



Army Basing Programme

Newsletter

Edition 14 - Jun 17

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PROGRAMME UPDATE

UK – The ABP continues to deliver on a wide range of sites across the UK. A number of projects have recently been completed, including the £1.5M Multi-Fit Garage at Somme Barracks, Catterick. More information on Page 2.

ABP is now moving into the most demanding two construction years of the programme as we progress with some major projects, including the next stages of the Salisbury Plain Training Area (SPTA) Service Families Accommodation (SFA) build which is key to enabling the return of the remaining units from Germany. We are on track to provide the necessary living and working accommodation required to enable the move in 2019 to take place.

BFG - Op OWL is 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. Op OWL Warning Order 01 was released at the end of Apr 17, signalling the start of delivery of the rebasing, closure and drawdown plan by HQ BFG. The main activity in 2017, the rebasing of 1st Military Working Dogs Regiment to North Luffenham, is going forward as planned. It's move will be complete by Aug

17, with drawdown and handover of its estate complete by late Oct 17.

Analysis of the Army 2020 Refine announcement and outputs has been incorporated into HQ BFG planning. The Rebasing and Drawdown team is now focusing on preparation for 35 Engineer Regiment disbandment and rebasing in summer 2018, whilst developing the frameworks and organisations required for the larger task of rebasing and drawing down of the remainder of BFG in 2019.

HQ Westfalen Garrison disbanded in May 17, with its delivery staff being formed into HQ BFG Forward. This has allowed a more coherent delivery of Comd BFG's objectives, whilst minimising bureaucracy within BFG. Within HQ BFG itself, a G5 branch has been re-established. This will be the lead planning branch for delivery of Op OWL. These changes now position HQ BFG as primary planner and executor of Op OWL in Germany.

IMPACTS OF DEO ON ABP

We are adjusting the ABP where necessary to align with the Better Defence Estates Strategy and Army 2020-Refine announcements (together known as Defence Estates Optimisation (DEO) Programme). This has meant closing some projects and adjusting the scope of others, but it means that ABP continues to deliver what the Army actually needs for the future.

ABP has also been able to facilitate some early work on behalf of the emergent DEO Programme; an Assessment Study to look at provision for the Specialist Infantry Group in Aldershot being one of the more substantial initiatives. This work has again shown the significant benefits of how the Army and DIO do business in partnership within the Army Basing Programme. We are also grateful for how Aspire Defence Limited has leant into this work, which sits within the Project Allenby-Connaught footprint.

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ABP PRINCIPLES FOR UNITS RELOCATING

All units moving under the ABP please take note of the following principles:

- Re-role in situ.
- Backload unwanted equipment and vehicles before you move.
- We are providing infrastructure for future unit roles – not current roles.
- Be very sparing when considering ‘nice to bring items’ like Gate Guardians.

NORTHERN PROJECTS UPDATE

Somme Barracks, Catterick - The ABP successfully met the ISD for the delivery of the Multi-fit Garage at Marne Lines, Catterick. Despite some very cold weather the garage was built on time, to cost, to the high quality standards specified and was well received by Commanding Officer 2 YORKS.



Multi-fit Garage Handover Event

This handover completes all works at Somme Barracks following the successful delivery of a refurbished crew room and the reconfiguration of a HUB to create office space and a unit conference room.



Multi-fit Garage in use.

Leuchars Station – Delivery of the refurbished SLA continues and is expected to be completed in Jun 17. Work is also underway to upgrade working facilities for 110 Provost Company.

Kinloss – The contractor has mobilised on site and the provision of the armoury is on track for delivery in early 2018.

Imphal Barracks, York – One of the higher profile projects in ABP North is the refurbishment of the Divisional Headquarters and the new build of SLA at Imphal Barracks, York. This £13.5M ABP project will improve the living and working experience for 1 Div and United Kingdom Security Vetting. The first two of 18 phases of the HQ are complete and the 80 bed SLA is advancing well. All work is due to complete in Autumn 2018.



Progress of the SLA at York



Progress of Command Corridor

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

[@ArmyBasingProgramme](https://twitter.com/ArmyBasingProgramme)

Regular updates are tweeted showing progress and delivery under the ABP.

SALISBURY PLAIN TRAINING AREA

SFA - The return of nearly 4,000 Service personnel and their families from Germany to the SPTA in 2019 requires a considerable amount of new Service Families Accommodation (SFA). In Autumn 2016 Lovell was appointed as the preferred bidder to deliver the 917 SFA required across Salisbury Plain under the ABP. Lovell has been working with the ABP to develop the housing solution.

The 917 houses being built by Lovell are in addition to 100 properties being purchased at Tidworth from Persimmon Homes and the 322 being built at the Ashdown Estate, Tidworth by our contractor Hill. To date 64 houses have been purchased in Tidworth with all 100 properties expected to be available by Oct 18. 140 houses have been completed and handed over to DIO at the Ashdown Estate and over 30 properties are now occupied by Army families.



Progress at the Ashdown Estate

Progress has been made in a number of areas for the delivery of the 917 houses by Lovell including planning consents, roads and sewers solutions and Lovell have commenced Rights of Way diversions and temporary access measures at Larkhill.

Close engagement continues between the Army Basing Programme, Lovell and Wiltshire Council to finalise solutions for all three schemes and the associated off-site works. Further information regarding the delivery of these houses can be found in the bi-monthly SPTA Housing Information Leaflet and can be accessed [here](#).

Works associated with the provision of a new roundabout at the entrance to Larkhill on the Packway have commenced. Further information on Page 4.

Larkhill WW1 Tunnels – A media event was held on 24 Apr 17 to showcase the unique network of First World War tunnels that had been discovered on MOD land in Larkhill where we plan to build over 400 homes. The tunnels are part of a First World War battlefield used to train men to fight in and under the trenches of France and Belgium.



The media event was extremely well attended and received extensive reporting including national coverage and even reached as far as Spain and Italy. There were a large number of articles published online which can be accessed by typing 'Larkhill WW1 Tunnels' into Google.

PAC Construction activity across each of the SPTA Garrisons and Aldershot continues. First class facilities will be delivered under the ABP PAC contract with the first asset, Officers Single Living Accommodation, due for completion and handover in Jun 17.

Aldershot SLA - The arrival of Single Living Accommodation (SLA) Modular Units took place at Aldershot Garrison on Tuesday 14 March with local media in attendance.

The video of the SLA units and interviews with ABP and Aspire can be viewed at the link: <http://www.gethampshire.co.uk/news/local-news/watch-aldershot-garrisons-new-soldier-12741828>

In addition to the SLA, new Mess facilities, stores, vehicle workshops, garages, gym facilities plus refurbished office accommodation will be provided at Aldershot to make sure that soldiers work and live in the best possible environment.

Work has also started at Perham Down with the arrival of the first SLA Modular Units on Monday 10 April.

LARKHILL TRAVEL NOTICE

WORKS HAVE COMMENCED AT LARKHILL IN PREPARATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW SERVICE FAMILIES ACCOMMODATION

Works have started in Larkhill that will lead to the construction of a new roundabout on The Packway, and to the adaptation and connection of new and existing utility services. Offline works commenced alongside The Packway on 9 May 2017. Further works are planned to commence as follows:

- **19 – 22 June 2017. Stop and Go traffic controls to be used between the hours of 0900-1500 only for preliminary works for a proposed cycle path.**
- **4 July – 14 August 2017. Complete Eastbound highway closure from the Packway Garage to the Stonehenge Inn. Westbound remains open.**
- **14 August – 26 September 2017. Full highway closure (both directions) from the Packway Garage to the Stonehenge Inn roundabout (access to residential properties and the Packway Garage will be accessible via the diversion routes). Diversion routes will be clearly marked.**
- **September – December 2017. On-going, traffic light controlled, two way traffic.**

Signage has been placed at various locations both on The Packway and on roads leading to Larkhill to forewarn road users of the forthcoming road works and diversions will then be put in place. Signed diversionary routes will be via the A303.

To provide safe access to the new Service Families Accommodation (SFA) development of 400+ houses and the new primary school that Wiltshire Council is providing to enable St Michael's School at Figheldean to relocate and expand by 2018, a new roundabout and associated utility provision is required to be put in place prior to the commencement of the SFA build.

To minimise the impact of these works we are closing only one carriageway for a period of time. During this time we can carry out most of the services diversions without total closure. However closing the whole of The Packway for a short period will enable us to complete major works swiftly including the significant reduction in road levels,

constructing the southern portion of the roundabout and completing the hard and soft landscaping.

The decision to allow only west-bound traffic during the single lane operation rather than only east-bound traffic will help to help minimise the delays typically encountered during the school summer holidays at the A303 Countess Road roundabout.

We have also ensured that the proposed works do not clash with the summer solstice celebrations.

We apologise for the disruption these works will cause but we are grateful for the local experience and knowledge which has been provided to find the most manageable solution to the delivery of this substantial piece of civil engineering work.

To further support your understanding of the road works and the impact this may have on you a series of public exhibitions have been arranged as follows:

- **19 – 20 June. Amesbury Library (Smithfield Street, Amesbury, Salisbury SP4 7AL). Representatives from ABP and Lovell will be available between 1500 and 1600 on 20 June 17 to answer any questions you may have.**
- **21 – 22 June. Tidworth Library (Tidworth Leisure Centre, Nadder Rd, Tidworth SP9 7QA). Representatives from ABP and Lovell will be available between 1500 and 1600 on 22 June 17.**
- **23 – 26 June. Durrington Library (75 Bulford Rd, Durrington, Salisbury SP4 8EU). Representatives from ABP and Lovell will be available between 1100 and 1200 on 23 June 17.**
- **27 – 30 June. Sharp Hall, Larkhill (The Packway, Larkhill, Salisbury, SP4 8RB). Representatives from ABP and Lovell will be available between 1030 and 1200 on 28 June 17.**

Notice boards with maps clearly showing the road works will be available throughout the periods identified above. A question box will also be available for those who can't attend the sessions with ABP and Lovell representatives.

Please check library opening times before planning to view the exhibitions as these differ depending on location. We look forward to seeing you and answering any queries you may have.