

# 'New military museum could boost tourism' - SAYS VALE MP

**VALE MP, John Smith, claims that a planned military history museum at the £12 billion Defence Technical College (DTC) in St Athan could attract up to 10,000 visitors each year.**

In a report recently approved by the Vale Council on the St Athan project, it was revealed that a planned 6,800 square metres museum of military history at the site could generate up to 10,000 visitors each year.

John Smith, who championed the St Athan bid, said: "This is great news for the area and I believe it's just the start. It shows the golden opportunities that are up for grabs for our local businesses.

"I want the business community here in the Vale to get the lion's share of the business opportunities created by the St Athan project once it is up and running. That's why I am



*John Smith at St Athan.*

encouraging local bed and breakfasts and hotels to start thinking about increasing their bed spaces.

"I would also encourage retailers to come up with innovative ways of marketing their products and services, to ensure they get a slice of what visitors will spend locally.

"If we pull out all the stops, there is no reason why we can't attract 100,000 visitors each year in the Vale, as we did during the height of the popularity of the beaches of Barry Island."