

Fact Sheet 3: Summary of Key SDSR Changes

Key Defence equipment programmes and structural changes:

- two new carriers, with one equipped to allow full interoperability with key allies;
- introduction of the more capable carrier variant of the Joint Strike Fighter instead of the vertical take off variant;
- six state of the art Type 45 air defence destroyers;
- seven of the most advanced Astute-class hunter-killer submarines in the world;
- replacing Type 23 frigates with Type 26 frigates and reducing the total number of frigates and amphibious ships;
- restructuring amphibious shipping to enable the landing of a Commando Group (up to 1,800 personnel);
- five Multi-Role Brigades with a range of capabilities to operate across the variety of possible future conflicts;
- a significant increase in Special Forces enabling manpower (medical, signals, logisticians);
- reducing the Army's non deployable regional administrative structures and rationalising deployable HQs;
- 12 new Chinook heavy lift helicopters;
- 14 A330 strategic tanker and transport aircraft to replace the ageing VC10 and TriStar fleets;
- the withdrawal of Nimrod MRA4 and the Harrier;
- introduction of 22 A400M transport aircraft;
- rationalising the defence estate through the sale of surplus land and running cost reductions;
- accelerating the re-basing of our forces from Germany;
- reducing the civilian workforce by around 25,000 and military personnel by around 17,000 by 2015.

We will introduce a range of changes to our counter terrorism (CT) policy by:

- prioritising the CT elements of policing, by maintaining core capabilities;
- supporting the devolved institutions of Northern Ireland, including by pursuing and developing a strategy to tackle the threat from terrorism;
- reviewing our most sensitive and controversial CT and security powers and, where possible and consistent with protecting the public, provide a correction in favour of liberty;
- reforming the counter-radicalisation workstream of the international terrorism (CONTEST) strategy;
- enhancing the firearms capabilities of police armed response units to increase the effectiveness of the response in the event of a terrorist firearms attack in the UK;
- introducing a programme to preserve the ability of the security, intelligence and law enforcement agencies to obtain communications data and to intercept communications within a legal framework.

Our approach to tackling instability and conflict overseas will change by:

- providing clearer direction through a new Building Stability Overseas Strategy;
- enhancing early warning so that we can identify and respond to countries at risk of instability in a timely way;
- increasing the proportion of ODA that supports fragile and conflict afflicted states from 22 to 30% to tackle the drivers of instability and help some of the poorest countries in the world;
- increasing ODA to 0.7% of GNI by 2013;
- creating new Stabilisation Response Teams, able to prevent and respond to conflict situations overseas.

We will invest £650m over the next four years to put in place a transformative National Cyber Security Programme by:

- overhauling the UK's approach to cyber-crime – including by introducing a single point of contact for reporting cyber crimes, and a new Cyber Crime Strategy;
- addressing deficiencies in our ability to detect and defend against cyber attack by improving our ability to deliver cyber security products and services; and enhancing investment in national intelligence capabilities;
- create a new Defence Operations Cyber Group to mainstream cyber security through the MOD and ensure the coherent integration of cyber activities across the spectrum of defence operations;
- addressing shortcomings in the critical cyber infrastructure upon which the UK depends;
- sponsoring long term cyber security research and introducing a programme of cyber security education and skills;
- building new cyber security alliances, including through a comprehensive UK-US Memorandum of Understanding;
- bringing together the specific changes highlighted above in a new Cyber Security Strategy in spring 2011.

We will introduce further changes to our wider security policy, including by:

- reinforcing measures to improve preparedness for the top three civil emergencies risks (including major tidal or coastal flooding and a severe influenza pandemic);
- introducing new measures to build community resilience as part of the Government's broader Big Society agenda, and establishing a new Infrastructure Security and Resilience Advisory Council;
- giving energy a higher priority than before in UK foreign policy, including by reprioritising bilateral relationships and strengthening support for UK businesses;
- putting in place measures to improve the functioning of domestic energy markets through new Ofgem powers;
- strengthening our capacity to tackle organised crime through the creation of the new National Crime Agency (NCA) and a new system for prioritising and planning where we target organised crime overseas;
- enhancing our border security through a Border Police Command within the NCA, and the establishment of a National Maritime Information Centre, providing a comprehensive picture of potential maritime threats;
- strengthening central government direction on, and prioritisation of, our counter-proliferation efforts.

We will strengthen key alliances and partnerships, creating:

- enhanced UK/US cooperation on counter-terrorism, organised crime, conflict prevention;
- shared UK/US assessments and programmes on the most serious resilience risks;
- a new framework for long-term cooperation with France;
- a range of other deepened, strengthened relationships.

All of these changes, across our security and defence policy, are underpinned by changes to the way in which Government will work in future, including through:

- NSC leadership of SDSR implementation, with lead ministers given responsibility for priority areas;
- NSC decisions on assessment priorities, to be delivered by coordinated cross departmental teams
- cross departmentally agreed integrated strategies for countries and regions;
- increasing cross-Whitehall effort on promoting our economic interests, including defence and security exports, whilst meeting arms export control criteria.