



## DEBATE PACK

Number 2015/0100 | 13 November 2015

# Future of the reserve forces

Tim Robinson

## Summary

The UK's Reserve Forces are changing. Found to be neglected, under-exploited and in decline by an Independent Commission, the Armed Forces are being restructured to make the Reserves an integral element of 'Future Force 2020'. Reservists will be mobilised and deployed on a far wider range of operations than now and will be more closely aligned with Regulars, particularly in the Army. A major recruitment drive is underway to reach a trained Reserve strength of 35,000 by 2018.

The Ministry of Defence laid out its plans in a White Paper in July 2013 entitled [Reserves in the Future Force 2020: Valuable and Valued](#) promising a new relationship with Reservists, Reservists' families, employers and society. These changes were enacted in the Defence Reform Act 2014. The changes are significant and concerns about the plans have focused on whether the MOD can achieve its recruitment targets; the impact on employers; and whether the Army in particular will be able to fulfil all of its military tasks with a reduced Regular force and greater reliance on Reservists.

The Defence Reform Act 2014 placed a statutory requirement on the Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Associations to report annually on the well-being of the United Kingdom's Reserve Forces. The team notes in its [2015 annual report](#) that the Services appear to have "turned the corner" on recruiting reserves but worries that "systemic problems" with the recruitment process, particularly medically screenings, still need to be rooted out. It also calls for attention to be given to the recruitment of young volunteer Reserve officers and also on retention of officers and soldiers. Overall, the assessment is that the programme "remains on or near track for delivery."

The House of Commons Library prepares a briefing in hard copy and/or online for most, but not all, non-legislative debates in the Chamber and Westminster Hall other than half-hour debates. Debate Packs are produced quickly after the announcement of parliamentary business. They are intended to provide a summary or overview of the issue being debated and identify relevant briefings and useful documents, including press and parliamentary material. More detailed briefing can be prepared for Members on request to the Library.

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# 1. Press and blog articles

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Conservative Home

## **Can Fallon replace regulars with reservists?**

Peter Hoskin

18 August 2015

<http://www.conservativehome.com/highlights/2015/08/can-fallon-replace-regulars-with-reservists.html>

Daily Telegraph

## **Army downsizes to below 82,000 troops three years before the Government target**

30 July 2015

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/defence/11771212/British-Army-already-below-smaller-82000-target.html>

Daily Telegraph

## **Michael Fallon admits government are struggling to recruit army reservists**

Ben Riley-Smith

1 July 2015

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/defence/11710383/Michael-Fallon-admits-government-is-struggling-to-recruit-Army-reservists.html>

BBC online

## **Army reserve targets concern highlighted by watchdog**

25 June 2015

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-33279565>

Conservative Home

## **We must fund the Armed Forces Britain needs**

David Davis

10 March 2015

<http://www.conservativehome.com/platform/2015/03/david-davis-we-must-fund-the-armed-forces-britain-needs.html>

Guardian

## **Army reserve opens its doors to over-50s in recruit drive**

Chris Johnston

14 November 2014

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/nov/14/army-reservists-over-50s-recruits-soldiers-officers>

## 2. PQs (oral)

### **Future Reserves 2020 13 Jul 2015 | 598 c582**

#### **Asked by: John Baron**

What assessment he has made of the implications for his policies of the decision by the Major Projects Authority to give the Future Reserves 2020 programme a red rating.

#### **Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

My hon. Friend will have heard my earlier answer.

Since the MPA report, governance has been shaken up, with each service delivering its own programme alongside a defence-level enabling structure. My hon. Friend will know from many earlier answers that our improvements in recruitment, selection and training processes are bearing fruit. We remain committed to delivering the FR20 requirement.

#### **Asked by: John Baron**

The Minister will nevertheless know that the MPA declares as red projects that it believes risk being unachievable. Given the delays, cost increases and capability gaps, and given reports that superannuated reservists and those who do not regularly attend parades are remaining on strength, at what point will the Government consider scrapping their plans and increasing the size of the regular Army?

#### **Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

We recruited nearly 7,000 reservists across the three services last year. That was a rise of 65%, and the rise was even greater within the Army Reserve. As for my hon. Friend's reference to superannuated reservists, I visited 3 Royal Welsh last weekend, and the average age of that battalion has dropped from 41 to 31 over the past three years.

### **Reserve Forces: Recruitment 13 Jul 2015 | 598 cc573-5**

#### **Asked by: Andrew Griffiths**

**What progress he has made on recruitment to the reserve forces.**

#### **Asked by: David Morris**

**What progress he has made on recruitment to the reserve forces.**

#### **Asked by: Nigel Evans**

**What steps he is taking to ensure that reserve forces are at full strength.**

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**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

Six thousand, eight hundred and ten personnel joined the reserve forces in the last financial year, an increase of 65% on the year before. We have made significant improvements to recruiting processes, the offer to reservists and the support we give employers. As a result, recruitment continues to improve, and we remain committed to meeting our overall target.

**Asked by: Andrew Griffiths**

I congratulate the Minister not only on the fantastic decision to spend 2% of GDP on our armed forces but on his decision to save William Coltman House, the Army reservist centre in Burton. Will he join me in commending Major Marvin Bargrove and everybody else involved for their work in increasing recruitment and showing people in Burton the opportunities that are available through being part of our reservist force?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

I share my hon. Friend's delight both at the announcement of the 2% commitment and at the fact that we have been able to save the centre in Burton. He will be aware that 4 Mercian, which has a detachment there, has recently been deployed in a number of interesting exercises, as well as providing two formed platoons for an operational deployment in Cyprus.

**Asked by: David Morris**

What progress has the Department made in getting employers to recognise the benefits of their employees becoming reservists, and of hiring reservists?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

This year, we have already awarded 160 new bronze awards and 25 new silver awards for employers. We are also building links between companies in industry sectors and their equivalent reserves. For example, the Royal Signals is formalising links with BT, Vodafone, HP and Virgin Media; Defence Medical Services has an excellent arrangement with the NHS; and the Military Provost Service is partnering with Serco.

**Asked by: Nigel Evans**

I, too, welcome the 2% commitment, which will ensure that the right level of reserves will be reached.

Does the Minister agree that it is absolutely right that reservists who see action get the right equipment to protect them, which would include the use of drones manufactured by some of my constituents at BAE Systems?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

The 2% commitment enables us to reconfirm the additional £1.8 billion for the reserves. All reservists today are routinely supplied with the same uniform and personal equipment as their regular counterparts, and last year we were able to bring forward earlier than expected £45 million of investment for dismounted close combat equipment. I am afraid that it is above my pay grade to answer my hon. Friend's question about drones.

**Asked by: Derek Twigg**

The Prime Minister has said today that he wants an increase in the number of special forces. Given our armed forces' greater reliance on reservists, what are the Minister and the Government doing to ensure that we still have a good pool from which to pick our special forces?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

As a former Defence Minister, the hon. Gentleman will know that Ministers of the Crown never talk about special forces in the Chamber. On his wider point about the size of the pool in the armed forces as a whole, our commitment, as shown most recently by the 2% announcement, is to outstanding armed forces in quality and equipment.

**Asked by: Kevan Jones**

Two weeks ago the Secretary of State said that he was confident that the Government's target for reserve recruitment would be met. He said that the programme was "now back on schedule". However, last month the Major Projects Authority downgraded the Future Reserves 2020 project from "doubtful" to "unachievable". Who is right, the Major Projects Authority or the Secretary of State?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

The Major Projects Authority reviewed the Future Reserves 2020 programme almost a year ago, in September 2014. By convention the review is published six months behind, and because of purdah and the election it was published something like 10 months behind. A great deal of water has flowed under the bridge since then.

**Asked by: Kevan Jones**

Indeed. Last week's Budget Red Book committed the Government to maintaining a Regular Army of 82,000, but there was no mention of reserve forces. Can the Minister confirm whether the target of 30,000 reservists announced at the beginning of the process will be met?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

The target of 30,000 Army reservists—indeed, 35,000 trained reservists across the three services—was firmly in the Conservative party's manifesto, and this Conservative Government are committed to delivering it.

**Asked by: James Gray**

I warmly welcome the maintenance of that target, and I congratulate the Minister on what has been achieved so far. He will recall that the purpose of the target was to enable the reserve and regular forces to be interoperable—change backwards and forwards between each other. A reserve force was to do precisely the same job as the regulars who, in the case of the Army, we were then cutting by 20,000. Will he confirm that the excellent plan that he laid out before the last election—and which has been laid out consistently in the House since—will remain? Will there be any change in that way that we use reserves?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

As my hon. Friend knows, the Government do not accept that the expansion of the reserves was a direct swap with regulars in the way that

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he describes. The purposes of the reserve forces were set out in the commission—which, as he says, carried my signature—and were threefold: to provide extra capacity at slightly lower readiness; to provide skills not available to the military; and to rebuild the connection between the military and society. We are committed to all those things, and the commitment of £1.8 billion over the next 10 years for reserves, which was recently reaffirmed by the 2% commitment to defence spending, further underlies that.

**Asked by: Keith Vaz**

I welcome the Prime Minister's commitment to increase by 10% the number of our armed forces from ethnic minorities. Can the Minister confirm that that will include members of the reserve forces?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

Yes, I can. We are strongly committed to our black, Asian and minority ethnic targets. It is a fact that the attraction of UK citizens from ethnic minorities—as opposed to Commonwealth citizens—to the reserve forces, has consistently run ahead of figures for the regular forces.

### **NATO Very High Readiness Joint Task Force**

**08 Jun 2015 | 596 c898**

**Asked by: Crispin Blunt**

The need for the development of a NATO very high readiness joint task force is reflected in the deteriorating wider security situation, particularly with the Russians. That is not wholly consistent with relying on 30,000 reservists as part of our armed forces. If the wider security situation continues to deteriorate, will the Secretary of State review that reliance?

**Answered by: Michael Fallon | Department: Defence**

We have not yet got to the stage where Future Force 2020 has been completed. We have time enough to ensure that our total of 30,000 reservists is reached, but my hon. Friend will recall our manifesto commitment of no further cuts in the size of the regular armed forces.

### **Reserve Forces (Recruitment)**

**08 Jun 2015 | 596 cc890-892**

**Asked by: Pauline Latham**

How many people have been recruited to the reserve forces in each of the last three years?

**Asked by: Karen Lumley**

What assessment he has made of recent trends in recruitment of reservists?

**Asked by: Sir Nicholas Soames**

What assessment he has made of recent trends in recruitment of reservists?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

Six thousand eight hundred and ten personnel joined the reserves in financial year 2014-15, a rise of 65% on the previous financial year. For 2012-13, the only statistics available are for the Army reserve, with 3,960 joining that year. We have made significant improvements to the recruiting process, the offer to reservists and the support we give to employers. We continue to look at further improvements to build on this considerable growth.

**Asked by: Pauline Latham**

I thank the Minister for his reply. Can he explain what plans his Department has to celebrate reserves day later this month, and will he encourage hon. Members to support it in their constituencies?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

Reserves day is an important opportunity for colleagues in the House to support the reserves. It was called uniform to work day, and a number of hon. Members took part in it. Reserve forces and cadets associations will tell colleagues about opportunities to support the event, including an opportunity in the House of Commons for Members and researchers, both existing members of the reserves and those who are interested in joining.

**Asked by: Karen Lumley**

The 37 Signal Regiment reservists, who are based in my constituency, do an amazing job and have been awarded the freedom of our borough. Will my hon. Friend inform the House how future reserve proposals will help the regiment to continue its brilliant work?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

I join my hon. Friend in her tribute to the 37 Signal Regiment, which has deployed personnel on operations to Afghanistan, as well as on recent exercises in Belize, Gibraltar, Germany and Cyprus, and has provided essential work to the civil authorities in the UK. Army reserve units are paired with, and train alongside, regular units and, when required, may deploy with them—in 37's case, with 16 Signal Regiment, as she knows. Reserves have the same access to equipment and technology as their regular counterparts, and receive high-quality, challenging training, including more opportunities to exercise overseas.

**Asked by: Sir Nicholas Soames**

May I first congratulate my hon. Friend on his tremendous support and enthusiasm for the reserves, which is very well taken? He is aware of my connection with the Royal Yeomanry, but is he aware that it is the best recruiting regiment in the reserves? That is not just because it has made good use of what the central facility provides but because it does a lot of it itself, and takes a lot of trouble over recruiting. Will he emphasise to all the other reserve units that they can do a great deal themselves to encourage people in their regimental family to get more people into the reserves?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

I am always delighted to take a question from my right hon. Friend, whose illustrious grandfather was a long-serving member of the



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Territorial Army. He is quite right about the Royal Yeomanry's achievements. I visited it twice in the past year, and in many ways it is a trailblazer. The key point that he makes about empowering units to do more to help themselves, including devolving some of the marketing budgets—something that we have begun to do—is very well taken.

**Asked by: Derek Twigg**

What is the average age of recruits to the reserves?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

I do not have the exact age of reservist recruits, but the current average of the Army Reserve is 37. If the hon. Gentleman is thinking of joining, I am sure we can put him in touch with somebody.

**Asked by: Nick Smith**

Recent personnel statistics show that nearly a third of the armed forces are dissatisfied with military life, so what provisions are in place to ensure that this troubling figure is reduced?

There is no single bullet. The armed forces have come through a difficult time, with a combination of downsizing of the numbers in the Army as a result of the £38 billion black hole, and the end of operations in Afghanistan, which for many young men and women was an attractor. But measures ranging from the purchase of new equipment to an almost unparalleled number of overseas exercises, together with a fresh look at the terms and conditions of service, are all designed to address the issue that the hon. Gentleman points to.

**Asked by: Kevan Jones**

I welcome the Minister back to his position and congratulate the two new members of the Defence team. In the run-up to the election the Prime Minister pledged that regular personnel numbers would not be reduced, but we heard last week about the first down payment from the Defence budget as a result of the Chancellor's cuts. Can the Minister give an assurance that the target set by the previous Government for reservists will be met and funded?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

I am grateful to the hon. Gentleman for his welcome, and the same applies to him. It is always a pleasure to spar across the Dispatch Box. The Conservative manifesto was clear about expanding the number of reservists across the three services to 35,000. The funding is there through the £1.8 billion that was provided over a 10-year period, and the current strengths are running ahead of schedule in all three volunteer reserve services.

## **Reserve Forces**

**23 Feb 2015 | 593 cc5-7**

### **Asked by: Daniel Kawczynski**

What steps he is taking to promote service in the Reserves.

### **Asked by: Andrew Stephenson**

What steps he is taking to promote service in the Reserves.

### **Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

In the quarter to December, 1,490 personnel joined the Army reserve, an increase of 147% on the equivalent quarter last year. Colleagues will have seen the multimedia campaign showing the range of opportunities the reserves offer. We have unblocked the enlistment pipeline, more than 420 employers have signed corporate covenants and the civil service is setting an excellent example as a supportive employer, too.

### **Asked by: Daniel Kawczynski**

A constituent, Reservist Rifleman Ben Taylor, was awarded the Queen's gallantry medal for saving the lives of eight comrades in Afghanistan. With hundreds following in Rifleman Taylor's footsteps every month, does my hon. Friend the Minister agree that the Chief of the General Staff's blueprint for reaching our target is achievable?

### **Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

I thoroughly agree with my hon. Friend and I join him in congratulating Rifleman Ben Taylor. With the upturn in recruitment, and with retention improving too, the trained strength of the Army Reserve has gone up 560 over the past 12 months to 20,480. That is above our target for the year end, and I am confident that the plans of the new Chief of the General Staff—who, incidentally, was also a rifleman—will be achieved.

### **Asked by: Andrew Stephenson**

On Friday, I held my fourth Pendle jobs and apprenticeships fair, at the Colne municipal hall. I was delighted that the Army was one of more than 20 organisations that took a stall, at which it promoted regular and reserve opportunities. Will my hon. Friend tell us more about the steps that the Ministry of Defence is taking to recruit more reservists in the north of England?

### **Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

I congratulate my hon. Friend on his initiative. The north of England provides the greatest proportion of our soldiers, regular and reserve, and the relaunch of the Army recruiting campaign's reserve component last month involved a major event in Liverpool, as he knows. There will be more in the north. Following the Secretary of State's announcement in October of the intention to restore a post-nominal award to recognise long service in the reserves, I should like to take this opportunity to confirm that such an award will be restored for those of all ranks who achieve 10 years' service.

### **Asked by: Gisela Stuart**

The new 77th Brigade, which will focus on psych-ops, is expected to recruit about 40 % of its members from the reserves. According to press

reports, however, by Christmas only about 20 had been recruited. When does the Minister think he will achieve the full complement?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

For obvious reasons, some of the detail of the recruiting in that area will not be published in the House, and I am sure that the hon. Lady—my hon. Friend, if I may call her that—will understand those reasons. There is, however, a big upturn in recruitment right across the reserves, as the figures I gave the House earlier indicated.

**Asked by: Frank Roy**

Over the past two years, the MOD has spent £16.4 million on television advertising for recruitment purposes. Was that money well spent? How many recruits resulted from that large spend?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

We cannot say what proportion of recruits resulted from it, but we can say that there has been a surge in recruiting, and that it was up 147% on the quarter last year, as the figures I have just given the House show. Additionally, although we are not going to publish the figures on cyber-recruiting, I can say that they are running ahead of the reserves average as a percentage.

**Asked by: John Baron**

Government answers show that the average age of an existing reservist infantryman is in the mid-30s. Given that we have added only 500 reservists in the two years that this plan has been in place, and that that has led to capability gaps and false economies, has not the time come to rethink the plan and to stop trying to get our defence on the cheap?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

Over the past 12 months, we have added more than 800 to the reserves. That followed a long period—a whole generation—of decline. We make no apologies for revising the age requirements for ex-regular soldiers to join the reserves in order to share their knowledge and expertise. We are looking for people with key skills and it is a waste to lose people with specialist skills in areas such as intelligence and medicine. Dare I say that my hon. Friend, with his years of experience, might have something to offer to the reserves?

**Asked by: Kevan Jones**

We have had months of failing IT systems, targets being revised downwards and recruitment to the reserves stalling. In addition, we learned last week that recruitment to the regulars was not meeting its targets. Will the Minister confirm the speculation that is going on within the Ministry of Defence and the Army that an alternative plan to scrap the current target of 30,000 is being drawn up?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

There are no plans, and no such planning is going on, to scrap the target. The number I gave earlier, of 1,490 people joining the reserves in just one quarter, indicates that things are now moving sharply in the right direction. That figure relates to the Army Reserve, but the Royal Naval Reserve has been ahead of target all the way through and the Royal Air Force Reserve is also doing well, with 150 joining in a quarter.

**Topical Questions**  
**12 Jan 2015 | 590 cc594-600**

**Asked by: Eric Ollerenshaw**

Will my right hon. Friend tell me whether there will be opportunities for reserve units, such as 4th Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment, to serve as units in operations and major exercises?

**Answered by: Michael Fallon | Department: Defence**

Reserve service offers exciting opportunities to serve overseas in formed units. For example, a platoon from 3 Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment will be supporting 1 Royal Anglian in Kabul from February onwards, and 4 Mercian, based in Wolverhampton, recently deployed two platoons to Cyprus. This is exactly what Future Force 2020 was intended to do—making the most of reservists' skills by integrating them with our regulars.

[...]

**Asked by: John Cryer**

Last year, the number of Britain's reservists rose by just 20. Given the millions thrown at the recruitment campaign, how is that a triumph?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

The tri-service numbers of reservists over the past six months were up 400. The fact is that after 15 years of continuous quarter-on-quarter decline, they are now going up again. As I mentioned earlier, in the last quarter announced, recruiting was running at double the rate that it was in the equivalent period last year. [\[Official Report, 14 January 2015, Vol. 590, c. 7-8MC.\]](#)

[...]

**Asked by: Barry Sheerman**

May I try to goad the Secretary of State so that he stops trying to bamboozle us all about the real deterrent we need, which is a properly armed, conventional group of 100,000 men and women to defend this country? Is it not about time that he took our mind off reservists and talked about how many men and women we have under arms in this country?

**Answered by: Michael Fallon | Department: Defence**

In stark contrast to the previous Government, our defence budget has been properly managed and has enabled us to keep this country safe. We are determined to support Future Force 2020. The hon. Gentleman's question might be better directed to the shadow Defence Secretary, who last week told The Times:

"Army 2020 isn't working and Labour will not take it forward",

Although last year he said that

"we support the rationale behind...Future Force 2020".

**Army Reserve**

**12 Jan 2015 | 590 cc582-583**

**Asked by: Diana Johnson**

What assessment he has made of recent trends in recruitment to the Army Reserve; and if he will make a statement. [906896]

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

The trained strength of the Army Reserve at 1 October 2014 was 19,310 and we expect it to exceed our end of year target of 19,900. Enlistments in the first two quarters of the year were 62% above the equivalent period in the previous year and we expect the latest quarter to show a further increase, owing to the removal of delays in the recruitment process, the restoration to units of the key role of mentoring recruits and the new marketing campaign.

**Asked by: Diana Johnson: Ministers raised the age limit for Army**

reservists from 43 to 52 after recruiting, as I understand it, only 20 new reservists—somewhat short of the 30,000 they were aiming for to cover the cutting of 20,000 personnel from the Regular Army. Recently in east Yorkshire, there has been filming for the new “Dad’s Army”, so I wondered whether Ministers thought it might be appropriate for the cast to keep their uniforms on.

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

In the latest six months, 2,130 recruits were enlisted into the Army Reserve. I ask the hon. Lady to think very carefully before making jokes about the Army Reserve. Whatever policy differences there are, 30 members of the reserve forces—24 of them from the Territorial Army—have died on operations in Afghanistan and Iraq.

**Asked by: Chloe Smith**

Could the Minister also give us a short update on his progress on the cyber-reserves?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

Recruiting for the cyber-reserves is on course in all three services, but I am afraid that I am not allowed to give any details of the planned structure, for obvious security reasons.

**Asked by: John Woodcock**

Reservists in the Royal Army Nursing Corps are putting themselves in significant danger as they are called up to serve in Sierra Leone to help combat Ebola. Why is the Ministry of Defence refusing to pay those brave people their operational allowance?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

I share the hon. Gentleman’s admiration of those people, and I was privileged to see them off just before Christmas. I note that the senior nursing officer in the rotation—effectively the commander in the red zone on the current operation—is herself a reservist.

To answer the hon. Gentleman’s question directly, those people are entitled to a number of other allowances, and we are looking at the

moment at the issue that he mentions. My right hon. Friend the Minister for the Armed Forces will write to him when it has been determined.

**Asked by: John Baron**

The latest MOD figures show that the trained strength of the Army Reserve has actually fallen over the past 18 months. Can the Minister inform the House of the extra cost that has been incurred, over and above the original estimates, to encourage recruitment? The MOD's continued silence on that suggests either embarrassment or ignorance.

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

On my hon. and gallant Friend's first question, by looking back 18 months he is looking back past the bottom of the trough. The past six to nine months have been much more encouraging, and the next quarter is expected to be even better.

My hon. and gallant Friend has asked his second question again and again, and we have explained that, although we acknowledge that there are some extra costs, there is no way that we can separate them from the whole picture. Some of them are one-off costs, and some of them are connected with regular recruiting as well—we have to remind people, post-Afghanistan and so on, that we are recruiting.

**Asked by: Kevan Jones**

The original plan to reform the reserve force stated that a force of 30,000 would be required by 2018. That was pushed back to April 2019, and last week in *The Times*, well informed sources in the MOD suggested that the date may well be pushed back even further. Can the Minister confirm exactly when the 30,000 strength will actually be met?

**Answered by: Julian Brazier | Department: Defence**

We are still firmly committed to April 2019 as the target date. As I have mentioned, recruiting has increased substantially. If we look at the latest quarter as opposed to the latest six months, we see that it has roughly doubled. Over the past six months it is up 62%, but over the second half of that period it has gone up even faster, and we expect a further continuation of that positive trend. We are firmly committed to April 2019.

### 3. PQs (written)

#### Army: Scotland

10 Nov 2015 | 14675

#### Asked by: Douglas Chapman

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, pursuant to the Answer of 20 October 2015 to Questions 11484, on Army: Scotland, for what reasons the figures cited for 6 SCOTS and 7 SCOTS do not reflect the general increase in reserve numbers forecast in the Future Reserves 2020 programme.

#### Answering member: Mr Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence

It is assumed that the question relates to the reduction in the establishment figures for 6 and 7 SCOTS. These changes reflect the move to a standard structure for all reserve infantry battalions with three companies rather than four as part of the Future Reserves 2020 programme.

In practice Army Reserve manning levels have been historically below establishment. Actual numbers are now increasing in 6 and 7 SCOTS, as they are across the Army Reserve.

The following table shows the manning levels of the reserve battalions of the Royal Regiment of Scotland, complete with establishment and strength as at April of each year between 2004 and 2014.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>52<sup>nd</sup> Lowland Regiment/6 SCOTS</b>	392	452	406	406	406	406	406	406	406	406	367
	273	278	280	182	216	190	196	186	155	160	188
<b>51<sup>st</sup> Highland Regiment/7 SCOTS</b>	557	656	627	471	472	471	472	472	472	472	367
	390	425	425	338	294	253	262	191	237	205	270

Unit details are single service estimates only and have not been produced by Defence Statistics.

#### Reserve Forces: Training

20 Oct 2015 | 12099

#### Asked by: Tim Farron

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what steps he is taking to ensure that there are sufficient appropriately trained reserve forces to

support regular service men and women to meet Force 2020 commitments.

**Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

We have made a number of improvements to ensure we reach our target strength of 35,000 trained volunteer reservists by 31 March 2019. Central to this is an improved offer, which includes better training, better equipment, improved remuneration and an improved experience for reservists.

We have also widened the opportunity for reservists to contribute on operations and established a new relationship with employers as well as improving the support available to employers when a reservist employee is mobilised.

These actions are in addition to improving capacity and flow in the recruiting process and our marketing campaigns.

As a result, more reservists are joining either as new entrants to the military or with prior experience either in the Regulars or in the Reserves. 8,370 joined in the 12 months to 1 September, a 70% rise on the equivalent period a year earlier and the trained strength has reached 25,720, ahead of target.

**Reserve Forces: Northern Ireland  
20 Oct 2015 | 11480**

**Asked by: Sammy Wilson**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, for what reason his Department has not proposed a reserve experience event for a location in Northern Ireland in 2015.

**Answering member: Mr Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

The Reserves Experience events are aimed specifically at "home" civil servants representing the direct employees of HM Government, rather than the general public. The events are staged in support of the Civil Service 1% Challenge which was launched in 2014 with the aim of recruiting 1% of civil servants to the Reserve Forces by the end of financial year 2018-19. To this end, a small number of Reserves Experience events have been designed to build awareness and understanding of the Reserves, and ultimately to drive recruitment opportunities, amongst civil servants at all levels.

Although a specific Reserves Experience event was not planned for Northern Ireland, Northern Ireland based "home" civil servants will already be aware of the Reserve opportunity through an extant programme of engagement, as well as more general recruiting activity conducted throughout Northern Ireland. Northern Ireland is already better recruited in terms of reservists per thousand population than the rest of the UK.



**Reserve Forces: Northern Ireland**  
**20 Oct 2015 | 11479**

**Asked by: Sammy Wilson**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many people resident in Northern Ireland have been recruited into the reserve forces in each of the last five years.

**Answering member: Mr Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

The information is not held in the format requested. However the table below shows, where available, the estimated number of people recruited into the Reserve Forces in Northern Ireland in the last three financial years.

SERVICE	FINANCIAL YEAR		
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Maritime Reserve	see note 20		20
Army Reserve	250	150	240
Royal Air Force Reserve	see note 20		60

Note – information not available.

The Future Reserves 20 Volunteer Reserve population includes mobilised Volunteer Reserves, High Readiness Reserves and those volunteer reserves serving on Full Time Reserve Service and Additional Duties Commitment.

The figures are based on Service personnel's stationed location and not their location of residence, where personnel work is not necessarily where they live.

**Reserve Forces: Northern Ireland**  
**20 Oct 2015 | 11478**

**Asked by: Sammy Wilson**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many people resident in Northern Ireland have been members of the reserve forces in each of the last five years.

**Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

The information is not held in the format requested. However the table below shows, where available, the estimated number of people who have been members of the Reserve Forces in Northern Ireland as of 1 April in each of the last four years.

SERVICE	YEAR			
	2012	2013	2014	2015
Maritime Reserve	see note	100	100	100
Army Reserve	1,740	1,680	1,650	1,760
Royal Air Force Reserve	see note -		20	80

Note – information not available.  
 - = zero or rounded to zero

The Future Reserves 20 Volunteer Reserve population includes mobilised Volunteer Reserves, High Readiness Reserves and those volunteer reserves serving on Full Time Reserve Service and Additional Duties Commitment.

The figures are based on Service personnel's stationed location and not their location of residence, where personnel work is not necessarily where they live.

**Army: Recruitment  
20 Oct 2015 | 11454**

**Asked by: Sir Nicholas Soames**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what the target is for (a) regular Army and (b) Army Reserve recruitment in each financial year between 2015-16 and 2019-20.

**Answering member: Penny Mordaunt | Ministry of Defence**

Army Reserve recruitment targets for Financial Year 2015-16 to 2018-19, broken down by trained entrants and new recruits are contained within The Future Reserves 2020 paper which was placed in the Library of the House on 19 December 2013, (reference number DEP2013-2063) and is still valid. I refer the right hon. Member to the written ministerial statement made by my right hon. Friend the former Secretary of State for Defence the right hon. Member for Runnymede and Weybridge (Mr Hammond) on 19 December 2013 (Official Report column 124WS). There are no targets currently set for year 2019-20.

Requirements for Regular intake to the trained strength are provisionally set for three years in advance but are subject to change. This requirement underpins the recruitment target. The Army Recruitment and Training Division recruitment target for 2015-16 is 10,025 (this figure does not include Gurkhas). Not all of those recruited will successfully complete training to intake into the trained strength. It is not possible to give recruiting targets beyond Financial Year 2015-16 as intake requirements beyond the forthcoming year are subject to constant review and amendment.

The following tables detail provisional requirements for trained intake to the Regular Army by Cap-badge. All targets remain under constant review. Intake requirements are produced on a rolling basis and have not yet been confirmed beyond financial year 2018-19.

Requirements for trained Soldier intake into the Regular trained strength

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	<b>2015-16 Requirement</b>	<b>2016-17 Requirement</b>	<b>2017-18 Requirement</b>	<b>2018-19 Requirement</b>
Royal Armoured Corps	485	525	550	550
Royal Artillery	635	654	600	570
Royal Engineers	666	699	674	720
Royal Signals	535	572	575	560
Infantry	2,194	2,350	2,350	2,350
Royal Logistic Corps	1,067	1,102	1,083	1,083
Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers	562	663	709	709
Adjutant General's Corps (Staff Personnel Support)	230	268	269	223
Adjutant General's Corps (Royal Military Police)	99	99	110	110
Army Air Corps	120	120	120	120
Intelligence Corps	110	125	143	144
Royal Army Medical Corps	223	233	207	196
Royal Army Dental Corps	17	15	11	11
Royal Army Veterinary Corps	30	30	30	30
Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps	66	66	66	66
Corps Army Music	63	92	92	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,102</b>	<b>7,613</b>	<b>7,589</b>	<b>7,534</b>

Requirements for direct entry Commissioned Officer intake into the Regular trained strength

<b>Cap badge</b>	<b>2015-16 Requirement</b>	<b>2016-17 Requirement</b>	<b>2017-18 Requirement</b>	<b>2018-19 Requirement</b>
Royal Armoured Corps	45	44	45	45
Royal Artillery	53	53	56	51
Royal Engineers	64	64	64	64
Royal Signals	39	39	43	43
Infantry	137	137	137	137
Army Air Corps	25	30	30	30
Royal Logistic Corps	64	69	69	64
Royal Army Medical Corps	18	19	17	17
Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers	40	40	45	45
Adjutant General's Corps (Royal Military Police)	13	16	16	14
Adjutant General's Corps (Staff Personnel Support)	20	24	24	24
Adjutant General's Corps (Educational Training Services)	18	20	20	20
Intelligence Corps	21	24	24	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>578</b>

Requirements for professionally qualified officer intake into the regular trained strength

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<b>Cap badge</b>	<b>2015-16 Requirement t</b>	<b>2016-17 Requirement t</b>	<b>2017-18 Requirement t</b>	<b>2018-19 Requirement t</b>
Royal Army Chaplain's Department	10	10	10	10
Royal Army Medical Corps Professionally Qualified Officer	43	38	38	38
Adjutant General's Corps(Army Legal Services)	7	7	7	7
Royal Army Dental Corps	6	6	6	6
Royal Army Veterinary Corps	4	4	4	5
Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps	22	22	22	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>88</b>

In addition intake requirements for Regular to Regular Re-joiners are:

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>2015-16 Requirement</b>	<b>2016-17 Requirement</b>	<b>2017-18 Requirement</b>	<b>2018-19 Requirement</b>
Regular to Regular Re-joiners	250	290	340	250

Outflow estimates are calculated twice a year. The outflow estimate for financial year 2015-16 is 8,920, 1,050 Officers and 7,870 Other Ranks (excluding Gurkhas). Outflow estimates are not endorsed beyond the current financial year, and are not broken down by skill or trade. Outflow is subject to a large number of internal and external factors and is reviewed regularly.

Intake and outflow figures are single service estimates and have not been produced by Defence Statistics.

**Army: Recruitment**  
**20 Oct 2015 | 11383**

**Asked by: Sir Nicholas Soames**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what the (a) target and (b) outturn was for (i) regular Army and (ii) Army Reserve recruitment in financial years 2010-11 to 2014-15.

**Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

Defence Statistics publish information on a regular basis showing intake figures for the Armed Forces, including the Army and Army Reserve. The most recent information is contained in 'UK Armed Forces Monthly Service Personnel Statistics September 2015' and associated tables which is available at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-monthly-service-personnel-statistics-index>

Recruiting targets for the Army Reserve for 2014-15 onwards were defined in the Future Reserve 2020 paper, which was placed in the Library of the House on 19 December 2013, (reference DEP2013-2063) and are still valid. I refer the right hon. Member to the written ministerial statement made by my right hon. Friend the former Secretary of State for Defence the right hon. Member for Runnymede and Weybridge (Mr Hammond) on 19 December 2013 (Official Report column 121WS). Figures for earlier years may be found in the most recent Quarterly Performance Report which can be found at the following link

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-armed-forces-quarterly-personnel-report-2015>

Official statistics for Regular recruitment targets which may be meaningfully compared to the official intake statistics are not produced.

A summary of regular Army intake for the period in question is as follows, Army Reserve intake is shown from 2012-13 onwards as due to a lack of validated figures prior to 2012 it is not possible to include figures before that period, recruitment targets were not set until October 2013 following the publication of the Reserves White paper:

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15			
Army Reserve	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
	-	3960	-	2960	4900	5210
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	
Regular Army	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	
	8760	11190	10300	7020	8160	

All totals have been rounded to the nearest 10. Those numbers ending in '5' have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 in order to avoid systematic bias.

## Army Reserve: Recruitment 20 Oct 2015 | 11382

### Asked by: Sir Nicholas Soames

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what the Army Reserve recruitment target for (a) new recruits and (b) trained entrants is in financial years between 2015-16 and 2019-20.

### Answering member: Penny Mordaunt | Ministry of Defence

Army Reserve recruitment targets for Financial Year 2015-16 to 2018-19, broken down by trained entrants and new recruits are contained within The Future Reserves 2020 paper which was placed in the Library of the House on 19 December 2013, (reference number DEP2013-2063) and is still valid. I refer the right hon. Member to the written ministerial statement made by my right hon. Friend the former Secretary of State for Defence the right hon. Member for Runnymede and Weybridge (Mr Hammond) on 19 December 2013 (Official Report column 124WS). There are no targets currently set for year 2019-20.

Requirements for Regular intake to the trained strength are provisionally set for three years in advance but are subject to change. This requirement underpins the recruitment target. The Army Recruitment and Training Division recruitment target for 2015-16 is 10,025 (this figure does not include Gurkhas). Not all of those recruited will successfully complete training to intake into the trained strength. It is not possible to give recruiting targets beyond Financial Year 2015-16 as intake requirements beyond the forthcoming year are subject to constant review and amendment.

The following tables detail provisional requirements for trained intake to the Regular Army by Cap-badge. All targets remain under constant review. Intake requirements are produced on a rolling basis and have not yet been confirmed beyond financial year 2018-19.

Requirements for trained Soldier intake into the Regular trained strength

Cap badge	2015-16 Requirement	2016-17 Requirement	2017-18 Requirement	2018-19 Requirement
Royal Armoured Corps	485	525	550	550
Royal Artillery	635	654	600	570
Royal Engineers	666	699	674	720
Royal Signals	535	572	575	560
Infantry	2,194	2,350	2,350	2,350
Royal Logistic Corps	1,067	1,102	1,083	1,083
Royal Electrical	562	663	709	709

Mechanical Engineers				
Adjutant General's Corps (Staff Personnel Support)	230	268	269	223
Adjutant General's Corps (Royal Military Police)	99	99	110	110
Army Air Corps	120	120	120	120
Intelligence Corps	110	125	143	144
Royal Army Medical Corps	223	233	207	196
Royal Army Dental Corps	17	15	11	11
Royal Army Veterinary Corps	30	30	30	30
Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps	66	66	66	66
Corps Army Music	63	92	92	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,102</b>	<b>7,613</b>	<b>7,589</b>	<b>7,534</b>

Requirements for direct entry Commissioned Officer intake into the Regular trained strength

	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>
<b>Cap badge</b>	<b>Requiremen</b>	<b>Requiremen</b>	<b>Requiremen</b>	<b>Requiremen</b>
	<b>t</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>t</b>
Royal Armoured Corps	45	44	45	45
Royal Artillery	53	53	56	51
Royal Engineers	64	64	64	64
Royal Signals	39	39	43	43
Infantry	137	137	137	137



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Army Air Corps	25	30	30	30
Royal Logistic Corps	64	69	69	64
Royal Army Medical Corps	18	19	17	17
Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers	40	40	45	45
Adjutant General's Corps (Royal Military Police)	13	16	16	14
Adjutant General's Corps (Staff Personnel Support)	20	24	24	24
Adjutant General's Corps (Educational Training Services)	18	20	20	20
Intelligence Corps	21	24	24	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>578</b>

Requirements for professionally qualified officer intake into the regular trained strength

<b>Cap badge</b>	<b>2015-16 Requirement</b>	<b>2016-17 Requirement</b>	<b>2017-18 Requirement</b>	<b>2018-19 Requirement</b>
Royal Army Chaplains Department	10	10	10	10
Royal Army Medical Corps Professionally Qualified Officer	43	38	38	38
Adjutant General's Corps(Army)	7	7	7	7

Legal Services)				
Royal Army Dental Corps 6	6	6	6	
Royal Army Veterinary Corps 4	4	4	4	5
Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps 22	22	22	22	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>88</b>

In addition intake requirements for Regular to Regular Re-joiners are:

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>2015-16 Requirement</b>	<b>2016-17 Requirement</b>	<b>2017-18 Requirement</b>	<b>2018-19 Requirement</b>
Regular to Regular Re-joiners	250	290	340	250

Outflow estimates are calculated twice a year. The outflow estimate for financial year 2015-16 is 8,920, 1,050 Officers and 7,870 Other Ranks (excluding Gurkhas). Outflow estimates are not endorsed beyond the current financial year, and are not broken down by skill or trade. Outflow is subject to a large number of internal and external factors and is reviewed regularly.

Intake and outflow figures are single service estimates and have not been produced by Defence Statistics.

## **Reserve Forces** **06 Jul 2015 | 4622**

### **Asked by: Brendan O'Hara**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many staff made redundant by his Department in each of the last five years were later taken up as reservists.

### **Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

The table shows the number of Armed Forces personnel who were made redundant in each of the last five financial years who have since joined the Volunteer Reserves. The Volunteer Reserve comprises the Maritime Reserve, Army Reserve and Royal Air Force Reserve.

Financial Year	Number of personnel redundant	Service Number made	Number of Personnel who joined the Reserve	Redundant Service Personnel who joined the Volunteer Reserve
2010-11	-	-	-	-
2011-12	1,700		60	

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2012-13	3,470	190
2013-14	4,280	400
2014-15	1,350	100

1) UK Regular Forces comprise Full Time trained and un-trained personnel and exclude Ghurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service and Reservists.

2) - = zero or rounded to zero.

3) Figures have been rounded to the nearest 10, though numbers ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

### **Armed Forces: Training** **16 Jun 2015 | 1345**

#### **Asked by: Madeleine Moon**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many joint training sessions involving reserve and regular forces took place in each month in (a) 2014 and (b) 2015; how many (i) reserve and (ii) regular service personnel attended each such session; and if he will make a statement.

#### **Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

This information could be provided only at disproportionate cost.

The Royal Naval Reserve trains with Royal Navy Regulars and other Front Line Command regular forces on both joint exercises and training courses. Major joint exercises involving regular and reserve Maritime Forces include Exercise TRIDENT JAGUAR and Operation COUGAR, while joint training courses are routine business.

The British Army is now a fully integrated force. Every Army Reserve unit is paired with a regular unit, providing opportunities for joint training at both the individual and collective level. Over the last year, Army Reserve units with embedded Regular personnel have conducted 23 overseas training exercises in nine countries, including USA, Denmark and Cyprus.

As part of the whole force approach, the Royal Air Force aims to exercise in a joint regular/reserve environment as often as possible. Appropriate personnel participate in exercises, irrespective of whether they are regular or reserve.

### **Reserve Forces: Recruitment** **16 Jun 2015 | 1344**

#### **Asked by: Madeleine Moon**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many people were recruited to each reserve force in each nation and region of the UK in each month of (a) 2014 and (b) 2015; and if he will make a statement.

#### **Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

The following table represents the stationed location of Armed Forces personnel when they join the Reserve forces, as recorded in the Ministry of Defence's Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) system. This does not

necessarily represent where personnel reside or where they have been recruited; it is possible for personnel to be recruited in one country and then be stationed elsewhere in the UK. A breakdown by region is not available.

**Intake into UK Reserve Forces (trained and untrained) by Service and Stationed Country, January 2014 to March 2015**

	<b>Total intake</b>	<b>England</b>	<b>Wales</b>	<b>Scotland</b>	<b>Northern Ireland</b>
<b>Maritime Reserve</b>					
January 2014	90	80	~	10	~
February 2014	80	60	-	20	-
March 2014	150	110	10	20	10
April 2014	70	60	~	10	~
May 2014	70	60	-	10	~
June 2014	60	60	~	~	~
July 2014	70	60	-	10	~
August 2014	40	30	~	~	~
September 2014	60	50	-	~	~
October 2014	120	100	~	10	~
November 2014	70	60	-	10	~
December 2014	30	20	-	10	-
January 2015	100	80	~	10	~
February 2015	70	50	~	10	~
March 2015	100	70	-	20	~
<b>Army Reserve</b>					
January 2014	430	340	30	40	20
February 2014	300	240	20	30	10
March 2014	330	260	20	30	10
April 2014	300	240	20	30	20
May 2014	280	220	20	30	10
June 2014	360	260	40	50	20
July 2014	390	290	40	40	30
August 2014	330	250	20	40	10
September 2014	440	340	30	50	20
October 2014	520	410	40	50	10
November 2014	590	460	40	60	20
December 2014	390	300	40	30	30
January 2015	620	450	50	80	40
February 2015	500	390	40	50	20
March 2015	490	370	40	60	20
<b>RAF Reserves</b>					
January 2014	30	20	-	10	~
February 2014	100	80	~	10	~

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March 2014	50	40	-	~	10
April 2014	30	20	~	~	~
May 2014	20	20	-	-	-
June 2014	80	60	~	20	~
July 2014	50	30	-	~	10
August 2014	70	40	-	20	-
September 2014	40	30	~	10	~
October 2014	50	30	~	~	10
November 2014	80	50	10	10	~
December 2014	20	20	~	~	~
January 2015	150	100	10	20	20
February 2015	80	50	20	10	~
March 2015	70	60	10	~	~

Note: Figures have been rounded to the nearest 10, and numbers ending in 5 have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias. Totals and sub-totals are rounded separately and may not equal the sum of their rounded parts. '-' denotes zero and '~' denotes 5 or fewer.

Intake figures are derived from Future Reserve 2020 (FR20) programme monitoring statistics which are based on month-on-month comparisons of strength. These figures comprise any intake into the FR20 trained and untrained populations, including personnel transferring from the Regular Armed Forces and any other Reserve population not included in FR20.

### **Military Decorations** **26 Mar 2015 | 228040**

#### **Asked by: Marcus Jones**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what plans he has to introduce a post-nominal decoration for long service in the Reserve Forces.

#### **Answering member: Michael Fallon | Ministry of Defence**

I am pleased to announce that Reservists who complete 10 years service will be rewarded for their commitment with the introduction of a new post-nominal "Volunteer Reserve", to be indicated by the letters (VR). The post nominal will be for all members of the Reserves, regardless of rank or service, and will be backdated to 1999.

In addition, subject to agreement from Her Majesty The Queen, the Ministry of Defence plans to introduce a new Long Service Medal for Regular personnel of all ranks which would be awarded after 15 years service.

**Reserve Forces****24 Mar 2015 | 228226****Asked by: Kevan Jones**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many companies received financial payments when reserve employees were called up for duty in each year since 2013; and what the total amount was of such payments.

**Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

Since the start of Financial Year 2013-14, the following amounts have been paid to companies by the three Services when their Reservist employees were called up for duty.

	FY 2013-14		FY 2014-15	
	Amount	Companies	Amount	Companies
<b>Maritime Reserve</b>	£19,284.00	9	£1,394.25	8
<b>Army Reserve</b>	£296,599.60	48	£509,124.32	29
<b>Royal Aux Air Force</b>	£35,517.75	7	£70,780.70	19

**Health Services: Reserve Forces****24 Mar 2015 | 228225****Asked by: Kevan Jones**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many NHS staff have joined the reserves in each service in each year since 2010.

**Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

The information is not held centrally and could be provided only at disproportionate cost.

**Reserve Forces****23 Mar 2015 | 228141****Asked by: Alison Seabeck**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many reserves have been called up for service since the Strategic Defence and Security Review 2010; where those reserves have served; and in what capacity those reserves served.

**Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

Since 2010 more than 10,000 Reservists have been mobilised in a variety of roles on operations worldwide including Iraq, Afghanistan and the London 2012 Olympics.

As at 28 February 2015, around 400 Reservists are mobilised. More than 60 Reservists have been mobilised so far to assist in efforts to resolve the Ebola crisis in Sierra Leone. The majority of these are Army Reservists

filling medical roles in the Kerry Town Treatment Unit and who I saw depart the UK last December, from Brize Norton.

**Reserve Forces**

**20 Mar 2015 | 227987**

**Asked by: Dan Byles**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, whether any recent study has been made of the value for money and operation of the Reserve Forces and Cadets' Associations.

**Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

An internal review of the Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Associations was undertaken between August and December 2014. The review was initiated in order to consider what Defence requires of the Associations and to propose any change to outputs, processes, structure or staffing that would better meet Defence needs. The recommendations resulting from the review are currently being considered as part of wider business as usual in the Ministry of Defence.

**Reserve Forces**

**10 Mar 2015 | 226380**

**Asked by: Sir Menzies Campbell**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how much his Department has made in payments to employers of reservists for each employee or partner mobilised since changes in the Defence Reform Act 2014 took effect.

**Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

The Defence Reform Act 2014 introduced Employer Incentive Payments of up to £500 per calendar month for small and medium sized employers for each employee who is mobilised for Reserve Service. These payments can be claimed in addition to Employer's Awards, which were already authorised by SI 2005 No 859.

Between 1 October 2014 and 28 February 2015, the following payments were made to employers of Reservists by the three Services.

Type of claim	Maritime Reserves	Army Reserves	RAuxAF
Employer's Award	£27,798.08	£84,815.84	£11,096.07
Employer's Incentive Payment	£894.25	£20,115.01	£26,508.75

**Reserve Forces: Training**  
**10 Mar 2015 | 226378**

**Asked by: Sir Menzies Campbell**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what overseas training is planned for reserve forces in 2015; and where that training will take place.

**Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

The following training involving the Reserve Forces is planned in training year 2015-16:

**Maritime Reserves:**

EX ARTIMIS TRIDENT - Persian Gulf  
EX KHUNJAR HADD - Persian Gulf  
EX BELL BOUY - Singapore  
EX GRIFFIN RISE - North Atlantic  
EX BALTOPS - Baltic  
EX LUCKY MARINER - Persian Gulf  
EX DYNAMIC MOVE - Belgium  
EX TRIDENT JUNCTURE - Mediterranean/Norway  
EX BERSAMA LIMA - Malaysia  
MNEX - Spain  
EX HAIRSPRING - Norway  
EX HELIOS ENCOUNTER - Cyprus  
EX BLACK ALLIGATOR - USA  
US/UK Exchange (Royal Marines Reserve) - USA  
COMMAND POST EXERCISE - Gibraltar  
EX TRIDENT JUNCTURE - Naples  
YOUNG RESERVES OFFICERS WORKSHOP - USA  
INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR OFFICER  
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR - USA

**Army Reserves**

EX MORLANCOURT - Australia  
EX BARBARY STAR - Gibraltar  
EX IBERIAN STAR 1 - Spain  
EX IBERIAN STAR 2 - Spain  
EX LEOPARD STAR 1A - Germany  
EX LEOPARD STAR 1B - Germany  
EX LEOPARD STAR 2 -Germany  
EX LION STAR 1 - Cyprus  
EX LION STAR 2 - Cyprus  
EX LION STAR 3 - Cyprus  
EX LION STAR 4 - Cyprus  
EX LION STAR 5 - Cyprus  
EX LION STAR 6 - Cyprus  
EX LION STAR 7 - Cyprus  
EX LION STAR 8 -Cyprus  
EX LION STAR 9 - Cyprus  
EX ORANGE STAR OTX - Netherlands  
EX ROMAN STAR - Italy  
EX SAVA STAR - Croatia  
EX TRIGLAV STAR - Slovenia  
EX VIKING STAR 1A - Denmark



EX VIKING STAR 1B - Denmark  
EX VIKING STAR 2 - Denmark  
EX GOLDEN COYOTE/  
MULBERRY TREE - USA

**Royal Auxiliary Air Force**

EX WINTERMARCH - Norway  
UK/US Exchange - USA  
International Junior Officer Leadership Course - Germany  
International Non-Commissioned Leadership  
and Development Course - Canada  
Young Reserve Officers Workshop - USA  
Medical Cover for Ex FREEFALL ENDEAVOUR - USA  
The Interallied Confederation of Reserve  
Officers (CIOR) - Belgium  
CIOR MILCOMP - USA  
EX COMBINED JOINT ATLANTIC SERPENT - USA  
EX SCOUT SUNSET - Ascension Islands  
EX BEWARE - Cyprus  
Intelligence Royal Auxiliary Air Force Sqn Annual  
Continuous exercise - Cyprus  
Royal Auxiliary Air Force Sqn Force Development - France  
EX MAGIC CARPET - Oman  
EX VALENCIAN IMP - Spain  
Royal Auxiliary Air Force Sqn Force Development training - Holland  
Tactical Leadership Programme - Spain

**Reserve Forces**

**26 Feb 2015 | 223904**

**Asked by: Stephen Doughty**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how much has been spent on (a) television, (b) newspaper, (c) online, (d) radio and (e) other forms of advertising using the phrase Armed Forces Reserves in the last 24 months.

**Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

Recruiting to the Armed Forces, including the Reserves, is carried out by the single Services and is supported by single Service advertising. The expenditure figures for advertising by means of the various media stated are commercially sensitive. Details of the overall single Services' spend on Reserves advertising in Financial Year (FY) 2013-14 and their budgets for 2014-15 are publishable and were provided in response to Question 215731 on 1 December 2014, reproduced below.

During financial year (FY) 2013-14, the total cost of the Maritime Reserves' recruitment advertising was £2.16 million. The Maritime Reserves' budget for Reserves recruitment advertising in FY 2014-15 is £2.96 million.

The Army's 'More Than Meets the Eye' recruiting campaign is designed to attract applications to both the Regular and Reserve components of the Army. The cost of the Reserve element of the campaign is, therefore, an estimate based on a 50% share of the overall campaign cost.

During FY 2013-14, the Army estimates that the cost of advertising for Army Reserve recruitment was £1.882 million. The projected share of the budget to be spent on Army Reserve recruitment advertising in FY 2014-15 is £3.8 million.

During FY 2013-14, the total cost of the RAF's Reserve recruitment advertising was £2.52 million. In 2014-15, the RAF's budget for Reserves specific recruitment advertising is £2.14 million.

**Reserve Forces: Officers**  
**29 Jan 2015 | 222016**

**Asked by: Vernon Coaker**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, whether his Department plans to conduct command reviews for the reserve branches of the Army, Royal Air Force and Royal Navy, similar to that being carried out for the Regular Army under the Army 2020 process.

**Answering member: Mark Francois | Ministry of Defence**

The Army Command Review was initiated by the Chief of the General Staff with the knowledge of Ministers. There is no intention to change the principles of Army 2020, or to reduce the overall size of the Army.

The purpose of the review was to improve higher command culture and structures and create a clearer distinction between the development of strategy and the delivery of operational capability. To this end, the Army Headquarters in Andover will be streamlined, with posts transferred into one of two new subordinate commands: Field Army and a support command. There will be an amended board and staff structure in the Army Headquarters. A number of cultural improvements will also be made to make the Army more agile, responsive and efficient, and attractive to the widest range of talent.

There are no manpower or financial targets for this initiative, but the Army will look for opportunities during implementation of the review to reduce senior and middle management posts where that will contribute to greater simplicity and transparency and better align responsibility, authority and accountability. The aim is to re-invest any savings in the front line.

The review was conducted over four months by a team of four led by a brigadier. Although the team drew on information from a number of sources, as an internal review there was no formal consultation with other bodies. A slightly expanded team, led by a two-star civil servant, will conduct the more detailed implementation. No additional costs were incurred by conducting the review.

The Royal Navy and Royal Air Force have undertaken Command Reviews both to ensure consistency with the principles of Lord Levene's Defence Reform Report and to reflect the nature of command responsibilities for each Service and the contribution they make, like the Army, to Joint and Central Defence leadership.

Reserves were considered as an integral part of each review, reflecting the integrated nature of regulars and reserves in the 'Whole Force' concept.

The Army will report its detailed plans for implementation to the Secretary of State for Defence in May 2015.

**Reserve Forces: Injuries**  
**29 Jan 2015 | 221824**

**Asked by: Kate Green**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what retraining his Department provides to reservists who are discharged as a result of injury sustained during training or mobilisation and are unable to resume their civilian occupation as a result.

**Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

Reservists who are medically discharged as a result of injuries sustained during mobilisation, including pre-deployment training, are entitled to the same transition support as a Regular Service person. This includes the optimum range of resettlement provision, regardless of how long they served and their reasons for becoming medically discharged. The Recovery Careers Services (RCS) is a charity led organisation specifically designed to provide an assisted resettlement route into employment for those medically discharged. The RCS works within the Career Transition Partnership family, which is the Ministry Of Defence's portal for connecting industry with personnel who leave the Armed Forces. RCS deliver an individualised, needs-based service to those Service personnel who require extra assistance, and provides additional support to those with the greatest barriers to employment due to the nature of their medical condition. All Reservists can also make use of Standard Learning Credits to fund small scale training.

For those most seriously injured who may be unable to work again after service, there is provision within the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme for lifetime financial support and security. This applies to those injured whilst mobilised or on training.

**Reserve Forces: Northern Ireland**  
**14 Jan 2015 | 220198**

**Asked by: William McCrea**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what steps his Department is taking to promote the Reserves in Northern Ireland.

**Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

We make regular use of national and local media to increase public awareness of the contribution our Reserves make to Defence through both general marketing and highlighting Reserves activity. Recently, for example, we have publicised the support given by Reservists in the operation to counter the Ebola outbreak in West Africa. This helps to increase recognition of the contribution that Reservists make and to demonstrate to potential recruits the range of challenges and opportunities within the Reserves.

Local units also play an important role in promoting Reserve service. For example, in Antrim, 253 Northern Ireland Medical Regiment held events in Antrim Town Centre and at Junction One shopping centre on 8 and 10 January 2015 respectively.

Units are holding similar events and open days at Reserve bases throughout Northern Ireland leading up to the Armed Forces Jobs and Trades Fair which is scheduled to take place at the Kings Hall, Belfast in April.

**Reserve Forces**

**14 Jan 2015 | 220143**

**Asked by: Anne McIntosh**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what steps he is taking to promote service in the Reserves.

**Answering member: Julian Brazier | Ministry of Defence**

We make regular use of national and local media to increase public awareness of the contribution our Reserves make to Defence through both general marketing and highlighting Reserves activity. Recently, for example, we have publicised the support given by Reservists in the operation to counter the Ebola outbreak in West Africa. This helps to increase recognition of the contribution that Reservists make and to demonstrate to potential recruits the range of challenges and opportunities within the Reserves.

The Army Reserve's updated 'More Than Meets the Eye' campaign starts on 16 January 2015 with a PR launch at Waterloo Station, whilst the Royal Air Force has also developed a Reserves-specific advert.

Local units also play an important role in promoting Reserve service. For example, in your constituency, Work Place Recruiting Events were run by local Army and RAF personnel at the Department of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs in Malton in October and November 2014.

## 4. Other parliamentary material

### 4.1 Statements

**Call-Out of Reserve Forces in Support of Operations in Afghanistan  
05 Nov 2015 | HCWS295  
Penny Mordaunt | Ministry of Defence**

With the expiry of the call-out order made on 10 November 2014<sup>[1]</sup>, a new order has been made under section 56(1B) of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 to enable Reservists to be called into permanent service in support of United Kingdom operations in Afghanistan.

Under the call-out order made on 10 November 2014, 64 Reservists have been called out for operations. We anticipate a continued requirement for Reservists, with the right skills and experience, over the period the new order will be in force. This is fully in line with our policy of having more capable, usable, integrated and relevant Reserve Forces.

The order takes effect from 9 November 2015 and ceases to have effect on 8 November 2016.

[1] Call-out order authorising the call out of Reserve Forces for operations in Afghanistan, signed 10 November 2014.

**Call-Out Orders for Members of the Reserve Forces to Support  
Defence Objectives  
12 Oct 2015 | HCWS217  
Penny Mordaunt | Ministry of Defence**

Changes made by the Defence Reform Act 2014 allow for Reservists to be called out under section 56(1B) of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 if it appears to the Secretary of State that it is necessary or desirable to use members of a reserve force for any purpose for which members of the regular services may be used. Reservists called out under this power may be required to serve for a period of up to twelve months.

With the expiry of the orders made on 1 October 2014, on 21 September 2015 I made four new call-out orders under section 56(1B) of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 to continue to allow Reservists to be called into permanent service to support Defence Engagement activities (for example the provision of short term training teams and military capacity building overseas); Global Counter-Terrorism and Counter-Piracy; the operation of our Permanent Joint Operating Bases (PJOBs) in the South Atlantic Islands, British Indian Ocean Territory, Cyprus and Gibraltar; and Maritime Security objectives.

Under the orders made on 1 October 2014, 280 Reservists have been called out (193 for Defence Engagement, 66 for Global Counter-Terrorism and Counter-Piracy, 10 for Maritime Security Operations and 11 for the operation of PJOBs). We anticipate a continued requirement

for Reservists, with the right skills and experience, over the period the new orders will be in force.

For operations that fall outside the scope of these orders, for example Military Aid to the Civil Authorities, or warfighting, or for operations which are likely to involve a large number of Reservists, I would expect to make separate call-out orders.

These orders take effect from 30 September 2015 and cease to have effect on 29 September 2016.

**Call-Out Order for Members of the Reserve Forces in Support of UK Operations to Counter the Threat of ISIL**

**12 Oct 2015 | HCWS216**

**Penny Mordaunt | Ministry of Defence**

With the expiry of the call-out order made on 1 October 2014, on 21 September 2015 a new order was made under section 56(1B) of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 to enable Reservists to be called into permanent service in support of United Kingdom operations to counter the threat of Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).

Under the call-out order made on 1 October 2014, 85 Reservists have been called out for operations. We anticipate a continued requirement for Reservists, with the right skills and experience, over the period the new order will be in force. This is fully in line with our policy of having more capable, usable, integrated and relevant Reserve Forces.

The order takes effect from 30 September 2015 and ceases to have effect on 29 September 2016.

**Future Reserves 2020 External Scrutiny Team Report 2015**

**21 Jul 2015 | HCWS167**

**Michael Fallon | Ministry of Defence**

I have today placed in the Library of the House a copy of a report into the condition of the Reserves and delivery of the FR20 programme compiled by the Future Reserves 2020 External Scrutiny Team. This is the first report to be published under the statutory obligation imposed by the Defence Reform Act 2014 and follows the voluntary publication of reports that were commissioned by the Ministry of Defence in 2013 and 2014.

I am most grateful for the work of the Team. I will take some short time to consider the report's findings and recommendations and will provide a full response in due course.

## 4.2 Debates

[Armed Forces: Reserves](#)

22 Oct 2015 | 765 cc56-71GC

[The Role and Capabilities of the UK Armed Forces, in the Light of Global and Domestic Threats to Stability and Security](#)

15 Sep 2015 | 764 cc205-258GC

[Reserve Recruitment](#)

17 Nov 2014 | 588 cc23-32

[Future Army 2020](#)

06 Mar 2014 | 576 cc1088-1093

[Defence Reforms](#)

17 Oct 2013 | 568 cc923-962

[Reserve Forces](#)

3 Jul 2013 | 565 cc922-946

[Reserve Service Personnel](#)

27 Jun 2013 | 565 cc579-584

[Reservists](#)

23 Apr 2013 | 561 cc265-288WH

## 5. Further reading

UK Reserve Forces External Scrutiny Team Annual Report 2015, 22 June 2015

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/447168/20150622-FR20\\_EST-Report-2015-Final.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/447168/20150622-FR20_EST-Report-2015-Final.pdf)

Future Army 2020: Government Response to the Committee's Ninth Report of Session 2013–14, Seventh Special Report of Session 2014–15, Defence Committee, HC 387, 10 September 2014

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmselect/cmdfence/387/387.pdf>

Future Army 2020, Ninth Report of Session 2013–14, Defence Committee, HC 576, 6 March 2014

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmselect/cmdfence/576/576.pdf>

Future reserves 2020, Deposited Paper (DEP2013-2063), Ministry of Defence, 19 December 2013

[http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/files/DEP2013-2063/20131219-WMS-Reserves-final\\_3.doc](http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/files/DEP2013-2063/20131219-WMS-Reserves-final_3.doc)

Reserves in the Future Force 2020: valuable and valued, Cm 8655, 3 July 2013

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/210470/Cm8655-web\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/210470/Cm8655-web_FINAL.pdf)

Reserves in the Future Force 2020: valuable and valued: Key facts, 3 July 2013

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/211270/FR20\\_WP\\_measures\\_key\\_facts\\_v2\\_1.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/211270/FR20_WP_measures_key_facts_v2_1.pdf)

Future Reserves 2020 (FR20): delivering the nation's security together, a consultation paper, Cm 8475, November 2012

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/35891/20121123\\_consultation\\_fr20.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/35891/20121123_consultation_fr20.pdf)

Future Reserves 2020: the Independent Commission to review the United Kingdom's reserve forces, July 2011

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/28394/futurereserves\\_2020.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/28394/futurereserves_2020.pdf)

All-Party Parliamentary Group for the Armed Forces

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmallparty/150929/armed-forces.htm>

In the run up to this debate, Parliament's Digital Outreach have asked members of the armed services and army reservists to share their thoughts on the future of the reserve forces on the Army Rumour Service.

<http://www.arrse.co.uk/community/threads/future-of-the-reserve-forces.246674/>



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