

7b RAF LEUCHARS - THREAT OF CLOSURE (AN12-2011)

There has been recent speculation that, following the Strategic Defence review, the RAF base at Leuchars may be vulnerable to closure. Work is underway by Fife Council to work with the Scottish Government and Scottish Enterprise to make the case for the retention of the Leuchars base.

RAF Leuchars employs 1,340 military personnel and 270 MOD civilian staff and is located within the Dundee travel to work area. It is therefore a major employer and a major driver of the local economy through expenditure and through many of the personnel living within the Council's area.

It is recommended that the Committee agrees to support efforts by Fife Council, Scottish Enterprise and the Scottish Government to retain the Leuchars base and that the Leader of the Administration write to Dr Liam Fox, Secretary of State for Defence, expressing the Council's concern at the prospect of the closure of RAF Leuchars.