

Lyneham Steering Group Meeting

This is the summary of the Key Point Notes from the Lyneham Steering Group meeting held at Lyneham Primary School on the 7th November 2011. See Appendix 1 for list of attendees.

Ref Item	Key Point Notes Summary	Owner Action by
1.	<p>Introduction</p> <p>TS welcomed members to the Lyneham Steering Group meeting.</p> <p>For the benefit of some new members, those present were asked to introduce themselves and state what organisation they were representing.</p>	
2.	<p>Declaration of Interest</p> <p>Attendees were invited to declare any special interests in the context of the Lyneham Steering Group including members of the press, if any. There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
3.	<p>Action points from the last meeting</p> <p>TS advised the group that the Defence Technical Training Change Programme (DTTCP) would be briefing the Military Civilian Integration (MCI) Programme Sponsoring Group on 16th November. It was important to build a good relationship with the team, and develop effective channels of communication with them, following on from the presentation at the last Steering Group meeting.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Key Point Notes from the last meeting on the 15th September were correct.</p> <p>Updates on actions were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lyneham Primary School was still finding it difficult to plan properly as they don't have sufficient warning of families arriving in (and leaving) the area. IC and WD were still investigating to see what more could be done to overcome this problem. JC commented that action was needed at a national level and she was due to attend a Department for Education (DfE)/MoD conference in London where she intended to raise this issue • All other matters were due to be covered in Agenda items for this meeting 	IC/WD
4.	<p>Update on RAF Lyneham closure</p> <p>RC outlined the following key dates for RAF Lyneham:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 2011 – Current RAF/dependant population approximately 1000 • April 2012 – Move of 1 Air Mobility Wing to RAF Brize Norton with approx 300 personnel 	

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4...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2012 – All remaining moves to RAF Brize Norton due to be completed (C130J Hercules simulators, Tactical Medical Wing, and 47 Air Despatch Squadron, Royal Logistics Corps). All remaining services will close down. Staff will reduce to approximately 100, declining to zero between September and December 2012 • 31st December 2012 – latest date for RAF Lyneham to close • Summer 2012 handover to DTTCP team will take place • Around 2/3 of the housing stock is likely to remain full after the handover <p>It was evident that the RAF closure plans were well advanced and proceeding as planned.</p> <p><u>Decision.</u> It was agreed that RC would provide a further update at the next meeting.</p>	RC
5.	<p>Progress on Lyneham issues and actions table</p> <p>The latest version of the Lyneham issues and actions table (dated 7th November) was circulated to the Steering Group. A copy of the table is at Appendix 2. This was a draft version, and IC thanked the group for their comments so far.</p> <p>IC explained that he didn't expect the group to read the table now. He asked the group to take the table away, talk to the groups they represented, and email any comments back to him in the next 2-3 weeks.</p> <p>Main points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The focus of the table had been changed from the closure of RAF Lyneham to dealing with issues and actions in the context of the phased move of Defence Technical Training to the site • A new section on 'Key dates' had been added to help the group look ahead to see what was coming. DTTCP would be asked to notify the group of significant dates beyond 2012, when known • There were 9 headings for the issues identified so far e.g. Improving communications, Accommodation/housing, and Children & young people, etc (currently, 20 issues were shown in this version of the table) • In terms of the 'traffic light system', there was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ One red issue (funding in relation to Council Tax) ➢ 15 amber issues, and ➢ 4 green issues <p>In discussion the following points were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DIO Housing should be invited to a future meeting to present plans for the housing during the transition from 	

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5...	<p>RAF Lyneham to DTTCP. Also, a section on community integration should be included in the issues and actions table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AK commented that it would be important to get DTTCP involved in the community planning process as early as possible • It was suggested that welcoming DTTCP into the community should be included in the table • AB asked if new personnel would use the local medical facilities or their own 'behind the wire' ones. LM said that all Service personnel will use their own facilities. The arrangements for dependants were not yet known • DM pointed out that the spiritual needs of the military community should not be overlooked during the transition period • IC said that it shouldn't be underestimated how difficult it was for new people, particularly young families, moving into the area to find out what facilities were available locally. Getting the right support services and networks in place to address this will be a challenge, and will require help from the community • It was recognised that if the HIVE (the main information and advice centre) closes, an alternative means of getting information to Service families would need to be found • The new Armed Forces Community Covenant Grant Scheme was now available, and might be a source of funding for community related projects in the future. The scheme aimed to support projects, at a local level, which strengthened the ties or the mutual understanding between members of the Armed Forces Community and the wider community in which they lived. Details of how groups can access the scheme are shown on the MCI pages on the Wiltshire Council website • JC reported that the primary school has a Parent Support Co-ordinator (½ day per week) who can signpost new parents to what is available locally and assist with advice on parenting courses and welfare issues. There were a number of Nepalese and Fijian families coming to Lyneham and the school would be liaising with Hullavington where they have experience of dealing with similar multi-cultural issues • As part of the MCI Programme a report was produced earlier in the year on the 'Provision of Services to Wiltshire's military communities'. The report can be found on the Wiltshire Intelligence Network website – click on The Military in Wiltshire (In brief, the report outlines the services provided to the military communities by the statutory agencies, the community and voluntary sector and the military themselves) • It was confirmed that about ⅓ of the houses at Lyneham (total about 700) were vacant at the moment. It was likely that housing would be full in the future because of MoD's 	

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5...	<p>housing requirements. It was suggested that WD could liaise with the Housing Information Centre (HIC) at Warminster, responsible for allocating military housing, to find out their intentions regarding the housing situation at Lyneham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NS asked if it was feasible for Wiltshire Council to use vacant homes at Lyneham on a temporary basis. TS said that this has been considered although it would be difficult to implement for a number of reasons. WD offered to speak to DIO Housing/Annington Homes about this matter • AB advised that there will be a presentation from DTTCP at the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board meeting on the 25th January in Lyneham Primary School <p><u>Decisions:</u> It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed changes to the Lyneham issues and actions table should be emailed to IC at ian.cambrook@googlemail.com (by 7th December please) • DIO Housing will be invited by IC to attend the next meeting • Community integration and welcome to DTTCP will be added to the issues and actions table • IC will advise DTTCP of the need to engage with the community planning process • The future of the HIVE (due to close by September 2012 at the latest) needed to be considered • WD will contact the HIC at Warminster to find out their intentions regarding housing allocations at Lyneham • WD will contact DIO Housing/Annington Homes about their plans for vacant homes at Lyneham 	<p>All IC IC IC TS/IC/LM WD WD</p>
6.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>TS thanked everyone for attending the meeting.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held at 4 pm on 21st February 2012 (venue to be confirmed).</p>	<p>All to note</p>

Caroline Lightfoot, Wiltshire Council
Ian Cambrook, MCI Programme Manager