



RAF COSFORD – PLAN B

“NO PLAN SURVIVES CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY”. Field Marshal Von Molke.

The Defence Technical Training Change Programme (DTTCP) seeks to provide a cost effective, affordable, system for the timely provision of the correct numbers of suitably skilled, flexible military personnel trained in aeronautical electro-mechanical engineering and communications and information systems, in order to contribute to the delivery and maintenance of operational capability within Defence for the next 25–30 years.

This training encompasses initial trade (Phase 2) and subsequent career (Phase 3) specialist training, ranging from initial technician to postgraduate training. There is a current throughput of some 25,000 students a year, a student population at any one time in the order of 5,200 and some 4100 military and civilian service staff. The training is currently delivered at 9 sites: Blandford, Cosford, Sultan (Gosport), Bordon, Arborfield, St Athan, Cranwell, Collingwood and Digby.

DTTCP was initiated in wake of the termination of the Defence Training Rationalisation (DTR) Package 1 PFI procurement in October 2010, which planned to deliver this training through a single PFI (Metrix), from a new-build Defence Training College at St Athan in order to rationalise the training estates.

A number of decisions on the future technical training estate were announced by Secretary of State in his 18 July 11 Statements on Defence Transformation, specifically that: Defence Technical Training will move to RAF Lyneham. Time scales for Arborfield and Bordon will by 2014–2015 when these sites will be sold. Timescales for the move of the other training sites (Cosford) are still subject to planning and consultation, but would not follow until beyond 2015. The name for this new (combined) College site is yet to be officially announced but is expected to be called the Defence Training College Lyneham.

