

# Construction on cleared 55-hectare former MoD site expected to start this year



An artist's impression of the development



Dover MP Charlie Elphicke is 'excited' about the project

# Calls for work on 500 homes at barracks site to begin soon

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WORK is expected to start this year on 500 new homes planned for the Connaught Barracks site in Dover.

The 55-hectare former Ministry of Defence site was acquired by the Homes and Community Agency, now known as Homes England, in 2008. I

With the Land Trust-owned Napoleonic Fort Burgoyne at its core, it is hoped the development will bring a wave of first-time buyers and families to the district.

Work started on the demolition of the buildings in 2016, with outline planning permission

obtained for the first 64 homes in July that year.

The demolition work was originally due for completion in spring of last year, but unknown push-backs meant the clearance phase at the site off Dover Road has only just been completed, almost a year later.

## Developers

All the old buildings have now been knocked down and Homes England has been approaching housing developers ahead of construction.

Bids were received for the first phase of the scheme – the Officers' Mess – last month.

The preferred bidder is expected to be announced soon.

Dover and Deal MP Charlie Elphicke was shown around the site by bosses from Homes England on January 19.

He said: "There is so much potential for Connaught Barracks and I'm really excited about what can be achieved."

"I have urged Homes England to use the site to offer quality homes for first-time buyers and families.

"I was pleased to see things are progressing. It's vital the construction of the much-needed homes now moves forward swiftly – and that we see work begin this year."

"The people of Dover have waited a long time for this project – now it's time to deliver."

## Man rescued from car under lorry

A MAN was rescued when his car was winched free from under a lorry after a serious crash in Dover last week.

The motorist crashed into the back of a stationary lorry in a lay-by close to the Duke of York

roundabout on Wednesday, January 24. Police, paramedics and fire crews were called to the scene just after 8am, and firefighters used a winch and heavy machinery to remove the car from under the lorry to

rescue the man. The A2 was closed in both directions for several hours between the Whitfield and Duke of York roundabout.

The crash victim was taken to hospital.

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