



Ministry  
of Defence

# Ministry of Defence Draft Statistics Plan

## February 2015

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# **Foreword**

We are publishing this draft Statistics Plan in the context of the Department's overall Business Plan<sup>1</sup> and in accordance with the requirements set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics<sup>2</sup>. I am keen to hear, via the consultation associated with this draft plan, the views of users of MOD's statistics, in particular the use they make of the statistics and whether the priorities identified here match user priorities.

The plan sets out draft proposals for delivering Official and National Statistics that are intended to: meet the needs of users (both internally to MOD, and to Parliament and the wider public externally); serve the public good; and match the professional standards for 'Official Statistics'<sup>3</sup> set out in the Code of Practice. MOD publishes a wide range of Official and National Statistics and this plan concentrates on changes to those.

MOD publishes a wide range of other statistics, often through PQs and FOIs responses, or through published reports rather than statistical bulletins. I am keen to hear of users' views about which topics should be a priority for publishing regularly in statistical bulletins and handling as Official Statistics in future. For example, on the issue of veteran transition<sup>4</sup> from military to civilian life, MOD recognises that there may be other statistics that it would be helpful to publish regularly as Official Statistics (resources permitting), and this consultation welcomes views on what other statistics could helpfully be published on this, or indeed other, high-profile topics.

We will publish a final version of the plan once we have considered, and where appropriate acted on, any submissions we receive in response to the consultation associated with this draft plan. The draft plan sets out priorities for development and other planned developments. If required to do so, we may publish during the course of the consultation some of the other new statistics proposed here. We also proactively respond to new demands for statistics, and so these may not all be captured in this plan. We will not, however, make any changes proposed here to permanently reduce the frequency or change definitions without concluding a consultation.

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**1 MOD Business Plan: 2011 to 2015:**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/business-plan-2011-2015>

**2 Code of Practice:**  
<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice>

**3 Definition of Official Statistics:**  
<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/national-statistician/ns-reports--reviews-and-guidance/national-statistician-s-guidance/index.html>

**4 The Veterans' Transition Review, Lord Ashcroft KCMG PC**  
<http://www.lordashcroft.com/2014/02/lord-ashcroft-publishes-veterans-transition-review-2/>

# **Overview of Official Statistics in the Ministry of Defence**

The statistical products and services described in this Plan will be delivered in the context of the overall vision and objectives set out in the Department's strategic Business Plan, and will be managed in a way which helps the Department to carry out its key responsibilities in each of the following areas:

- Finance & Economics
- Personnel
- Health of the Armed Forces
- Equipment of the Armed Forces
- Activities of the Armed Forces
- Other National Statistics and Official Statistics

## **Legislative and policy context**

The Department produces Official Statistics in accordance with the suite of statistical legislation that was enacted in 2007 and 2008 with the aim of enhancing public trust and confidence in Official Statistics, namely:

- the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 which sets out the constitutional and functional arrangements that govern the production of Official Statistics in the UK
- the UK Government's Pre-release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008 which sets out the principles and rules governing access to Official Statistics in their final form before release.

In addition, all of our Official & National Statistics are managed in a way which meets the best practice standards set out in the statutory Code of Practice for Official Statistics published by the UK Statistics Authority - an independent body reporting directly to Parliament which is responsible for overseeing, promoting and safeguarding the production and publication of Official Statistics that serve the public good.

One of the Authority's key statutory functions is to 'assess' Official Statistics against their Code of Practice. If the Authority judges a particular set of Official Statistics to be fully compliant with its Code of Practice for Official Statistics it must designate those statistics as 'National Statistics'. By the same token, all public bodies which produce Official Statistics labelled as 'National Statistics' have a statutory duty to comply with the Code, as well as with the appropriate Pre-release Access Order. Producers of statistics are also expected to ensure that all their other Official Statistics follow the best practice principles set out in the Code although, in the latter case, compliance is not formally assessed by the Authority.

## **Management and deployment of statistical resources**

As is the case with the majority of government departments in the UK, MOD has adopted a centralised approach to the deployment of Statisticians and their support staff. The majority of our statistical staff are located with the Defence Strategy organisation in two areas, Defence Statistics and Defence Economics. A small number of statisticians are bedded out in whichever administrative or policy area is responsible for the subject-matter covered by their statistics. As well as undertaking the purely statistical work described in this Plan, many statisticians will also carry out analysis, modelling and reporting work for policy colleagues within the department.

## **Professionalism and accountability**

All of the Department's Statisticians and their support staff are members of the Government Statistical Service, a cross-government community. As well as being accountable to their own line-managers, MOD statisticians are also professionally accountable to the Department's Head of Profession for Statistics and, through the Head of Profession, to the National Statistician acting in their role as the Head of the Government Statistical Service. The Department's Head of Profession has been appointed by the Permanent Secretary in consultation with the National Statistician.

## **Statistical portfolio**

The Department currently publishes over 55 statistical products on either a regular or ad hoc basis using data gathered from a mixture of administrative and statistical sources. Of these, 26 (47 per cent) are designated as National Statistics products – a label which signifies that they have been judged to be fully compliant with the Code of Practice, and have been through a formal assessment of compliance by the UK Statistics Authority. All of the Department's statistical products have been assessed by the Authority and, in each case, their National Statistics designation has been confirmed. We also publish a large range of supporting Tables to accompany some of our main statistical releases / publications.

## **Publication and dissemination**

Users, and the public more generally, can access all of our Official & National Statistical products and services, and accompanying metadata, by clicking on the 'Statistics' area of the Department's section of the GOV.UK website. This ensures the Official & National statistics are all accessible. The metadata, accompanying notes and commentary in the publications is there to help users comprehend the statistics.

Click on the links below to access these three sites:

Ministry of Defence – Statistical Bulletins

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications?departments%5B%5D=ministry-of-defence&publication\\_filter\\_option=statistics](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications?departments%5B%5D=ministry-of-defence&publication_filter_option=statistics)

Statistics in Ministry of Defence on GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-defence/about/statistics>

## **Links with users**

Defence Statistics has a User Engagement strategy to consult with users of MOD Official and National Statistics, to gain feedback on our publications with an aim to make them useful to as wide an audience as possible. We will continue to consult with groups of external users of our statistics.

## **Scope**

Only Official and National Statistics bulletins are covered in this plan. The plan does not cover the work of MOD in providing statistics by other means, for example in PQ or FOI responses, or in other reports, or to support wider cross government debate or policy formulation. However, users views are sought on which of the statistics published by those means could be helpfully presented

in regular Official Statistics bulletins. This plan does not cover the datasets that might be published under the Transparency Agenda during 2014-15; see the MOD open data plan<sup>1</sup>.

1. Ministry of Defence Open Data Strategy  
<http://data.gov.uk/sites/default/files/MOD%20Open%20Data%20Strategy.pdf>

## Risks

The main risk to delivering the existing statistical publications and any changes and improvements is the recruitment and retention of professional statisticians. MOD continues to see very high turnover in its professional statisticians and other GSS members.

## Reviews / public consultations

During 2013-14 we launched one public consultation which emerged from reviews of our data collections and statistical end-products. The consultation can be found [here](#). Current consultations can always be found by going to <http://www.gov.uk> and filtering publications on 'Consultations' and 'Ministry of Defence'.

**October 2013 - Quarterly Afghanistan and Iraq amputation statistics** - Proposal to cease the routine quarterly reporting of Op TELIC (Iraq) amputees and update these figures in an annex on an annual basis. There was no negative feedback and the publication was revised to being produced annually.

## UK Statistics Authority (UKSA) Assessments

One of the responsibilities of the UKSA, under the Statistics and Registration Services Act 2007, is to determine compliance with the Code of Practice and the designation of published statistics as National Statistics.

MOD National Statistics publications were assessed by UKSA in six separate groupings and findings were reported via Assessment Reports, which are published on UKSA's website (<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk>). The Assessment Reports detailed the improvements required prior to the designation of a publication as a National Statistic, as well as other suggested improvements.

The UKSA has now confirmed, for all MOD's National Statistics, their designation as National Statistics. This follows MOD statisticians working to meet the requirements of the UKSA assessment reports, and where necessary committing to make further improvements.

## UK Defence Statistics (UKDS)

Following the UK Statistics Authority review of the department's National Statistics there was a major review of the structure of the portfolio of publications. Official & National Statistics were grouped into separate bulletins as described later. UKDS was redesigned as a compendium publication containing links to the Department's Official & National Statistics bulletins. Where in the past UKDS was the first release of a statistical series this is now done through a new bulletin to ensure the statistics are published in a timely fashion.

UKDS is the annual statistics compendium of the Ministry of Defence. Until 2012, UKDS was published annually as a single publication, with many of the statistics being published for the first time in UKDS. Following the recommendations from UKSA in their assessment, and discussions with internal and external users at the National and Official Statistics User Consultation Meetings in May 2013, a number of format changes were implemented to UKDS.

The various chapters of UKDS were separated and released as individual statistical bulletins during 2013. This allowed information on various topics to be published as soon as the data was available, rather than waiting for all the other chapters to be completed and published together, as was the case with previous editions of UKDS.

A reformatted UKDS compendium for 2013 was released on 21 November 2013, according to arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority (UKSA). It provided highlights and long term trends identified from previously published statistical releases on a number of Defence-related areas, including: finance and economics; personnel numbers; health of the Armed Forces; equipment; search and rescue; surveys of personnel; land holdings; and service family accommodation. A spreadsheet was published on the GOV.UK website detailing exactly where each table in UKDS 2012 can be found in 2013.

## Coverage of Official Statistics in MOD

MOD publishes a wide range of statistics not handled as Official Statistics. These can be through PQs, FOIs or through MOD reports and publications. We would welcome user input, through responses to the consultation on this draft Plan, on which topics, not currently covered by this draft plan, could usefully be handled and published as Official Statistics in future, resources permitting.

MOD is planning to investigate the possibility of publishing statistics in a number of areas as Official Statistics, linked to already published bulletin series. These proposals are detailed in the sections of this plan that cover those bulletin series.

Recent high profile topics areas, where MOD does not publish Official Statistics, include

- **Crime / Disciplinary / Service Justice statistics** – MOD has responded to a wide range of statistical queries on allegations of Service offences committed by either Persons Subject to Service Law or Civilians Subject to Service discipline which have been investigated by a Service Police Force and dealt with by the Commanding Officer at a Summary Hearing or the Service Civilian Court or the Court Martial.
- **Education statistics** – MOD holds a range of statistics related to the education of service children and service personnel, including apprenticeships and qualifications gained during Service.
- The issue of **transition of veterans from military to civilian life** also has a high profile. MOD would welcome views on what range of statistics it would be helpful to publish on this topic, resources permitting.

There are a number of reasons why MOD may not publish new Official Statistics bulletins:

- if the level of public / parliamentary interest is not sufficient;
- data reliability and definitional issues;
- resources; and
- security concerns.

## **Timing of changes**

We will publish a final version of the Plan once we have considered, and where appropriate acted on, any submissions we receive in response to this consultation. If required to do so, we may publish during the course of the consultation some of the other new statistics proposed here. We will also proactively respond to new demands for statistics, and these may not all be captured in this plan. We will not, however, make any changes to permanently reduce the frequency or change definitions without concluding a consultation.

# Bulletin Series 1 – Finance & Economics

## Activities during 2013-14

During the year MOD published statistical bulletins on Defence Contracts, International Defence Comparisons, Trade & Industry, and MOD Departmental Resources National Statistics. We also published new Experimental Statistics on MOD business with Small & Medium Enterprises (SME). The Department also published the National Statistics on Defence Inflation. It also produces Annual National Statistics on Defence R&D expenditure & related employment, and Quarterly National Statistics on the Defence contribution to the Balance of Payments: Trade in Services, on behalf of the Office for National Statistics.

## Activities during 2014-15 and priorities for future development

**UK Defence Industry Statistics** – When we published Bulletin 1.01 in August 2013 we attached a short methodology note, with the plan to publish a bulletin discussing the methodology changes in more detail. When we published Bulletin 1.01 in August 2014 we also published a detailed methodology bulletin discussing improvements to the statistics.

**MOD Contracting with SME Statistics** – As planned, the ‘experimental’ label was removed from this bulletin when it was published on 28 May 2014.

**Improved coverage of MOD Contract Statistics:** The coverage of contract statistics was expanded in the Official Statistic, Finance Statistical Bulletin 1.01 – Trade, Industry & Contracts 2014 by including data on contract information relating to MOD Arms Lengths Bodies (ALB). Data obtained from Defence Science & Technology Laboratory (DSTL), the UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) and the Defence Support Group (DSG). The statistics were incorporated into a new table in the statistical bulletin and the coverage was extended for MOD expenditure on goods and services with industry both at home and abroad.

## Other planned future developments

**Defence Inflation Statistics** – we will be making several improvements and refinements to these statistics and will be publishing a Statistical Methodology Note explaining these.

# Bulletin Series 2 – Personnel

## Activities during 2013-14

MOD publishes a range of statistics about Service and civilian personnel including personnel numbers, numbers joining and leaving, and diversity statistics.

Statistics on Service personnel are published in monthly, quarterly and annual personnel reports. These are supplemented by the annual statistical bulletin on Service personnel, annual publications on Reserves and Cadets (TSP 7) and Maternity Statistics, and ad hoc bulletins on Redundancy Statistics. More detailed statistics on the Naval Service are published in the Royal Navy Pocket Brief and the Royal Navy Situation Report.

Statistics on the size of the civilian workforce are published quarterly in the Quarterly Civilian Personnel Report (QCPR).

MOD also publishes a combined Service and civilian Quarterly Location Statistics publication, a combined annual Service and civilian personnel statistics bulletin, and “Diversity Dashboards” for Service and civilian personnel (which contains more comprehensive information on diversity than the military Quarterly Personnel Report (QPR) and QCPR.

Key developments relating to personnel statistics in 2013-14 included publishing trained strength, intake / recruitment and outflow information for the Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) population for the first time and incorporating them in the UK Regulars publication (Quarterly Personnel Report). The first annual statistical bulletin on Service personnel was released and the Annual Personnel Report was substantially revised and endorsed, along with all our other personnel National Statistics publications, as National Statistics by the UK Statistical Authority (UKSA). The Armed Forces Redundancy Programme Statistics Bulletin was also published as an Official Statistic.

## **Activities during 2014-15 and priorities for future development**

**Review and restructuring of Service personnel statistic bulletins:** MOD is planning to review the structure of the Service personnel bulletins and what is published in each one with the aim of enabling more efficient production and improving dissemination of statistics. If we feel changes would be beneficial we will consult further.

**Quarterly Personnel Report (QPR) – Table 5bi (Strength of FTRS serving against an additional requirement):** Recent changes to the publication have made Table 5bi in the QPR unnecessary since it only shows the difference between the total number of Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) shown in Table 1 and the number of FTRS counted against the regular requirement in Table 5b . It is planned to remove this table. Users who wish to retain it are asked to state this in their response to the consultation on this Statistics Plan.

**QPR – additional statistics on reserves:** In August 2014 the following additional information was included in the QPR on reserves:

- Progress against Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) targets: in December 2013 the Secretary of State for Defence submitted reserves future growth targets and trained and untrained inflow targets for each Service to the House. In order to compare actuals with these targets, intake numbers were split out so they can be easily compared. This table was included in the 1 July 2014 QPR which was published in August 2014.
- Intake to and outflow from the trained strength of the FR20 population table – MOD added a table in the QPR showing intake and outflow from the trained strength of the FR20 population and trained strength at the beginning and end of each period. This is similar to Table 3 in the MPR for the Regulars and enables users to see clearly the exact movements in and out of the population within the reported period and the impact this has on the strength. This table was included in the 1 July 2014 QPR which was published in August 2014.

**Tri-Service Personnel Bulletin (Series 2)** – The statistics in Table 2.01.11 (Strength of the Reserve Forces) will need to be restructured in order to align with QPR and TSP7.

**Service Personnel Recruitment Statistics** - MOD already publishes in the QPR the key recruitment statistic (intake to untrained strength) for regulars and reserves based on data extracted from personnel systems. The Department has committed to exploring the feasibility of supplementing this with additional information derived from recruiting systems to give a more comprehensive perspective on recruitment into the Armed Forces. The House of Commons Defence Committee into Army 2020 states that “We look forward to seeing the additional data” and that “We hope that each of these data sets will develop over time to include performance against

targets and such information as gender, age and place of recruitment". The quality and availability of the data has been reviewed and MOD is considering the proposals for a publication.

**Harmony**<sup>1</sup> - MOD currently publishes harmony breaches in the Annual and Mid Year Reports. MOD proposes to publish these on a more regular basis in a new Official Statistic. It is proposed that a new Official Statistic will show figures broken down by Service and Officer / Rank on either a quarterly or bi-annual basis.

**Restructuring / Review of QPR, MPR, APR & TSP 7 (UK Reserves and cadets) and Diversity Dashboard** - the statistics need to be restructured in order to align with QPR / MPR & APR. We will be looking in to the frequency, content and size of the suite of publications so they are combined where appropriate.

**Quarterly Civilian Personnel Report (QCPR)** - MOD is planning to split Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA) personnel into sponsored reserve status, non-sponsored reserve status and cadets.

**Civilian Sickness Absence Statistics** - MOD is planning to publish quarterly Official Statistics on civilian sickness absence by TLB and Trading Fund.

**Build Your Own Table (BYOT)** - BYOT is an interactive tool which enables users to extract the personnel statistics they need from the database. It was available on the Internet but was withdrawn in 2012 due to technical problems. These have now been overcome and consequently MOD are planning to re-instate BYOT on the internet.

## **Other planned future developments**

**Quarterly Location Statistics** - The statistics in this publication need to be reviewed to improve accuracy and presentation. Ideally this will involve the inclusion of reserves location statistics.

**Navy Monthly Situation Report and the Navy Quarterly Personnel Report** - MOD is planning to review these publications to consolidate and possibly reduce size of them. If we feel changes would be beneficial we will consult further.

**Armed Forces 'Career Longevity and Progression' Statistics** –A variety of statistics are provided on an ad hoc basis for use in compensation claims, litigation, tribunals etc. MOD is exploring the feasibility of producing a new publication in response to public interest which includes the most commonly requested figures. Work is currently at an early stage and is focussed on identifying and assessing possible data sources and establishing the feasibility of producing a statistical bulletin.

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<sup>1</sup> Harmony is a measure of the amount of time Armed Forces personnel spend away from home. Each Service has a target permitted number of days personnel are allowed to be away from home in a given period. When personnel exceed this permitted maximum a "harmony breach" occurs.

# Bulletin Series 3 – Health of the Armed Forces

## Activities during 2013-14

MOD collects, analyses and publishes health-related information on UK Armed Forces personnel and Health & Safety for Service Personnel and MOD civilians.

Information about deaths in the Armed Forces, including age- and gender-standardised rates, mortality ratios, numbers of incidents, and causes of death, were published in the annual Deaths in the UK Regular Armed Forces report.

Information on suicides and open verdict deaths in the UK Regular Armed Forces, including age-standardised rates, mortality ratios, and causes of death were published in the annual Suicide and Open Verdict Deaths report.

Information on deaths from land transport accidents, including demographics, vehicle types, and trends over time, were shown in the Land Transport Accidents report.

The latest statistics on the number of Afghanistan UK Military and civilian fatalities and casualties were published regularly in the monthly Fatality and Casualty report. Numbers of UK personnel receiving treatment at Birmingham and Headley Court rehabilitation facility were published monthly in the Op HERRICK Patient Treatment Statistics.

Statistical information on personnel returned to the UK from Afghanistan as a result of an injury or illness were given in the Patient Treatment statistics and the tracking report on the Very Seriously Injured and Seriously Injured. Statistics on the number of personnel who have suffered an amputation as a result of an injury sustained whilst deployed in Afghanistan or Iraq were reported in the quarterly Amputations report.

Figures on work related major and serious injuries and illnesses (RIDDOR) in Service and civilian personnel were published in the annual Health and Safety Statistics report.

Information about medical discharges among Service personnel, including socio-demographic factors, Service, rank, training status, and cause, were given in the annual Medical Discharges report.

Statistical information on mental health among UK Armed Forces was published in the Annual and Quarterly mental health reports. Summary statistics on the number of civilian and serving Armed Forces personnel with a Defence Medical Services registration were given in the quarterly NHS Commissioning Population report.

Information on Armed Forces and entitled civilians registered at military medical practices by Clinical Commissioning Groups and Local Area Authorities was published quarterly to support healthcare commissioning activity in the NHS and devolved administrations.

Two annual reports were published giving information about the causes of death amongst veterans of the Falklands campaign and the 1991 Gulf 1 conflict.

Summary statistics on the estimated employment outcomes for Service personnel who left the Armed Forces were given in the quarterly Career Transition Partnership report.

Summary statistics on recipients of War Pensions can be found in the annual War Pensions report. Figures on recipients of compensation were given in the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme.

The locations of recipients of a Pension, a War Pension or Compensation Scheme can be found in the annual Locations report.

## Activities during 2014-15 and priorities for future development

The production of new Official Statistics covering topics on:

**Annual Deaths on Operations since WW2** – Published in November 2014, this new Official Statistic provides the total number of deaths for serving members of the UK Armed Forces who died as a result of operations to a medal earning theatre. Deaths are presented by each theatre of operation. This was in response to the continuing demand for information by the public which peaks in the build up to Remembrance Sunday and on the anniversary of various operational deployments.

**Bi-annual Wounded Injured and Sick (WIS)** - The intended Official Statistic will provide the numbers of wounded, injured and sick UK Armed Forces personnel in, and analysis of, the recovery pathway, including Service breakdown, length of pathway and outcomes (for example return to full fitness, medical discharge, Armed Forces Compensation Scheme claim etc).

**Op HERRICK (Afghanistan) IED statistics** – The intended Official Statistic will include summary statistics on Improvised Explosive Device (IED) events involving the UK Armed Forces by quarter and year, 2009/10 to 2014/15 and end of combat operations in Afghanistan, including a simple graph showing IED events over time. The intention is to publish a single bulletin following the completion of combat operations in Afghanistan.

The addition of new information to current National and Official Statistics on:

**Bi-Annual Tracking Afghanistan Operational VSI/SI** – Following a request from the House of Commons Defence Committee (HCDC), as well as interest from internal and external stakeholders, new analysis on the length of time personnel injured on operations were under specialist care and their likely outcomes (return to duty, medical discharge etc.) is now routinely included in the publication.

**Annual War Pension Scheme (WPS)** – Following WPS internal and external consultations prompted by the UK Statistics Authority Assessment Report 197: Statistics on Defence Health, the following additions have been requested: report on whether WPS claims follow a similar trend to that found in the latest AFCS figures; provide information on groups that are no longer in receipt of pensions.

**Bi-Annual Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS)** - Following AFCS internal and external consultations prompted by the UK Statistics Authority Assessment Report 197: Statistics on Defence Health, the following additions have been requested: make appropriate changes to tariff levels following the AFCS review; add a new section for clearance times for reconsiderations and appeals; include summary information on amounts paid in lump sum compensation (dependant on availability of finance data).

## Other planned future developments

**Types of Injury sustained in Afghanistan (2001 onwards)** - new Official Statistic to include summary statistics on the types of injuries (focusing initially on trauma related casualties) sustained by UK Service personnel in Afghanistan and where possible the outcome of injury and the mechanism of injury. Type of injury will be based on ICD-10<sup>2</sup> chapters e.g. infectious diseases, head injuries etc; Injury outcome will be based in ICD-10 external causes of morbidity, for example hearing loss, sight loss; Mechanism of injury will be limited to three categories: explosions (mines, improvised explosive device), small arms fire (gun shot wound, rocket propelled grenade etc) and other (accidents, transport etc). The intention is to publish a single bulletin following the completion of combat operations in Afghanistan.

**Annual Deaths in the UK regular Armed Forces: reserves** – the addition of a table showing the number of reservist deaths from 1984 to date. This is in response to FOI requests on reservist deaths and in anticipation of interest from within the Department and from the public with the move to the new force structure.

**Quarterly Afghanistan and Iraq Amputation** – to expand the statistics presented to include all UK Service Personnel that have sustained a traumatic or surgical amputation (regardless of the severity of the amputation) and are in receipt of Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS). These statistics will include for the first time minor amputations of fingers and toes for both operational and non operational casualties. MOD is proposing to reduce the frequency of this publication to an annual update in line with the draw down of combat troops from Afghanistan.

**Annual Medical Discharges in the UK Regular Armed Forces** - in response to a high volume of FOI requests present information on the impact of co-morbidity on trends presented and the numbers of medically discharged UK Regular Armed Forces personnel who have made a claim under the Armed Forces Compensation scheme (AFCS).

**Quarterly Career Transition Partnership (CTP)** – the proportion of service leavers that re-enlist and a breakdown of employment outcomes by ethnicity and industry sector and the early Service leavers programme. Reduce frequency to an annual publication to enable development of this more detailed analysis.

**Annual War Pension Scheme (WPS)** – to include statistics on total amounts paid, groups no longer in receipt of a war pension and waiting times from registering a claim to claim being cleared (including time to award) following recent high profile public interest and interest from veteran organisations.

**Bi-Annual Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS)** – to include statistics on AFCS waiting times from registering a claim to claim being cleared (including time to award), following recent high profile public interest and interest from veteran organisations. To include new statistics on the number of claims for the Armed Forces Independent Payment (AFIP) including a breakdown by Guaranteed Income Payment (GIP) award; AFIP by injury type; number AFIP rejections/suspensions and AFIP awards by geographic area.

**Annual Veterans Location** - Amalgamate the three sets of data (Armed Forces Compensation Scheme, War Pensions Scheme and Armed Forces Pension Scheme) into a single dataset to

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<sup>2</sup> International Classification of Disease and Health related problems, 10<sup>th</sup> revision, World Health Organisation (WHO)

enable stakeholders to access a single known veteran population by geographical region. This is in response to multiple requests from DH, NHS England, the devolved administrations, local government authorities, Health & Wellbeing boards and charities, and is supported by Policy leads and Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA).

## Bulletin Series 4 – Equipment of the Armed Forces

### Activities during 2013-14

**Formations, Vessels and Aircraft** – Annual publication of statistics on the numbers and types of military formations, vessels and aircraft. Previously published in UK Defence Statistics (UKDS).

**Conventional armed forces in Europe equipment holdings** – Annual publication of statistics on the equipment holdings of the UK and other nations within the scope of the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty. Previously published in UKDS.

### Activities during 2014-15 and priorities for future development

**Unmanned Aircraft** – The intention is to publish Official Statistics on the fleet sizes of Unmanned Aircraft. There are large numbers of PQ / FOI requests for information and this definitive publication on a consistent basis would help inform discussions.

## Bulletin Series 5 – Activities of the Armed Forces

### Activities during 2013-14

**Military aid to civil authorities** – Annual publication of statistics on vessels boarded by the Royal Navy Fishery Protection Squadron, and convictions arising. Previously published in UKDS.

**Military Search & Rescue (SAR)** – Monthly, quarterly and annual publication of statistics on SAR by military units in the UK, Falklands and Cyprus.

### Activities during 2014-15 and priorities for future development

**Op HERRICK Redeployment Statistics** – A new Official Statistic was published in October 2014 which provides information on the number of Vehicles and Major Equipment (VaME) and amount of materiel redeployed from Afghanistan.

**Unmanned Aircraft** – Following the completion of Op HERRICK, the intention is to publish a one-off Official Statistics bulletin on the use of unmanned aircraft on that operation.

**Search & Rescue Statistics** – During 2015-16, the delivery of Search and Rescue services will begin to transfer from MOD to DfT. Discussions are therefore underway between the two Government departments regarding the transfer of statistical work on Search and Rescue. A project plan for this work is under discussion. MOD will consult users on any proposed changes to its Search and Rescue statistics.

# Bulletin Series 6 – Other National Statistics and Official Statistics

## Activities during 2013-14

**UK Service Family Accommodation** – Annual publication of statistics on UK Service Family Accommodation, including numbers of dwellings and surveyed condition. Previously published in UKDS.

**MOD Land Holdings** – Annual publication of statistics on MOD Land Holdings, by parent service, country, type of use, and whether owned, leased or with legal rights. Previously published in UKDS.

**Armed Forces Continuous Attitude Survey (AFCAS)** – Publication of results from the annual survey which assesses and monitors the attitudes of Service personnel in key management areas.

**Families Continuous Attitude Survey (FAMCAS)** – Publication of the Tri-Service results from the annual survey which assesses and monitors the views of spouses and civil partners of Service personnel in key welfare areas.

## Activities during 2014-15 and priorities for future development

**Reserves Continuous Attitude Survey** – We have brought together the three single Service reserves attitude surveys into a single Official Statistics publication, published in June 2014.

**Continuous Working Patterns Survey** - This is an annual survey of Service personnel to find out the distribution and average number of hours spent at work, on call, and working unsociable hours, and the percentage of personnel working excessive hours. It was published as an Official Statistic in July 2014.

**Armed Forces Continuous Attitude Survey (AFCAS)** – A consultation was carried out to review the questions used in AFCAS in 2014.

**Families Continuous Attitude Survey (FAMCAS)** – A consultation was carried out to review the questions used in the survey in 2014.

**UK Defence Statistics (UKDS) Factsheet 2014/15** – Following recommendations by the UK Statistics Authority (Assessment Report 210), and discussions with users at the National and Official Statistics Consultations in 2013, it was decided to change the format of UKDS. As a result of these changes a consultation is proposed for 2015 to cease publication of the UKDS Factsheet, with a re-formatted version published in 2014. As the Factsheet contains statistics that have been previously published, and a summary publication (UKDS) is published annually, the function of this publication is no longer considered relevant.

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