Page 2 - Highlights from across Salisbury Plain.

- Junior Ranks Single Living Accommodation (JR SLA) at Larkhill is officially handed over.
- Update on the roadworks on The Packway in Larkhill
- Service Families Accommodation (SFA)

Page 3/4 - Projects up North

- Military Working Dogs reunite at North Luffenham

Page 4 - HIVE can help with re-basing

BFG - The re-basing to North Luffenham of the remaining Germany based elements of 1 Military Working Dog Regiment completed at the end of September, signalling the end of re-basing delivery for BFG in 2017. Detailed planning has begun for 2018 re-basing moves, while work continues under Op OWL, the operation name for the HQ BFG owned Germany end of the withdrawal of forces including the drawdown of infrastructure and preparation for its handback to the German Authorities, to prepare the necessary precursors for the final re-basing, drawdown and closure of BFG in 2019.

MINISTER DEFENCE PEOPLE AND VETERANS VISITS ABP

Tobias Ellwood, MP Parliamentary Under Secretary of State and Minister for Defence People and Veterans (Min DPV) visited the ABP on 1 Aug 17.

The purpose of the visit was to familiarise the new Minister with ABP progress across the Salisbury Plain Training Area, to meet the ABP Team and key industry partners including Aspire Defence, delivering the behind the wire works within the PAC footprint and Lovell, the construction firm delivering new SFA.



Following a short presentation at the Aspire Business Centre, the Minister travelled to the Ashdown Estate, Tidworth where he met with our contractor Hill and toured a vacant property to see the standard of SFA that is being delivered under the ABP.

The Minister then received a windshield tour of Larkhill Garrison, where the majority of the construction work is currently taking place. We look forward to hosting the Minister in the near future and showcasing the progression of the ABP works across Salisbury Plain.



Min DPV on viewing platform at Purvis Lines, Larkhill

PAC FOOTPRINT

Behind the Wire - There has been considerable progress with activity now well underway at Larkhill, Bulford, Tidworth, Perham Down and Aldershot. Construction works underway include new build SLA, armouries, Regimental Headquarters, messes, garages, stores, various extensions and demolitions.

The most recent milestone was the completion of the JR SLA village at Larkhill. The village was opened by Lt Gen James Bashall CBE, Commander Home Command on Wednesday 27 September.



A media event was held to showcase the new modern en-suite living facilities and was well attended by representatives from ABP, DIO, Larkhill Garrison, Aspire Defence Ltd and Rollalong.



The arrival of the first SLA 'Modular Units' (bedrooms) took place at Larkhill Garrison in November 2016. Just ten months later, the new build 378 bed space JRSLA village has been completed, handed over and is now being occupied. Coverage of the event can be viewed here:

<http://www.forces.net/news/larkhill-opens-new-accommodation-resettling-troops>

Larkhill Roadworks - Works to meet the pre-construction conditions for new SFA at Larkhill continue and construction of the new roundabout on The Packway and to adapt and connect new and existing utility services at this point is due to complete by 17 Oct 17. Works further along The Packway will continue until the end of the year to create dual cycleways/footpaths. This will mean narrowing the carriageway in places, removal of some trees and will necessitate the periodic use of traffic-light controlled movement of vehicles. Additionally, further utility works has already started in Tombs Road.



Despite the on-going works, the Army Basing Programme would like to take this opportunity to offer its grateful thanks to everyone who was affected by the closure of The Packway for their understanding and patience whilst this vital, but major piece of civil engineering was completed.

SFA – Progress has been made in a number of areas for the delivery of SFA across Salisbury Plain to enable the Service personnel and their families to return from BFG in 2019. Construction start on the 917 houses being delivered by Lovell is currently expected to commence by the end of the year. The Ashdown estate at Tidworth is on target to complete in Mar 18 with all 322 houses complete and handed over. The 100 properties we have purchased at Riverbourne Fields, Tidworth are almost complete with only nine houses left to build. These houses are expected to complete and be available for occupation by the end of Oct 17.



Street view of the Ashdown Estate

PROJECTS UP NORTH

Kinloss - A project to provide a new Armoury for 39 Engineer Regiment is underway at Kinloss Barracks. Work began in May 17 and is on schedule to complete in Feb 18. All below ground level elements have been completed and the focus has now moved to completion of the main build with foundations in place and preparation work for the pouring of concrete. It is planned to fit the weapon racking and caging in Dec 17 once the main build has been completed.

York - The Building 107 and 108 Refurbishment works are progressing well with about 50% complete. The last Phase of Building 107 and 108 is due for completion in Oct 18.

The SLA works are progressing well with the steel frame, the internal CEM Board works and the roof completed. The internal works are on schedule with all the internal rooms being formed and the dry lining almost complete. The first fix mechanical and engineering works are done and the first fix joinery work has commenced with external brick work up to the second level. The SLA is due for completion Mar 18. All works are on programme, to quality and within approved budget.



External brick work commenced on the SLA in Aug 17 York Imphal Barracks

Leuchars - All current construction work is complete and designs for the next phase will complete are on-going.

Marne and Boulton Barracks, Catterick – The project includes the delivery of new Officers and Junior Ranks Single Living Accommodation, Senior Non Commissioned Officers Mess, Armoury, Squadron offices, Quartermaster Department, Multi-Use Games Area, hard standing and a considerable amount of refurbishment and reconfiguration works at both sites. The £60M contract was awarded to GallifordTry during the spring. The construction works are due to complete in Oct 18.

Dreghorn Barracks, Edinburgh - The aim of this project is to provide compliant office, training and technical accommodation to facilitate the relocation of 521 Ordnance Disposal Troop from their current location at Craigiehall to Dreghorn Barracks, Edinburgh. This will release the Craigiehall site for disposal.

The planned complex is self-contained, consisting of two secure garages (A & B), a store and a combined administration and training facility with welfare provision for duty personnel.



Secure garages (A&B)



Store in construction



Administrative and Training facility

GallifordTry were awarded the contract in May 17 and started on site in July 17 following a design phase.

All construction works at Dreghorn Barracks will complete in Jun 18.

1 MWD TO NORTH LUFFENHAM

For the first time since their formation in 2010, 1 Military Working Dog (1MWD) Regiment are located together thanks to works carried out by the ABP.

Facilities have been provided at St Georges Barracks, North Luffenham, ahead of its planned disposal in 2021, as announced as part of 'A Better Defence Estate' strategy in Nov 16. They include a temporary kennel compound to accommodate 72 dogs, veterinary consultation complex, explosive storage facility and converting a disused fire station into a dog washing, food preparation and food storage area.

The new facilities at St George's Barracks were formally opened on 21 Sep 17 by Colonel Andrew R Devey, MBE, Assistant Head of Army Infrastructure Delivery and former Commanding Officer of 1st Military Working Dog Regiment.



HIVE

Can HIVE really help with re-basing?

HIVE has been in existence for a little over 30 years. It has advanced, expanded and has confidently and unquestionably found its niche during this time. Working within the Chain of Command and as a pillar of the Army Welfare Service (AWS), HIVE provision has supported thousands of Serving Personnel and their families through some of their most difficult moments. HIVE is now recognised as providing a vital support mechanism across a plethora of areas directly affecting the Service Users.

So what of re-basing? Specifically referring to Salisbury Plain HIVE, there has been extensive, on the ground support provided to Units moving into the Tidworth and

Bulford Garrison. In addition to engaging with Units prior to relocation by providing essential local information, the HIVE Information Support Officers (HISOs) have been working tirelessly to strengthen relationships with the Early Years provision and local schools. Although a mainstay of HIVE, this is in part due to the continued increase in the percentage of Military children moving into the area.

The HISOs have diligently researched and provided relevant information on the types of Housing within the area – taking into account the many newly developed SFA estates constructed. This can often be an emotive subject, with information frequently remaining key to resolution.

Employment is another key area of concern when moving to a new location, even more so when relocating from overseas. HIVE has directed focus by building and strengthening relationships with a number of local employment agencies, aspiring to enable and aid spouses to more readily secure employment within the area.

The areas in which HIVE signposts and offers support is wide ranging and most certainly not limited to the above. To ensure HIVE remains up to date with rebasing activity, we engage with Military and Civilian networks within Local Authorities, represent on Basing working groups and engage with Brigade staff. This ensures HIVE remain primed to offer the most relevant and up to date information to incoming personnel.

In addition to visiting Salisbury Plain HIVE in person, information can also be found on the Salisbury Plain HIVE Blog. Accessible anytime and updated regularly, HIVE Blogs offer a host of information in a practical layout, allowing the user and Chain of Command to readily and easily obtain information. Blogs are accessible via Dii in addition to personal devices.

To find your nearest HIVE and HIVE Blog please visit www.army.mod.gov.uk/hives

