THE BRITISH ARMY IS IN FRONT.

To protect the nation, we step forward and meet every challenge with intelligence and integrity. We inspire ordinary people to exceptional achievements through world-leading training. We are forward-looking and technologically advanced, ready for the challenges of the future, both at home and overseas.
INTRODUCTION
Maj Gen Rupert Jones introduces the new Army Newsletter

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE RUSI LAND WARFARE CONFERENCE
Watch CGS and other speakers address this year’s Land Warfare Conference

OPERATIONS, TRAINING AND SHORT-TERM TRAINING TEAMS
Update from the ADOC

MODERNISING DEFENCE PROGRAMME
Latest update on the Defence programme

MANNING THE ARMY
The work to improve Army manning and your role in it

CASTLE
A modern career structure for a modern Army

PHYSICAL EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS
Introducing the new Army fitness assessments

CLARION
Improving our internal communication

STRIKE EXPERIMENTATION GROUP
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A new approach to industrial engagement

EQUIPMENT PLAN NEWS
Updates on some of the Army’s latest equipment programmes

COLLECTIVE TRAINING TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME
The Army’s training transformation programme on a page

INFRASTRUCTURE
Latest news on delegation, Defence estates optimisation and the Army Basing Plan
DIRECTOR ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS - INTRODUCTION

"IT CAN BE HARD TO KEEP PACE WITH THE AMOUNT OF CHANGE GOING ON AND WITH EVERYTHING THE ARMY IS DOING AROUND THE WORLD. HOPEFULLY THIS NEWSLETTER WILL HELP A LITTLE."

MAJOR GENERAL RUPERT JONES - ARMY DIRECTOR OF ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Click here to access the Army Core Script (via AKX)
HIGHLIGHTS FROM RUSI

LAND WARFARE CONFERENCE 2018

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF
GEN MARK CARLETON-SMITH

WHY MANOEUVRE MATTERS TODAY

WATCH

Please click on the following links for more RUSI videos

MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE ARMED FORCES
Rt Hon Mark Lancaster
19 June 18

FUSION DOCTRINE EXPLAINED AND LAND FORCE’S ROLE WITHIN IT
Sir Mark Sedwill

WE ARE FORWARD-LOOKING AND TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED,
READY FOR THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE, BOTH AT HOME AND OVERSEAS

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OPERATIONS, TRAINING AND SHORT-TERM TRAINING TEAMS UPDATE

Persistently engaged overseas to understand and shape, to deter and protect, and to enhance prosperity.

In September 18 over 5000 Army personnel have been deployed on Operations, Short-Term Training Teams and Training. A further 5000 are committed at readiness for NATO/EU tasks.

In total c25,000 troops are held at high readiness on any given day.

OP CARIBBEAN
UK SUPPORT TO HURRICANE SEASON
Over 1000 Army personnel are currently held at very high readiness to support disaster relief operations after the success of the UK response to the hurricanes in 2017.

OP MORLOP
RESPONSE TO SALISBURY ATTACK
Over 50 Army personnel are protecting the UK through support to the civil authorities operation to clean up after the Salisbury poisonings.

OP NEWCOMBE
SUPPORT TO THE FRENCH ARMY IN MALI
3 CH-47 Chinook helicopters are projecting global influence through their deployment to Mali in support of allied operations.

EX SAIF SAREEA 3
EXERCISE IN OMAN
A combined arms battle group and enablers totaling over 2000 Army personnel are deploying to the Oman to build influence in the region and demonstrate the utility of land power.

OP ELGIN
UK DEPLOYMENT IN SUPPORT OF EUPFOR
C Company 3 PARA have deployed to Bosnia. The deployment will project UK influence by deploying at the request of DSACEUR to conduct annual rehearsals over the period of the Bosnian elections.

OP TORAL
UK UPLIFT TO KABUL SECURITY FORCE
The uplift to the UK commitment in Afghanistan is now complete. The UK has assumed command of the entirety of the KSF, continuing to sustain the UK’s position within international alliances.
THE MODERNISING DEFENCE PROGRAMME

Purpose
To deliver a better military capability to meet the increasing threat environment and value for money in a sustainable and affordable way.

Phase 1
Builds on and binds in work done during the NSCR in 2017.
Confirms the threat context, Defence policy & tasks and the vision to modernise the force and transform the business.

PHASE 2
Three blocks of work to be completed in September and October ahead of the Autumn Budget:

ONE
Continuation of work from Phase 1 in Work Strands (WS) 1-3:
WS1: Continue to develop/refine the Defence Operating Model.
WS2: Conduct a 12 week project to scope further efficiencies across Defence.
WS3: Conduct a broader acquisition system review beyond purely DE&S.

TWO
Confirming Defence policy and planning priorities to make capability choices.
Confirm Defence's role in cross-Whitehall Fusion Doctrine, Global Britain and Prosperity.
Review changes to Defence Planning Assumptions.

THREE
Balancing the Defence budget.

Risk
Political uncertainty disrupts the timeframe for decision making.

SPENDING REVIEW 19

Resource

Ambition

Home land secured

Europe strengthened

Influence projected

Wider threats disrupted

An already significant Defence challenge

Efficiencies can create some headroom

A deficit may remain without more funding

Risk
Financial reconciliation does not occur this FY and carries over into FY 2019/20

Detail is contained within the Written Ministerial Statement laid before the House of Commons by the SoS for Defence on 19 Jul 18.

Timeline to date

Jun - Dec 2017
National Security Capability Review (NSCR)
Jan - Jul 2018
The Modernising Defence Programme (MDP) Phase 1
Aug 2018
MDP Phase 2

The three headline conclusions from Phase 1 were:

- Our Armed Forces need to be ready and able to match the pace at which our adversaries now move.
- Our Armed Forces need to be a fighting force fit for the challenges of the 21st Century.
- We need to transform the business of Defence to deliver a robust, credible, modern and affordable Force.

Detail is contained within the Written Ministerial Statement laid before the House of Commons by the SoS for Defence on 19 Jul 18.
MANNING THE ARMY

EVERYONE HAS A PART TO PLAY IN CREATING THE CONDITIONS FOR SUCCESS; IN EVERYTHING YOU DO PLEASE ASK YOURSELF DOES THIS HELP TO ATTRACT MEN AND WOMEN OF THE RIGHT QUALITY AND QUANTITY TO THE ARMY? IF THERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO DO THINGS TO SUPPORT ARMY MANNING, THEN YOU SHOULD.

TO READ COMMANDER HOME COMMAND’S LETTER – ‘MANNING THE ARMY’ PLEASE CLICK HERE
MANNING THE ARMY

A NOTE FROM COMMANDER HOME COMMAND TO THE ARMY

As you will all be acutely aware, the Regular Army is currently undermanned and there remains work to do to deliver the Reserve component; as commanders you feel the impact of this shortfall every day in your units. It is not a subject that we can ignore, nor one that we can wish away. CGS has made clear that “manning the Army” is his key priority and he has put me ‘on point’ for its tactical delivery in support of DCGS, the Army’s Principal Personnel Officer. I am writing to update you on this issue and, more importantly, seek your help.

The situation we find ourselves in is the result of a combination of economic, social, contractual and employment factors which conspire against us. The United Kingdom has entered a demographic youth trough and the proportion of the population we traditionally recruit from will reduce over the next 3-4 years; opportunities to find employment are plentiful and unemployment is low. Obesity levels have also increased and the proportion of those eligible to join has reduced. On top of this our troops have been increasingly portrayed as victims and widespread operational opportunities are not perceived as plentiful as they once were. To exacerbate the problem further, the implementation of the Recruiting Partnership Programme has been a challenge; initiatives designed to support the delivery of recruiting have not yet delivered the positive impact expected; but they soon will and ‘green shoots’ are now plentiful.

Our recruiting figures for several years have remained stubbornly static; for the last two years we have loaded circa 6000 Regular recruits into basic training a year. However, this remains a considerable distance off the target for basic training starts and as a result the Army has a net annual outflow.

So what am I doing about it? I have established a robust and much needed Manning Campaign, encompassing both inflow and outflow, which fuses the contributions of eight Lines of Operation to deliver the required manning effect. The campaign allows me, on behalf of CGS, to focus effort and resources, exploit synergies and hold 2* Lines of Operation owners to account for their part in solving the problem. At its heart has been a reset of the Army’s most respected marketing awards programme: work on the marketing campaign for 2019 has now started in earnest.

Concurrently, the entry standards and policies are being reviewed to ensure they are modern and fit for purpose; medical and physical standards sit at the heart of this. The Army is also scope increasing the numbers of Commonwealth applicants that we are able to accept and we are engaging more than ever with BAME and female target groups to ensure that we get our share of this under-represented talent.

I can report, that the Defence Recruiting System is now functioning in the way it was intended to at its inception and we are now able to track the progress of a candidate through the recruiting pipeline and into training. Its implementation was delayed and then failed; as a result, we have experienced a significant drop in candidates/recruits. Following significant investment in technical expertise from our commercial partner Capita, the system is now working. There is of course still work to do, as with any evolving software system, and building user confidence in the system will be key.

There is other good news too. In 2017/18, over 58,000 people applied to join the Army as Regular soldiers and we anticipate over 70,000 this year. So what? The Army remains an attractive proposition for significant numbers of the population; enough to meet inflow targets if the interventions I have described are successful in converting a greater number of applicants into enlistments. Evidence shows that the ‘Belonging 18’ marketing campaign has been successful; levels of emotional connection with the main target audience have been recognised as class leading by the most respected marketing awards programme: work on the marketing campaign for 2019 has now started in earnest. Regular Officer recruiting is now running at 95%+ of the Army’s requirement and the last 4 commissioning courses have been on average, 99% loaded to capacity.

I am also very aware of the significant efforts being made to improve retention. Outflow is currently stable but the average annual outflow rate of 6.5% is 0.8% (or 490 soldiers this year) above the required long term average of 5.7%. Retention is improving too, reflecting the focus you are applying to it; thank you. But that cannot be taken for granted, particularly for junior soldiers and officers; after all, employment in the wider economy remains at record levels. So we must continue the hard work on retention, both through active management of those considering leaving service and through the creation of the right climate to improve satisfaction within the Army.

Which brings me back to my key message; this is whole Army business. Everyone has a part to play in creating the conditions for success; in everything you do please ask yourself does this help to attract men and women of the right quality and quantity to the Army? If there are opportunities for you to do things to support Army manning, then you should. If you have good ideas for what can be done more widely, then I am very keen to hear them. I will also instigate an open forum where you can share and develop these ideas with me further. This is an issue we must tackle together, because “people are the Army, not in the Army”. It is critical business for me and I know it is for all of you too; I will endeavour to update you regularly.

Thank you for your support.

BACK TO MANNING THE ARMY

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army.mod.uk
Programme CASTLE will accelerate generational change in the Army’s personnel system to design an attractive, modern and sustainable system of career structures, training and education and personnel management, which maximises opportunity and the talent of current and future soldiers so that they are ready and skilled to prevail in war.

**PHASE 1:**
Through to Spring 2019 we will build our understanding through engaging across the Army, focusing on those aspects over which the Army has control, including:
- **Demand Management** – Translation of demand into posts, KSE, rank and Corps
- **Talent management** – Recognition of individual potential
- **Learning and development** – Through career personal and professional development
- **Specialist skills** – Categorisation, management and development of specialisms
- **Length of service** – Retention of talent and experience
- **Base and lateral entry** – Access to and use of talent and experience

**PHASE 2:**
From Spring 2019 to 2020 we will build upon the insights gained in Phase 1 to develop potential courses of action delivering an attractive, modern, sustainable personnel system and providing the Army the opportunity to challenge and refine potential solutions to our career pathways, education and personnel management.

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?**
Throughout we want to learn from you what works well and what doesn’t. As we build possible courses of action we welcome your challenge to test our ideas in order to build the best possible personnel system for the future.

We welcome your thoughts and ideas via: [ArmyPers-CASTLE-GroupMailbox@mod.gov.uk](mailto:ArmyPers-CASTLE-GroupMailbox@mod.gov.uk) and during visits.
PHYSICAL EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

Physical Employment Standards (PES) ensure the physical ability of Army personnel aligns to the physical requirement of a role. PES testing will be role-related, reflecting the essential, most physically demanding tasks required to perform the specific role successfully.

The benefits of PES include, improved health and safety (eg potential reduction in muscular-skeletal injury) and capability (eg optimising operational effectiveness).

The implementation of the revised Army-wide PES into Service will commence in 2018 and conclude 2021/22. PES for Ground Close Combat (GCC) roles will be implemented from 1 April 19. Non-GCC PES will deliver in 2021.

GCC PES consists of a structured suite of Army Role Fitness Tests (RFTs). RFTs will be objective, measurable, role-related and gender-free, and will ensure the required physical ability of Army personnel meets the physical requirement of a role. The current Annual Fitness Test and Personal Fitness Assessment will cease for all GCC Personnel from 1 April 19 and will be replaced by the RFT and the gym based Soldier Conditioning Review (SCR). The SCR is currently still under development, but exercises may include a 2 km run, 30m sprints, single lift, bag drag, pull-ups, vertical jump, deadlift, and seated medicine ball throw.

"I DON’T CARE IF YOU ARE A MAN OR A WOMAN, I DON’T CARE WHAT YOU DO, AND THE ENEMY DOESN’T EITHER."

FIELD ARMY SGT MAJ GAVIN PATON

The RFT suite of fitness tests are:

a. Role Fitness Test Soldier (RFT S) replaces the AFT to become the in-Service test.

b. Role Fitness Test Alternative (RFT A) is a gym based predictor of subsequent RFT S success.

c. Role Fitness Test Entry (RFT E) replaces PSS(R) and PSS(O). It will be the standard at Assessment Centres (AC) for selection into specific Army roles and during the RMAS Pre-Commissioning Course Briefing Course.
Project CLARION was initiated in Mar 18 to identify the current shortcomings, and importantly, spot opportunities to enhance the reach and impact of future Army communications. We all have a role to play to improve the way the Army communicates, both up and down the chain of command. To properly resonate with the intended internal and external audiences, effective Army communications must be visual, immediate, simple, two-way and smartphone compatible. Transforming the way the Army communicates will require cultural change; whilst this is unlikely to be rapid, initiatives have already been launched that will deliver immediate improvements.

We must strive to maximise the quality and reach of our communications to enhance public support for what we do and improve their understanding and trust in the Army.

- A refreshed Social Media Policy #DIGITALARMY was published in Sep 18. Read it to understand the considerable social media freedoms we have to tell our stories.
- A core script was circulated in Oct 18 to allow the Army to speak with one voice behind a coherent narrative.
- The first senior Army officer Vlog has been broadcast to improve two-way employee engagement; more will follow.
- To answer the most common concerns from soldiers, Command Sergeant Majors will provide regular feedback videos.
- A monthly tabloid-style news digest video, delivered by JNCOs, called ‘Army 60 Second News’ will be broadcast in Oct 18.
- The Army Snapchat account has been reinvigorated for units to take ownership and show the public the extraordinary and ordinary things soldiers get up to every day.
- A network of internal communications champions is being developed to enable rapid and direct distribution of key messages.
- This reinvigorated biannual Army Newsletter, in a modern infographic format, will also serve to keep soldiers informed of Army business.
- Work is ongoing to put Defence Connect on a secure footing.

The Army has a great story to tell; we should be confident in doing so. If you stay in lane and talk about what you and your unit are doing then the opportunities of communicating far outweigh the risks.
STRIKE EXPERIMENTATION

All ranks in 1 Armd Inf Bde and our Divisional enablers have been experimenting over the past year to identify how the STRIKE Bde can enable Divisional manoeuvre on warfighting operations, or act at the core of a joint medium limited intervention. Wargames, virtual exercises and LIVEX have been used to generate insights, including:

EX IRON STRIKE 2
HCR conducted a BG LIVEX in BATUS to understand the challenges and opportunities for Armoured Cavalry operating dispersed and at reach in AJAX with additional combat support and CSS forward against a peer threat.

EX SPECULAR STRIKE
The Bde ran a CSS estimate, an agile command CPX experiment and a wargame to develop Divisional Advance Force and Covering Force tactics for operating in the Shaping Battle against a peer threat on warfighting operations.

US JOINT WARFIGHTING ASSESSMENT
The Bde HQ conducted a dispersed CPX wargame using Covering Force tactics as part of a multinational force operating to 1 US Infantry Division in Grafenwoehr. The ‘HOTSPOT’ capability demonstrator was used to experiment with collaborative planning between three dispersed Bde command posts; and beyond line of sight and ‘on-the-move’ SATCOM down to company level.

The myriad of insights generated have been used to inform balance of investment decisions for the mechanised infantry vehicle, the next generation tactical CIS and a range of combat support and CSS. They have also informed the iterative development of a STRIKE Tactics Handbook and how STRIKE will be fielded and fought in the near term through spiral development.

Experimentation so far has shown that STRIKE can enable the Divisional decisive battle by operating independently at reach and with relative economy of force to cover a larger battlespace.

It can enable Divisional manoeuvre in four roles:

- **Divisional Early Entry Force.** STRIKE has the operational speed to move rapidly into a position of advantage to enable the Division to fight on ground of its own choosing and gain a lead in the information fight
- **Divisional Covering Force.** STRIKE can ‘find and blind’ enemy reconnaissance to deny the enemy freedom of action, surprise and the impact of fires overmatch. It can also manoeuvre Divisional fires and ISTAR into a position of range advantage to engage operational high value targets. (Detailed insights in the attached OFFICIAL SENSITIVE Report)
- **STRIKE Decisive Operations in Complex Terrain.** STRIKE experimentation in complex urban terrain will begin in Sep 18
- **Divisional Security Force.** STRIKE experimentation into security operations will begin in Sep 19

There is still much ground to cover driven primarily through the innovation and enthusiasm of our young soldiers, NCOs and officers supported by a ‘safe to fail’ licence, some exciting new capability demonstrators, and broad engagement with multinational partners and industry. A constant theme throughout is that unpredictability gives a competitive edge. Unorthodox tactics and better exploitation of the enemy’s human weaknesses and host nation opportunities (terrain, infrastructure and people) can unhinge the enemy’s plan and ability to anticipate our actions.
WE ARE FORWARD-LOOKING AND TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED,
READY FOR THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE, BOTH AT HOME AND OVERSEAS

NEXUS

The Army will not succeed in modernising at pace, without a strong partnership with Industry to help to deliver and sustain a supply chain that is integral from the outset and dynamic enough to address and overcome emerging challenges.

To break the barriers between suppliers and users we have established a Force Development Nexus, a community of interest connecting Industry, academia, and users. The Force Development Nexus is a forum to link Force Development communities of interest from Industry, academia, and partners with Army Headquarters Force Development staff and senior leadership. The Nexus is a place where ideas, articles, and other media can be shared across the community.

WHAT IS THE FORCE DEVELOPMENT (FD) NEXUS?
A forum to link FD Communities of Interest from industry, academia, allies and partners with British Army HQ FD staff and senior leadership.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?
1. Request access: armycap-fd-nexus@mod.gov.uk
2. Search for: https://fdnexus.mod.uk
3. Sign in via the Defence Gateway

WHO IS IT FOR?
• Industry, academia, military, governments and allies.
• Anyone who wants direct access to senior British Army FD decision makers.
• Individuals, SMEs, large & small organisations.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?
• Diversity of thinking to inform future development decision making.
• Opportunity to access & influence senior Army leadership through an intuitive interface.

https://fdnexus.mod.uk
EQUIPMENT PLAN NEWS

The British soldier is the best piece of kit we’ve got but what they carry with them is part of the equation too. Whether they arrive by armoured vehicle, parachute, boat or on foot, British soldiers need to be equipped to enable them to achieve their mission. The Army’s Equipment Plan sets out how the Army will deliver and support the equipment that the Army requires over the next 10 years (although some of these projects will be delivered over a longer period).

Everything from the new AJAX armoured vehicles, the combat boots we wear and the new SA80 A3 rifle is funded through the Equipment Plan.

VIRTUS

VIRTUS was born out of known capability issues with in-service PPE: poor integration; non-scalable protection; and the lack of a quick-release system. The VIRTUS system replaces several in-service capabilities: Enhanced Combat Body Armour, OSPREY, Personal Load Carriage Equipment, and the Mk6, Mk6a and Mk7 combat helmets. VIRTUS roll out from 2016 aimed to equip the Regular and Reserves Dismounted Close Combat units. Based on feedback from users, a Mk 3 version including a revised 90L bergan, removable helmet cover, quick-release ammunition pouches, a re-designed ‘H’ type yoke and the addition of a 17L assault pack, has been designed. The key component of VIRTUS is the Dynamic Weight Distribution (DWD) device which transfers the load of the Scalable Tactical vest and bergens from the shoulders to the hips.

VIRTUS Core will now be issued to the rest of the army over the next 3-4 years with an aspiration to field VIRTUS to Ph 1 Dismounted Close Combat recruits from mid-next year. VIRTUS Core consists of: Helmet, Yoke, Belt, selection of pouches and DWD – it is envisaged that procurement will also extend to include VIRTUS 90L bergen, 40L daysack, eye-pro and hydration pack. As VIRTUS is scalable, deployment into high-risk areas will allow extra protection to be provided.

SA80 A3

The SA80 A3 project was initiated as an in-year opportunity to enhance the in-service A2 capability and proof of concept for life extension as well as resolve a safety issue with the over-rotation of the change lever.

The inclusion of a Picatinny Rail allows the user an in-line sight capability not currently possible with the A2 fleet – this means that the User never has to remove their day sight to enable night vision, retaining zero and reducing load under the fight light concept. The SA80 A3 is lighter, more durable due to cerokote coating and has undergone base overhaul so extending the life of the weapon system.

Initial reports from users and military shooting teams are extremely positive with a much higher level of accuracy reported. The latest, hi-tech fused night sights (thermal and Image Intensifier) can be also be used with the A3 and will be used by 2 PARA on Ex ASKARI STORM, Kenya in Nov 2018. 5,000 SA80 A3s will be issued by the end of the year primarily to Army Dismounted Close Combat units deploying on Ops. Some weapons have been issued to Defence shooting teams (including Reserves) and RM and RAP Regiment. There is a Business Case in progress that will allow further procurement of c.10K weapons over the next 2-3 years.

SHARPSHOOTER

The L129A1 Sharpshooter (SS) was procured as an Urgent Operational Requirement (UOR) to enable the Section Designated Marksman to engage targets accurately up to 600m and to suppress targets effectively in excess of 600m. The requirement for this capability was identified from operational experiences in Afghanistan, where small arms engagements were regularly taking place at ranges in excess of 600m against an enemy that was equipped with long range rifles. Within the rifle platoon, the only weapon systems that could match this range were the Light Support Weapon and General Purpose Machine Gun. However, neither met the requirement to accurately incapacitate beyond 600m; the LSW lacks the required terminal effect and the beaten zone of the GPMG increases the risk of collateral damage.

With the implementation of the Platoon weapon Mix Optimisation project (which has seen the withdrawal of LSW and 60mm mortar from the infantry section) a renewed push to supply a least one Sharpshooter for each Infantry Section has resulted in the procurement of 397 Sharpshooters this year. Future work includes an on-going project aimed at the procurement of a lighter, better performing in-line night sight.
**APACHE CAPABILITY SUSTAINMENT PROGRAMME (CSP)**

Apache CSP will provide a 21st Century aircraft, supported by 21st Century infrastructure. It will transition the Apache Force from the current, soon to be obsolescent, AH-64D aircraft to 50 of the latest more capable and cheaper-to-operate battle winning AH-64E models, a streamlined training pipeline that delivers Apache aircrew ready for front-line duties within a year.

Long Term Support and Training solutions will capitalise on a Whole Force Approach to deliver greater capability for less, all from a single, fit-for-purpose, location. In doing so, the Programme will provide the basis for the UK to maintain a battle winning Attack Helicopter and force until at least 2040 that is aligned to, and interoperable with, its major allies.

The coming months will see the Apache Transition Team coming together at Middle Wallop to prepare the way for the introduction of the new Apache helicopters. A small team of pilots and ground crew will receive bespoke training on the latest version of the Apache before receiving and delivering the new models to the Apache Helicopter Force.

**KEY MILESTONES**

- **Feb 18**: First UK Apache Mk1 delivered to USA for upgrade
- **Aug 18**: AH-64E Transition Team established
- **Oct 18**: First UK aircrew conduct AH-64E training (USA)
- **Jun 20**: First AH-64E due delivery to UK
- **Apr 22**: AH-64E IOC (1 Sqn)
- **Mar 24**: Apache Mk 1 Out of Service Date
- **Nov 24**: AH-64E FOC

**WIDE WET GAP CROSSING CAPABILITY (WWGCC)**

**PROJECT TRITON**

Project TRITON is fully funded and will deliver Land’s future WWGCC, replacing the in-service M3 Rig by 2027. Negotiation is underway to potentially enter a joint procurement program with the German Bundeswehr. GM Cap Mvr Sp are in the process of assessing what capabilities are on the market that meet our requirements. Several systems are in production and others under development. Possible solutions range from amphibious platforms like our current system, to more conventional pontoon type systems.

*Pictured are 3 of the systems that have been identified as potential candidates:*

- **TOP**: GDELS IMPROVED RIBBON BRIDGE (IRB)
- **BOTTOM**: CNIM MOTORISED FLOATING BRIDGE (PFM)
- **LEFT**: FNSS ARMoured AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT BRIDGE (AAAB)
COLLECTIVE TRAINING TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

The Future Collective Training System will deliver collective training that is “a surrogate for warfare”, technologically enabled, and which better replicates the complexity of the modern battlefield. This will improve professional satisfaction, encourage ownership, maintain morale and prepare the Army to fight in an era of constant competition.

Better contribute to strategic effect
- Align collective training to regions of the world that cement our joint and international partnerships
- Train in a way that allows us to focus on better support to notice to effect in Europe
- Increase responsiveness to future strategic demands and change
- An expeditionary approach that preserves and improves our ability to respond to changing threats

Deliver better collective training
- Design training around the man and the team
- Increase professional satisfaction
- Allow people to train, reflect, learn and train again
- Improve the experience of those undertaking collective training
- More realistic, adversarial training
- Develop combat ethos and drive innovation
- Match training to the complexities of warfare in the 21st century

Drive adaptation and efficiency
- Increase responsiveness to future operational demands
- Create a flexible, responsive system which is representative of the threat
- Exploit the benefits of live, virtual and constructive domains
- Increase instrumentation to allow data to be collated and exploited

Develop an alliance with the best of industry
- A core common purpose
- Achievement of mutual benefits
- Shared risk
- Deeper integration
- An ability to seize opportunities and incentivise innovation
- Adaptation a consistent theme

2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028
Transformation
Betterment of existing Collective Training
Development and Improvement
ARMY BASING & INFRASTRUCTURE

The scope of Army infrastructure provision includes planning, delivery and support to the Regular and Reserve estate. It also includes the Defence Training and Evaluation Estate in the UK and overseas, and facilities to support cadets.

INFRASTRUCTURE DELEGATION

Delegation took place on 1 Apr 18 and is an exciting opportunity for the Army to make more efficient use of its estate. Progress so far includes:

- £12M more invested this year on Army Barracks
- £4.6M allocated to unit Local Infrastructure Improvements Funds
- £2.43M invested in heating and hot water repairs over the summer to reduce the risk of failure in the winter
- Preventative pest control implemented around medical centres, kitchens, dining facilities and accommodation

Heads of Establishment must continue to actively engage in the management of their estate to support reducing costs, increasing utilization and generating income. The next Army Infrastructure Conference will be held on 15 Nov 18 in Tidworth.

ARMY BASING PROGRAMME (ABP)

Whilst we are well into year six of an eight year programme, the tempo remains very high and an enormous amount of work is underway, particularly in the Salisbury Plain Area in preparation for the final movement back of around 3,600 troops, and their families, from Germany in Summer 2019. Basing and Infrastructure led briefings and visits are well underway in support of these moves.

The ABP has 13 large live projects including the Project Allenby Connaught (PAC) and Service Families Accommodation (SFA) on SPTA which together will spend £465M of this years £550M planned investment. As of August 2018 a total of £1Bn, out of a £1.8Bn budget, has been invested since the programmes initiation.

Construction work is also underway across other areas of the UK including over £70M being invested at Catterick.

DEFENCE ESTATE OPTIMISATION (DEO) PROGRAMME

The DEO Programme is a long term pan-MOD programme to optimise the Defence Estate for future requirements. The Programme was mobilised in late 2016 to implement the MOD’s Footprint Strategy to contribute to the 2015 Strategic Defence and Security Review’s commitment to invest in key Defence sites and reduce the built estate by 30%.

The MOD has already disposed of nine sites and has advanced its plans for the release of other sites which have been identified for sale.

The changes under the Better Defence Estates Strategy, announced in 2016, will see the sale of 91 sites owned or managed by the MOD. The plans will save £140M by the end of the decade and £3Bn by 2040. The changes will also reduce the number of personnel being regularly moved between different bases, providing greater long term stability and certainty for our Armed Forces and their families.
The British Army is in front. To protect the nation, we step forward and meet every challenge with intelligence and integrity. We inspire ordinary people to exceptional achievements through world-leading training. We are forward-looking and technologically advanced, ready for the challenges of the future, both at home and overseas.

We would welcome your feedback @

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