

Media Release

DIO delivers new accommodation for armed forces in Andover

London, 4 September 2014: Army personnel based in Andover are benefiting from brand new living accommodation thanks to the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO).

DIO worked with Debut Services Ltd, a joint venture between Lend Lease and Babcock, to create the 72-bed facility, which has been officially declared open.

The building, which will be used by officers, was delivered at the Army Headquarters as part of DIO's Single Living Accommodation Modernisation (SLAM) programme, an ongoing project to provide new and refurbished living accommodation for the Armed Forces. It is the fourth block to be completed at the site and will be instrumental in bringing Army Headquarters' staff together on one site which will lead to more effective working.

The living block was officially opened by Major General Tyrone Urch at a special ceremony on Friday attended by representatives from DIO and industry partners.

Simon Gadd, DIO Head of Programme Project Delivery said:

"Project SLAM has consistently delivered first class single living accommodation for the Armed Forces across the UK and this new building is no different.

"We know that the occupants greatly appreciate the Project SLAM accommodation which demonstrates DIO's commitment to improving the living standards for Service personal.

"I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Project SLAM Integrated Project Team, prime contractor and supply chain members and all those involved, who have contributed towards this project."

Maj Gen Urch added:

Graham Jeffery, Lend Lease's Head of Defence Sector, said: "I am always extremely proud to attend this type of event, representing Lend Lease and Debut – it provides us with an opportunity to showcase our ability to create high-quality living space for our military personnel.

“We have successfully completed more than 20,000 bed spaces over the last ten years for DIO and the MOD across the country, which equates to more than 115 projects totalling £1 billion. During this time we have created a high level of consistency, appearance and performance across all of our projects and gained a reputation for providing certainty of delivery and best value.”

ENDS

Notes to Editors

1. The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) plays a vital role in supporting our Armed Forces by building, maintaining and servicing what the men and women who serve our country need to live, work, train and deploy on operations.
2. DIO is part of the Ministry of Defence (MOD). It is responsible for managing and maintaining land and properties, as well as providing related support services, to meet the current and future needs of the MOD and personnel at home and abroad, and to support current operations.
3. Our work includes supporting operational units by providing and improving single living and service family accommodation; training areas and historic military sites. DIO actively manages these to ensure the needs of Defence are met, value for money is achieved, and its heritage is protected, and to achieve its environmental goals.

Further information:

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