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Inspector's Request for Background Information

Update of developments regarding RAF Coltishall (23 January 2008) – to be read in conjunction with paper I 15 (Nov 2007)

Recognising the particular issues relating to the future use of the former RAF Coltishall asset, the Inspector hearing the Core Strategy Examination has asked the District Council to provide an update to paper I15.

- i.1 **Updated January 2008:** In late November 2007 the District Council was contacted by agents representing the Ministry of Justice requesting a meeting to discuss the principle of a prison being accommodated on the former RAF Coltishall site. On 27 November 2007 a meeting took place between the Council's Chief Executive and the Strategic Director (Community) and Ministry of Justice representatives to discuss such a proposal.
 - i.2 Subsequently, on the 5 December 2007, Jack Straw MP, Secretary of State for Justice, announced in Parliament that as part of a wider programme to increase prison spaces the former RAF Coltishall site would be used as a Category C prison.
 - i.3 A further meeting to discuss details was held on 18 December 2007 at which time more detailed advice was provided in respect of submitting a full planning application. The District Council understands that the Ministry of Justice and their agents are now preparing detailed plans and proposals to undertake pre-application consultation with the local community during February 2008, with the objective of submitting a full planning application in Spring 2008.
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