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## Press Release

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### EXCELLENT WASTE REDUCTION MEASURES AT CATTERICK GARRISON

Excellent waste reduction measures and recycling initiatives are high on the agenda across major Defence Estates (DE) projects at Catterick Garrison.

MOD's principles of sustainable development have been incorporated at the Garrison's programme of development, which include living and technical accommodation, training facilities, a sports and leisure complex, offices, town centre redevelopment and infrastructure improvements supporting new developments.

The Garrison is the Army's largest base and current initiatives are expected to increase the population of Catterick from 13,000 to 25,000 (including civilian families) over the next 15 to 20 years.

The technical buildings forming part of the Gaza Barracks had an original design that required removal off-site of some 80,000 cubic metres or 16,000 lorry loads of soil. The project was redesigned to include 'cut' and 'fill' where soil is removed from elevated areas of the site and replaced in lower areas of the site to create a level surface. The redesign has saved thousands of lorry movements and landfill space, thus reducing carbon dioxide emissions by over 100 tonnes.

Excavations for the foundations of the sports and leisure complex created a large amount of excess soil. About 14,000 cubic metres were used in the construction of a noise abatement bund to the rear of the centre. By designing the reuse of soil from foundation excavations, it was possible to reduce the amount of material going off-site to landfill by the equivalent of 58,300 standard household wheelie bins.

DE has also set up contracts with suppliers to reduce the amount of packaging materials brought onto site, resulting in less waste. Of the total tonnage of waste produced by the four large construction projects, the combined percentage recycled as of July 2008, was 81 per cent with the remainder going to landfill. This does not include figures for soil and demolition rubble reused on site.

Rubble from demolished buildings was shared between a number of construction projects and used as fill material. Around 10,000 cubic metres of demolition rubble was crushed and reused in the foundations of the new technical buildings at Gaza Barracks, saving about 2,000 lorry loads of rubble waste going to landfill.

Another key waste reduction feature includes energy being recovered from green wastes. For example, tree trunks are processed to provide fuel for off-site biomass boilers.

Richard McKinney, Director of Property Defence Estates, said: "The MOD is fully committed to reducing the amount of construction waste that it produces and to increase levels of recycling. We have, for example, just signed up to the WRAP halving construction waste to landfill by 2010.

"We have some excellent examples of MOD projects that have utilised their construction waste as a resource and we will work with our contracting partners to ensure that this happens on every construction project where possible."

**Ends**

#### **Notes to Editors**

1. Defence Estates is a Ministry of Defence organisation. On 1 April 2005 it was re-launched with responsibilities for managing the defence estate as a corporate asset on behalf of the MOD, and for the delivery of estate maintenance, works and services. Defence Estates assumed responsibility for the management and maintenance of the Service Families Accommodation estate in the mainland UK on 1 April 2004, following its merger with the Defence Housing Executive.
2. A key element of the Long Term Development Plan of Catterick Garrison is to create an integrated military and civilian community in an environmentally sustainable way and which encourages social and economic development. This is reinforced by national, regional and local planning policies designed to establish more sustainable communities.
3. Attached photograph shows an artist's impression of the sports and leisure complex – just one of the many exciting projects underway at Catterick Garrison.

#### **Further information:**

Press enquiries to Pragati Baddhan, Defence Estates on: 0121 311 3678 or 07881 681 330

MOD website: <http://www.mod.uk>

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