



New state-of-the-art prison to assist in revitalisation of Jurby, Isle of Man

August 2005 saw the contract for construction of a new prison at Jurby, Isle of Man, signed. In signing the contract, Minister for Home Affairs, John Shimmin commented: "I am delighted that this major milestone has been achieved and that work can finally get underway on site at Jurby. I am sure Prison Service staff are excited about the prospect of moving to the new facility and the improved working conditions and standards that will be provided. We believe the prison will hallmark the beginning of a new era for custodial services on the Isle of Man in providing humane, modern and secure facilities to meet our



international obligations. "Work will take two years to complete and following a commissioning and lock out period, inmates are expected to be transferred to the new facility by December 2007. Site mobilisation has commenced and initial excavations are underway. One of the first tasks has been to form the new entrance to the site off the A10 coast road.

The Department for Home Affairs and Main Contractor, O'Hare & McGovern Ltd, are keen to mitigate potential environmental impact, nuisance or disturbance the works may generate to local residents and regular dialogue will continue through Jurby Commissioners to keep residents informed of impending activities on site. Safety briefings are also planned at Jurby school to warn children of the dangers of playing near construction sites.

The development will bring a much needed improvement in the infrastructure to the Jurby area and in consequence will have a beneficial effect on the economy which in turn will assist the population of Jurby as a whole.

The signing of the contract marks the end of a lengthy battle to get the go-ahead to build a Category B prison to replace the overcrowded Victoria Road in Douglas, which dates back to 1891. Facilities at Victoria Road have been slated together with the lack of educational and training opportunities in the building.

Land at Jurby airfield was selected by the Department for Home Affairs as the site for the multi-million pound new prison. A large amount of work has gone into the project, including persuading people that the site is not too far from Douglas, which won't inconvenience police, lawyers and visitors. The airfield itself is operational and home to a number of planes and races and development has had to ensure these will not be affected.

Architect Taylor Young are working in partnership with Isle of Man Architect McGarrigle and Jackson and have designed the new prison to house 140 adults and young offenders. The project will

start on site this year, with Dalrymple Associates acting as Project Manager.

The new prison will act as a major catalyst for regeneration in Jurby where Taylor Young also worked with McGarrigle and Jackson to help develop a long term masterplan for the area. The prison itself will feature a new three-storey gate house that leads into a sterile area in front of the main support block which includes reception, visits, education, kitchen and recreation facilities. The accommodation wings for the various categories of prisoners radiate from a central control area linked to a main street through the support building.

Comprising some 11,333sq m over predominantly two-storey buildings, construction consists of pre-cast cell blocks and perimeter wall, with a combination of traditional construction and steel frame.



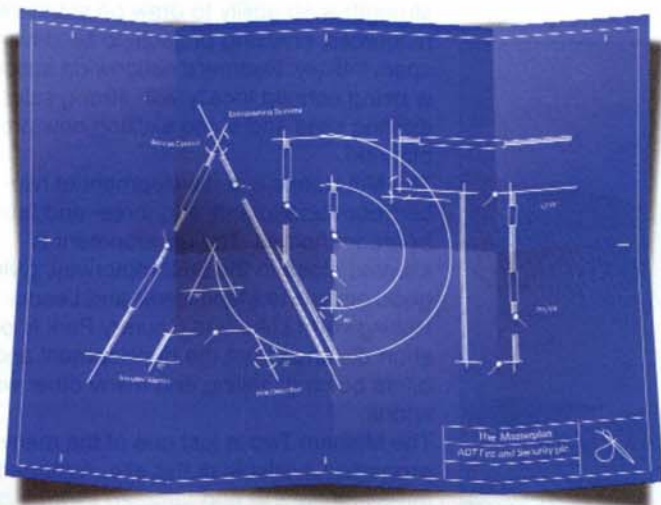
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