

Defence Technical Training, Lyneham – Town & Country Planning Frequently Asked Questions. November 2012

Q1: When will the Town and Country Planning Process take place and who will have access to the Planning information?

A1: Meetings with the Local Planning Authority (Wiltshire), the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board (RWB CAB) and Lyneham Parish Council have been held and such local liaison will continue during the process of preparing the planning application. A website focussing on the Town Planning process is now “live” see: www.mod.uk/lynehamplanning It is envisaged by the Defence Infrastructure Organisation that a public exhibition will be held outlining the proposals in Spring 2013. Relevant information used to support the planning application will become a public document. In addition to putting the application on the website, the Lyneham Parish Council has agreed to identify suitable local locations where consultation documentation can be viewed.

Q2: When will the Town & Country Planning Process reach completion?

A2: It is envisaged that the planning application will be submitted in Spring/Summer 2013. The Local Planning Authority (Wiltshire) will then start a process of formal consultation on the proposals. It is expected that the decision on the application will be received during the Autumn of 2013.

Q3: Will the Planning Application cover the whole site and all DTT development?

A3: In line with the requirements set by Wiltshire Council the planning application will include a Master Plan covering the whole site and all the indicative Defence Technical Training (DTT).

Q4: Who will relocate into Lyneham under Defence Technical Training and when?

A4: Tranche 1 will require the move of Army Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers (REME) training and the REME Home of Corps (HoC) out of Arborfield and Bordon into Lyneham by the end of 2015, in order to free these sites up for disposal. Further examination is to take place in order to identify scope for other training to move to Lyneham as soon as practicable after the moves of REME training.

Q5: What construction / demolition work will take place and when?

A5: Current construction programme shows site mobilisation and enabling works in early 2014. New Build and Refurbishment of existing buildings will start in early spring 2014 and complete winter 2015 in preparation for the release of Bordon and Arborfield. In view of its wider Defence Estate responsibilities, DIO will quite separately initiate demolition of redundant buildings, as part of its own risks mitigation on site; scheduled to start in late 2012.

Q6: Who is responsible for the Security of the site?

A6: Security at MOD sites is subject to continuous assessment. The site at Lyneham will be maintained by the Defence Infrastructure Organisation in accordance with MOD policy, which will reflect the use and occupancy of the site. For obvious reasons of security, exact details of the security are not discussed publicly.

Q7: Is there likely to be much additional traffic generated by DCTT?

A7: DIO is consulting with the Highways Authority and Highways Agency on the approach to modelling traffic generation. The resulting detailed assessment will accompany the planning application. As a training establishment it is expected that the assessment will conclude that traffic patterns will be significantly different from the previous transport function of the base with less dependence on Heavy Goods Vehicle movements.

Q8: Is there likely to be much noise generated by DCTT?

A8: Information on noise levels will also be provided to Wiltshire Council as part of the scoping of impact assessments to accompany the planning application. The site will no longer be an operational airfield.

Q9: How many people will be based at Lyneham?

A9: The current programme for DTT Tranche 1 by the end of 2015 will see a population of around 1510 military and 525 Civilians employed on site. The dates and figures are liable to change as training transformation and the development project mature. The figures are planned to increase significantly as and when the other tranches (addition training streams) are established at Lyneham over later years.

Q10: What will happen to the memorials at RAF Lyneham?

A10: As owner of the site, MOD will retain responsibility for the memorials.

Defence Technical Training, Lyneham – Town & Country Planning Frequently Asked Questions. November 2012

Q11: What is happening to the empty houses 'outside the wire'

A11: The DIO has advised that the SFA had been previously declared surplus by the RAF. This has now been regraded as core stock in order to meet the future needs. In order to maximise income a few of the houses may be rented out to the private sector by our managing agent AHL. The MOD will continue to liaise with the local community over these changes. When DCTT is fully established it is expected that all SFA will be required to serve the staff / student population.

Q12: Will the local NHS medical provision cope with the additional families?

A12: On-site medical support will be provided for military staff and students from 2015. NHS provision for others will be considered as part of the normal Planning Process.

Q13: 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?

A13: MOD continues to own the site and the DIO will seek to maintain the same maintenance regime currently operated. In the Families Accommodation responsibility for grass-cutting remains with Modern Housing Solutions (MHS).

Q14: Who is responsible for security of the vacant housing?

A14: Policing of the housing is the responsibility of Wiltshire Police. We do not comment on the detail of security matters.

Q15: Who will look after the MOD / Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) (formerly Defence Estates) owned play areas?

A15: Play areas within the SFA 'patch' will continue to be maintained by the DIO as part of the MHS contract.

Q16: What will happen to the civilian housing that relies on RAF Lyneham for water supplies?

A16: Where the MoD is obliged to provide this service to surrounding homes it will continue do so.

Q17: Is there going to be any flying back at Lyneham when the DTT is up and running?

A17: There is no DTTCP requirement for an operational airfield. It is expected that the runway will be re-developed for training purposes.

Q18: How will the local community be kept informed of developments?

A18: We have consulted with Wiltshire Council, the Area Board and Parish Council to identify the best way to keep the local community informed of developments. A project website is now live see www.mod.uk/lynehamplanning and updates will continue to be given through extensive local liaison. The Lyneham Parish Council is identifying suitable locations where application documentation can be held for viewing. It is currently envisaged that a public exhibition will be held locally in Spring 2013 to consult with the community about the proposals for the sites development. When the planning application is submitted to Wiltshire Council they will also arrange a formal consultation on the proposal