

# Fact Sheet 15: Afghanistan

**“We will do the necessary to give our forces what they need to succeed in Afghanistan”, Prime Minister David Cameron**

## Protecting operations in Afghanistan

The Strategic Defence and Security Review makes clear that we remain fully committed to succeeding in the difficult mission in Afghanistan, and there will as now be extra resources to meet the full cost of that campaign.

We have over 9,500 British service personnel engaged, alongside allies, in a hugely complex counter-insurgency campaign.

We will remain responsive to the changing needs of this operation.

The Strategic Defence and Security Review commits to ensuring that our operations in Afghanistan are prioritised:

- in the period covered by the Review we will make no changes to Army and Royal Marine and RAF Regiment combat units involved in Afghanistan;
- we will retain capabilities that directly support our deployed forces. These include the Tornado fleet, protected vehicles, transport and attack helicopters, counter-IED capabilities and ISTAR.

## The Strategic Defence and Security Review’s pledge to support the Afghanistan operation

The Government is fully committed to ensuring that the Afghanistan campaign is properly resourced, funded and equipped, so that our Armed Forces can do their job as effectively and as safely as possible.



Two Ridgback armoured vehicles (front) and a Panther armoured command vehicle (rear) at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Shazad.



A Royal Marine from Charlie Company, 40 Commando, rushes supplies to Forward Operating Base Jackson in Helmand whilst colleagues provide cover.