



**GOVERNMENT  
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**FOREIGN SECRETARY IMPRESSED BY THE DOUGHNUT**

Foreign Secretary, Jack Straw, visited GCHQ's new accommodation on Friday 16 January. After a short tour of the building, he was briefed by GCHQ's Director, David Pepper, and other staff, on a wide range of issues relating to the intelligence collected and disseminated by the department.

Jack Straw said: "This is my second visit to GCHQ's new headquarters, but the last time I was here – 2 years ago – it was a very large building site. I have been extremely impressed today with what I have seen. Even at this early stage it is obvious that this state-of-the-art building will enhance GCHQ's ability to provide vital intelligence which will help counter global terrorism and other serious threats to the UK and its allies. The contribution made by GCHQ to safeguarding national security and the UK's interests across the whole range of foreign policy, defence and economic priorities cannot be over emphasised."

Staff from GCHQ began moving into the new accommodation in September 2003 and it will be fully occupied by early summer. At present some 1500 staff have already moved into the building and transition arrangements have gone very smoothly.

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