

## Army Basing Newsletter – September 2019

*This publication aims to regularly update you on the Army Basing Programme (ABP) announced in 2013 stating some 4,000 additional Service personnel plus their families would relocate to Salisbury Plain by 2020.*

### Programme Update

#### Military Community Educational and Employment Fair

Employment, training opportunities and inspirational ideas for setting up your own business will be part of the Tidworth Military Community Educational and Employment Fair on 10 October 2019 from 11:00am to 5:00pm at Tidworth Leisure Centre, Nadder Road, Tidworth, Wiltshire SP9 7QN.

The event will be a chance for partners and older children of Service Personnel or those about to leave the military to think about their next steps to their future career. There are lots of employers signed up to attend and there are plans to conduct break-out sessions/presentations delivered by Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), XForces (self Employment/start Ups) and Wiltshire College.

#### Operation FARAN

This summer has seen the return of almost 4000 Service Personnel and 1300 military families, from Germany, to the UK. The majority of which have been rebased to Wiltshire. These moves were put on an operational footing known as Operation FARAN, this has enabled the Army to plan the moves well in advance and manage any risks or issues that occur. The majority of the moves took place over the school summer holidays to minimise any disruption to children's education, with up to 150 families moving a week. There has been close engagement between the MOD and Wiltshire Council for many years to ensure that all the required supporting infrastructure is available to spouses and dependents such as school places, healthcare and welfare provision.



#### Schools welcome Army children as hundreds of Service Personnel and their families move to Wiltshire

Over the summer hundreds of Service Personnel have been moving to Wiltshire to make their home in the county as part of the Army Basing Programme. Local schools are welcoming the children of Army Basing families into classrooms and helping the pupils settle into life in Wiltshire. As part of the Army Basing Programme hundreds of additional school places were created to prepare for the additional pupils. The school build programme, funded by a significant contribution from the MOD and gifting of MOD land, has involved building new schools and the expansion of some existing schools.

#### Service Family Accommodation



At Plumer Estate, Bulford, all 225 properties have been accepted by DIO Accommodation. 166 of these properties are now occupied with families. Construction focus here is now on the completion of landscaping works near the double henge archaeology feature. At Corunna Estate, Ludgershall, all 242 properties have been accepted and 185 properties have been occupied. Work on the completion of play and recreation areas continues. Handover and Acceptance has commenced at Larkhill with 73 out of 450 properties accepted.

#### Road Works

A condition of the planning permission consent given by Wiltshire Council to the MOD to build new Service Families Accommodation (SFA) was that the ABP undertook a series of highways improvements.

A double, mini roundabout was required in Bulford village to replace the previous, busy crossroads. This is now complete and will improve traffic flow through the village. A mini roundabout has also replaced a 'T' Junction where Orchard End meets the A3028, these works completed on the 5 Sep 19. At J22 (Ludgershall Road, Pennings Road and A338) works will commence on 7th Oct 19 until Feb 2020. Traffic lights will be in operation during these months.

Highways England will have night closures on the A303 East direction/ A338 slip road commencing on 7 Oct 19 for a period of 7 weeks. Further information regarding roadworks under the ABP can be found in the regular Travel Notices issued.

## Road safety measures being installed at Durrington



St Michael's Primary School in Larkhill was built to cater for the influx of children under the Army Basing Programme.

A number of children attending the school are from the Durrington area. Following local concerns some additional measures are being put in place on the A345 to ensure Durrington families walking children to school can safely cross. A dropped kerb, additional signage and a school crossing patrol are being put in place. A permanent crossing is due to be placed on the road in the future.

## Behind the Wire

Works 'behind the wire' continue at pace with 81 out of 88 key assets delivered with a further five due to be commissioned in September. Work is complete on all the essential bed spaces to meet this summer's 'Eat & Sleep' milestone and dining facilities are fully provided for all the troops on the garrisons. Most recently, the last Single Living Accommodation (SLA) block has been delivered at Larkhill Garrison. In total the ABP have delivered 20 Junior Ranks' SLA, three Senior Ranks' SLA and three Officer SLA. Larkhill Garrison has also gained a new training wing and a sports pitch. One of the key buildings delivered at Bulford is the new shared mess, which provides dining and social areas for senior ranks of both the HCR and The Mercian Regiment. The mess is extensive, with bars, dining areas and kitchens, all constructed to high standards using quality materials.

To support the increase of residents in Wiltshire a number of expansions have been made to health care buildings. The existing medical facility in Bulford has been extended which will provide a further 570 spaces for military



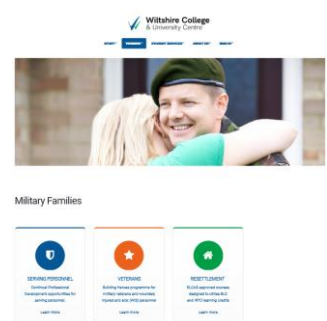
personnel and 254 spaces for dependants. A new Intermediate Care Centre is also being built in Bulford. The Medical and Dental Centre in Tidworth will also be expanded in 2020. The Larkhill Medical and Dental Centre is progressing well with a planned completion in Spring 2020. It will be a mixed facility run by the NHS and the military for the local community and Larkhill Garrison. In the meantime, there is a temporary facility on the Packway for Service Personnel, their dependants and NHS patients.

## Progress in Bulford

Aspire Defence Capital Works (ADCW) recently completed one million construction hours for the Army Basing Programme (ABP) at Bulford, where a new home has been created for the Household Cavalry Regiment (HCR). The HCR (Armoured) is relocating from Windsor to Bulford this summer alongside other unit moves within the UK and the return of Service Personnel and families from Germany.

## Project JEMS

[Project JEMS](#) (Jobs & Education for Military Families South West) is an innovative project involving a partnership between Army Headquarters South West, Wiltshire Council and Wiltshire College, with the support of the Army Families Federation (AFF), Career Transition Partnership (CTP), Careers Advisory Service (CAS) and DWP. The aim of the project is to assist spouses and children of military personnel by offering tailored training for employment where there are likely to be vacancies and skills shortages within Wiltshire.



For more information visit: <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/mci-new.htm>

