



## DEBATE PACK

CDP 0019 (2021) | 8 February 2021

# Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy

House of Commons chamber  
Tuesday 9 February 2021  
Backbench Business Cttee debate

Compiled by:  
Nigel Walker

Subject specialists:  
Louisa Brooke-Holland  
Claire Mills

### Contents

1.	<b>Background</b>	<b>2</b>
2.	<b>Press articles</b>	<b>4</b>
3.	<b>Press releases</b>	<b>5</b>
4.	<b>PQs</b>	<b>8</b>
5.	<b>Other Parliamentary material</b>	<b>18</b>
5.1	Debates	18
5.2	Statements	18
5.3	Early Day Motions	24

The proceedings of this debate can be viewed on [Parliamentlive.uk](https://www.parliamentlive.uk)

The House of Commons Library prepares a briefing in hard copy and/or online for most 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.

# 1. Background

In early 2020 the Government formally began work on what it described would be the [largest review of the UK's foreign, defence, security and development policy](#) since the end of the Cold War. Much has changed since the last major review of the UK's national security and defence strategy in 2015.

From the outset, the Government indicated the integrated review would be published alongside a [Comprehensive Spending Review](#) (CSR), expected in autumn 2020. However, in late October the Chancellor announced plans to hold a one-year, rather than multi-year, Spending Review on 25 November. This led the Government to "[consider the implications for the completion of the review](#)".

On 19 November 2020 the Prime Minister gave a [statement to the House](#) announcing the review will conclude early next year (2021).

MPs have repeatedly asked the Government for a publication date for the review.

On 12 January 2021, the Defence Secretary, Ben Wallace, told Stewart Malcolm McDonald that the "[current target date for the IR \[Integrated Review\] is the first two weeks of February](#)". The following day, the Prime Minister told the Liaison Committee that "[it will not be as soon as that](#)". The latter comment prompted Tobias Ellwood, the chair of the Defence Committee, to [write to the Prime Minister](#) asking for a publication date. In evidence to the Public Accounts Committee on 4 February Sir Stephen Lovegrove, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence, said the Government is still aiming for spring, adding "[I would hope it would be sooner rather than later](#)".

Much, though by no means all, of the interest and focus on the review concerns the defence aspects. This is not wholly surprising, given that the integrated review has evolved from a [long history of defence reviews](#) which have made significant changes to the armed forces.

In his statement on 19 November, the Prime Minister outlined the Government's intention to increase defence spending by £24.1 billion over the next four years. This, he said, is "[£16.5 billion more than our manifesto commitment](#)".

The Ministry of Defence published its [Defence Equipment Plan 2020 – 2030](#) on 12 January 2021. However, this does not reflect the additional spending announced by the Prime Minister, nor does it reflect any of the conclusions in the as yet unpublished Integrated Review. The MOD had previously indicated it was deferring a full equipment plan report until after the integrated review had concluded. Nonetheless, the National Audit Office reported that "[for the fourth successive year, the Equipment Plan remains unaffordable](#)". Sir Stephen Lovegrove told the PAC that the integrated review "[will contain substantially different programme and capability choices](#)" to the ones laid out in the 2020-

2030 equipment plan. He also suggested the equipment plan “will look significantly different” when the committee discusses the next equipment plan with his successor.

Library briefing paper [The Integrated Review: A look ahead to the Government’s review](#) explains the evolution of defence reviews and the main conclusions of the 2015 Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR), before examining a number of key developments since then which are expected to influence the outcome of the review.

## 2. Press articles

The following is a selection of press and media articles relevant to this debate.

Please note: the Library is not responsible for either the views or accuracy of external content.

**[We were promised the integrated defence review by now. Where is it?](#)**

Prospect  
Baroness Anelay  
5 February 2021

**[Five Tests for the Integrated Review](#)**

Will Jessett, Tom McKane and Peter Watkins  
RUSI  
8 December 2020

**[China and the 'Integrated Review'](#)**

Chatham House  
Peter Watkins  
23 November 2020

**[A Reckoning Postponed? The Defence Arithmetic of the Integrated Review](#)**

Malcolm Chalmers  
RUSI  
29 October 2020

**[The Integrated Review must clarify the UK's approach to security and our position on the world stage](#)**

The House Magazine  
Tobias Ellwood MP  
17 August 2020

**[The UK Integrated Security and Defense Review: Opportunity amid Chaos?](#)**

Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)  
Rachel Ellehuus  
11 August 2020

## 3. Press releases

### [Update on the Integrated Review call for evidence](#)

Cabinet Office

16 December 2020

#### 1. Introduction

The Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy (the Integrated Review) will set out our overarching strategic framework for national security and foreign policy, including defence, diplomacy, development and national resilience.

On 13 August 2020 a call for evidence was published on GOV.UK and closed for submissions on 11 September. The public were asked to contribute answers to a range of topical security, defence, development and foreign policy questions. These contributions have been used to inform subsequent policy development. As the Prime Minister said in his statement to the House of Commons on 19 November, the full conclusions of the Integrated Review will be published in the new year.

#### 2. Key statistics and topics

Out of a total 452 submissions, 441 met the criteria in the guidance published with the call for evidence.

Three commonly referenced topics emerged: Defence (171), Development (112) and Resilience (106). A wide range of individuals and organisations submitted responses, including from industry; non-governmental organisations; international organisations, academia; think tanks; local government; local resilience forums; the media; religious organisations; and fire and police organisations. 140 submissions were received from individuals and 301 submissions from organisations.

All submissions have been reviewed and catalogued. Submissions that contextualised and synthesised the key points of the evidence they referenced were summarised, shared and discussed with policy teams and helped to inform decision-makers. We intend to publish contributions to the Call for Evidence after the Integrated Review.

#### 3. Ongoing engagement

The call for evidence is part of a wider effort to ensure the Integrated Review is informed by a strong and diverse evidence base. The Cabinet Office and other Departments delivering the Review have consulted and engaged with a wide range of global partners and allies, businesses, and experts on the themes and analysis underpinning the Integrated Review. This includes the government's Open Innovation Team and Wilton Park, who facilitated 11 roundtable discussions and workshops, with inputs from over 100 external experts from 23 countries, as well as a range of discussions with global academics and experts led by our overseas network, and further external engagement by departments on key questions as they emerged during the IR process.

We are committed to the ongoing use of evidence gathered during the review. Evidence must underpin the continued development of the UK's international and national security strategy. For further information please contact [IRcallforevidence@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:IRcallforevidence@cabinetoffice.gov.uk).

**[PM outlines new review to define Britain's place in the world](#)**  
**Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing St**  
**26 February 2020**

The United Kingdom will overhaul its approach to foreign policy through a new government-wide review set out by the Prime Minister today.

The Prime Minister has committed to hold the largest review of the UK's foreign, defence, security and development policy since the end of the Cold War. The Integrated Review will cover all aspects of the UK's place in the world, from the role of our diplomatic service and approach to development to the capabilities of our Armed Forces and security agencies.

The review will be policy-led and will go beyond the parameters of a traditional review by considering the totality of global opportunities and challenges the UK faces and determining how the whole of government can be structured, equipped and mobilised to meet them.

It will look at areas such as the procurement process used by the Armed Forces and other security services, ways to tackle Serious and Organised Crime more cohesively by building on the work of the Mackey Review and how we can better use technology and data to adjust to the changing nature of threats we face – from countering hostile state activity to strengthening our Armed Forces. All this will be undertaken with the aim of creating a more coherent and strategic approach to our overseas activity.

The Government will utilise expertise from both inside and outside government for the review, ensuring the UK's best foreign policy minds are feeding into its conclusions and offering constructive challenge to traditional Whitehall assumptions and thinking.

The UK's departure from the EU presents new opportunities to define and strengthen Britain's place in the world at a time when the global landscape is changing dramatically. Worldwide demand for imports is growing as the UK establishes an independent trade policy for the first time in decades. Rapid technological changes are redefining the way we interact with other nations and tackle issues like climate change. And countries all over the world are challenging traditional international structures and alliances.

The Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, said:

I am determined to lead a Government that delivers for our people - both at home and abroad. The UK's institutions, expertise, leadership and values are renowned around the world.

But we cannot rest on our laurels. We must do more to adapt. We will be judged by how we respond to the opportunities ahead.

As the world changes we must move with it – harnessing new technologies and ways of thinking to ensure British foreign policy is rooted firmly in our national interests, now and in the decades ahead.

The remit of the review, set out for the first time today, is to:

- define the Government's ambition for the UK's role in the world and the long-term strategic aims for our national security and foreign policy
- set out the way in which the UK will be a problem-solving and burden-sharing nation, examining how we work more effectively with our allies
- determine the capabilities we need for the next decade and beyond to pursue our objectives and address the risks and threats we face
- identify the necessary reforms to Government systems and structures to achieve these goals

The Integrated Review will report to the Prime Minister, who will be supported by a cross-Whitehall team in the Cabinet Office and a small team in Downing Street comprised of experts from inside and outside the civil service. Departments across Whitehall will input, including the Foreign Office, Ministry of Defence, Department for International Development, the Home Office, the Treasury, and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. Decisions on the review will ultimately be made by the National Security Council, chaired by the Prime Minister.

The Integrated Review will run in parallel to the Comprehensive Spending Review, ensuring departments are equipped with the resources they need to enact the review's conclusions.

The main bulk of the review is expected to conclude in line with Comprehensive Spending Review later this year, although implementation of its recommendations will be a multi-year project.

## 4. PQs

### [Integrated Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy Review](#)

04 Feb 2021 | 146990

**Asked by: Preet Kaur Gill**

To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office, what plans he has to publish the findings of his Department's August 2020 Integrated Review call for evidence.

**Answering member: Penny Mordaunt | Cabinet Office**

The Government launched a call for evidence to support the Integrated Review on 13 August 2020, which ran for four weeks. Over 450 submissions were received in response.

The Government intends to publish submissions to the Integrated Review call for evidence on the government website GOV.UK. Publication is expected in spring this year alongside publication of the Integrated Review.

### [Military Aircraft](#)

02 Feb 2021 | 143736

**Asked by: Jack Lopresti**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what assessment he has made of the Combat Air capacity required by the UK beyond that provided by F-35B aircraft attributed to Carrier Strike; and how the UK F-35 Programme of Record will contribute to that capacity.

**Answering member: Jeremy Quin | Ministry of Defence**

The operational capacity and capability offered by the Combat Air Force, constituting Typhoon and F-35b Lightning, have ambitious capability development plans to ensure that the UK can sustain operational advantage into the future. Our requirements are reviewed regularly - including as part of the ongoing Integrated Review - to ensure provision of a balanced portfolio which addresses current and future threats in line with our National Security Objectives.

### [Armoured Fighting Vehicles: Procurement](#)

02 Feb 2021 | 142900

**Asked by: Jack Lopresti**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what assessment his Department has made of the potential future requirement for an armoured infantry fighting vehicle capability that can operate (a) in high threat combat environments and (b) with main battle tanks.

**Answering member: Jeremy Quin | Ministry of Defence**

Regular analysis conducted by the Army has confirmed the requirement for armoured vehicles that can work together in high threat combat



environments. This analysis has formed part of the evidence base for the Integrated Review.

### **Chinook Helicopters: Procurement**

**02 Feb 2021 | 142808**

#### **Asked by: Kevan Jones**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what recent assessment his Department has made of the potential merits of purchasing Chinook helicopters from the US.

#### **Answering member: Jeremy Quin | Ministry of Defence**

The Ministry of Defence always aims to get the best equipment for our Armed Forces at best value for the taxpayer. Decisions on specific requirements, including helicopters, are only made following approval of a full business case to ensure value for money and that the proposed solution meets our capability requirements.

The Chinook Capability Sustainment Programme remains in the assessment phase and the investment decision is under consideration as part of the ongoing Integrated Review.

### **Integrated Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy Review**

**01 Feb 2021 | 911618**

#### **Asked by: Emma Hardy**

When he plans to publish the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy; and if he will make a statement.

#### **Answering member: Ben Wallace | Ministry of Defence**

My right hon. Friend, the Prime Minister, expects to be able to publish the Review's conclusions in the spring.

In relation to the Defence elements of the Review in particular, I can tell the House that I intend to set out further details of our plans in the weeks after the Integrated Review's publication.

### **Military Alliances**

**29 Jan 2021 | 140934**

#### **Asked by: Anthony Mangnall**

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of the UK Government seeking participation within the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue.

#### **Answering member: James Cleverly | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office**

As part of preparation to deliver a meaningful tilt towards the Indo-Pacific through the Integrated Review, the Government has been looking at options for closer dialogue and practical cooperation with the

countries part of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Australia, India, Japan and the US). The UK deep partnerships already established with these countries covering security issues and many other sectors that we will build on. The Foreign Secretary's visit to India in December, for example, enabled agreement on the key elements of a 10 year UK-India roadmap so that we can deliver a step change in ambition for the relationship between our two countries, including our commitment to building a stronger defence and security partnership with India. No decisions have yet been made on the form UK engagement with the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue could take.

### **Hercules Aircraft**

**28 Jan 2021 | 142763**

#### **Asked by: Laurence Robertson**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what recent assessment he has made of the potential effect on UK employment levels of an early retirement of the C-130J; and if he will make a statement.

#### **Answering member: Jeremy Quin | Ministry of Defence**

The Integrated Review will modernise our Armed Forces to ensure they have the capabilities they need to counter the threats they face, now and into the future. That will mean making changes and making tough choices, but any decision on future capabilities will be firmly based on those principles and announced in due course.

### **Space Technology**

**27 Jan 2021 | 141922**

#### **Asked by: Wayne David**

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of the recommendation from industry to integrate military and civil space operations into a National Space Operations Centre to jointly operate key national infrastructure and maximise data sharing on the UK's space capability.

#### **Answering member: Amanda Solloway | Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy**

The Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy will consider the ways in which our international and national security strategy must evolve as the world changes. This will include an assessment of the space capabilities needed by the UK in the future.

### **Defence: Expenditure**

**27 Jan 2021 | 139990**

#### **Asked by: Kevan Jones**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, pursuant to Question 135844 on Defence: Expenditure, with reference to his Department's recent statement that it has yet to decide on allocating the £16.5 billion

increase to the defence budget, what methodology his Department used to estimate the number of jobs that funding would create.

**Answering member: Jeremy Quin | Ministry of Defence**

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) publishes statistics which set out the number of jobs in the UK currently estimated to be supported by existing Defence spend.

The jobs estimate is based on the MOD job calculator that estimates the number of jobs supported per pound of MOD spend. The jobs estimate is based on a sector by sector analysis. Individual allocations could change as a result of the final decisions made as a result of the Integrated Review. The MOD is comfortable that the estimate remains within an appropriate range in the context of scenarios likely to be determined following the announcement of the Integrated Review.

**Armoured Fighting Vehicles: Procurement**

**25 Jan 2021 | 138431**

**Asked by: Richard Fuller**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what plans his Department has for a Land Industrial Strategy, including the role of armoured vehicle and turret manufacturing and production in that strategy.

**Answering member: Jeremy Quin | Ministry of Defence**

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) is leading a cross-Government review into the UK's defence and security industrial sectors which seeks to identify how we can enhance our strategic approach to ensure we have competitive, innovative and world-class defence and security industries.

As part of this review, the MOD is considering its approach to the land sector including armoured vehicles and sub-systems. The review is ongoing, and its findings are being used to inform the Government's broader Integrated Review, the conclusions of which will be announced in the coming months.

**Navy**

**17 Dec 2020 | 128873**

**Asked by: John Healey**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, pursuant to the Answer of 26 November 2020 to Question 118587 on Navy, whether the new platforms and programmes specified in the funding settlement are included in the current future capability planning models.

**Answering member: James Heappey | Ministry of Defence**

The Integrated Review will set out the priorities that the MOD will deliver within the new funding settlement early next year. As the Prime Minister made clear in his Integrated Review speech of 19 November, the Government are going to use the extra defence spending to restore Britain's position as the foremost naval power in Europe.

[Foreign Policy](#)

**14 Dec 2020 | 126855**

**Asked by: Lisa Nandy**

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, whether his Department has a soft power strategy.

**Answering member: Nigel Adams | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office**

The role of soft power is being considered as part of the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy. This will be informed by the conclusions of the cross-government work already undertaken on our strategic approach to this area.

The UK has huge soft power strengths and the FCDO is supporting these, for example through our funding of the British Council, BBC World 2020 programme and Chevening, Marshall and Commonwealth Scholarships. Our determination to work as a force for good in the world is an important part of our soft power, as we are seeing through our hosting of COP26, which is showcasing our leadership on climate, the introduction of 'Magnitsky' sanctions to hold human rights abusers to account, and our support for a globally accessible Covid-19 vaccine.

[Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy](#)

**24 Nov 2020 | 909169**

**Asked by: Tobias Ellwood**

What plans the Government has for the publication of the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy.

**Answering member: James Cleverly | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office**

The Prime Minister commissioned the Integrated Review as the most ambitious review of our foreign policy since the Cold War. The Prime Minister set out in his speech to the House on 19 November how the UK will support a world order in which open societies and economies flourish. The Indo-Pacific is of central importance.

The Prime Minister is clear: Global Britain will be more active and engaged around the world. The FCDO is central to delivery and we will integrate development and diplomatic expertise to maximise UK impact as a force for good. We will apply a more strategic lens to our use of ODA to ensure it delivers both for the 'bottom billion' and in the UK's national interest.

[Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office](#)

**24 Nov 2020 | 115762**

**Asked by: Preet Kaur Gill**

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, with reference to the oral contribution of the

Permanent Under-Secretary and Head of the Diplomatic Service to the Foreign Affairs Committee on 10 November 2020, whether the size of his Department will be reduced.

**Answering member: Nigel Adams | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office**

The future shape and size of the FCDO will be influenced by the outcome of the Spending Review and the Integrated Review. As the Foreign Secretary stated, there will be no compulsory redundancies. We are working closely with staff throughout this process, and the full details of the merger, will be set out in due course.

**[Integrated Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy Review](#)**

**23 Nov 2020 | 91997**

**Asked by: Preet Kaur Gill**

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, with reference to the oral evidence of the Permanent Under Secretary of his Department to the Foreign Affairs Committee on the Work of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office on 10 November 2020, what assessment he has made of the potential effect of the Integrated Review on his Departments priorities.

**Answering member: James Cleverly | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office**

The Integrated Review will cover all aspects of international and national security policy - defence, diplomacy, development and national resilience. Uniting development and diplomacy in one department brings together Britain's international effort to have even greater impact and influence on the world stage as we recover from the coronavirus pandemic. The Review will assess what will be needed to deliver our new strategy, in addition to seizing the opportunities offered by the new Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.

In light of the decision to move to a one-year spending review, the Government is considering the implications for the completion of the Integrated Review and will provide an update in due course.

**[Integrated Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy Review](#)**

**02 Nov 2020 | 108234**

**Asked by: Sarah Champion**

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what the Government's timescale is for publication of outcomes of the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy; and what assessment he has made of the implications for that Review's form and content of proposed changes to the term and form of the upcoming Spending Review announced on 21 October 2020.

**Answering member: James Cleverly | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office**

In light of the decision to move to a one-year spending review, the Government is considering the implications for the completion of the Integrated Review and will provide an update in due course.

**[Integrated Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy Review: Overseas Aid](#)**

**29 Oct 2020 | 106973**

**Asked by: Pauline Latham**

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, whether he plans to include an updated UK aid strategy in the Integrated Review.

**Answering member: James Duddridge | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office**

In light of the decision to move to a one-year Spending Review, we are considering the implications for the completion of the Integrated Review, and will provide an update in due course

**[Integrated Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy Review: Scotland](#)**

**14 Oct 2020 | 101316**

**Asked by: Alyn Smith**

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what discussions he (a) has had and (b) plans to have with the Scottish Government prior to the publication of the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy.

**Answering member: James Cleverly | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office**

Senior Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and Cabinet Office officials have held discussions with the Devolved Administrations since the start of the Integrated Review. Most recently, at Ministerial level, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, as lead Minister for engagement with Devolved Administrations on the Integrated Review, met with the Scottish Minister for Justice Humza Yousaf, alongside colleagues from the Welsh Government and the Northern Ireland Executive, to discuss the Review.

**[Integrated Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy Review: Conflict Prevention](#)**

**01 Oct 2020 | 93564**

**Asked by: Mark Pritchard**

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what steps he is taking to include conflict prevention as part of his Department's contribution to the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy.

**Answering member: James Cleverly | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office**

When the Prime Minister launched the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy, he was clear that it will set out the way in which the UK will be a problem-solving and burden-sharing nation. Our aim continues to be for an ambitious and bold Integrated Review that is guided by the UK's foreign policy, national security and development objectives.

We fully expect the Integrated Review, together with a Comprehensive Spending Review, to propose fresh ideas to shape the objectives and systems of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, reflecting a drive towards a more effective and more joined-up foreign policy.

**[Integrated Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy Review](#)**

**29 Sep 2020 | 93658**

**Asked by: Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi**

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, whether one planned outcome of the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy is to recommit the Government to the UK National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.

**Answering member: James Cleverly | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office**

The Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda is an important component of the UK's work to promote human rights and support sustainable peace processes. The evidence is clear that women's meaningful participation in conflict prevention through to conflict resolution is key to securing sustainable peace. Our approach to WPS is outlined in the cross-government National Action Plan on WPS 2018-2022. The Integrated Review and the creation of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) are evidence of the Prime Minister's commitment to a unified British foreign policy that will maximise our influence around the world, ensuring the UK is a force for good in the world. When the Prime Minister launched the Integrated Review, he was clear that it will set out the way in which the UK will be a problem-solving and burden-sharing nation. Our aim continues to be for an ambitious and bold Integrated Review that is guided by the UK's foreign policy, national security and development objectives.

**[Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office: Reorganisation](#)**

**28 Sep 2020 | 94473**

**Asked by: Hannah Bardell**

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, how much the merger of his Department with the Department for International Development cost; and how many roles

will be (a) lost and (b) created (i) in the UK and (ii) overseas as a result of that merger.

**Answering member: James Duddridge | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office**

The creation of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) has unified our international efforts so we can maximise the UK's influence around the world.

As the Foreign Secretary has said, we will implement the merger in the most cost-effective way possible. The ultimate shape of the FCDO will depend on the outcomes of the Integrated Review and Spending Review which will define the Government's ambition for the UK's role in the world and the long-term strategic aims for our national security, defence, development and foreign policy. As such, it is not possible to determine yet the anticipated final costs of the merger or the size of the department needed to deliver against those ambitions. We anticipate there may be cost savings in the long term as a result of using our resources more effectively and efficiently, though this is not the primary goal of the merger.

The Foreign Secretary has said there will be no compulsory redundancies as a result of the merger, but that some roles and responsibilities may change. We will continue to engage with staff throughout this process.

**[Integrated Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy Review: Parachute Regiment](#)**

**16 Jul 2020 | 72928**

**Asked by: Dan Jarvis**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what assessment he has made of the veracity of recent media reports on plans to reduce the (a) number of personnel in and (b) funding received by the Parachute Regiment as part of the upcoming Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy; and if he will make a statement.

**Answering member: James Heappey | Ministry of Defence**

The Integrated Review will define the UK Government's ambition for the UK's role in the world and the long-term strategic aims for our national security and foreign policy. It is too early to discuss specific capabilities, but I can assure you that this country will continue to have the world class Armed Forces that it needs and deserves.

**[Integrated Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy Review](#)**

**16 Jul 2020 | 72880**

**Asked by: Jack Lopresti**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, if he will ensure that as a result of the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy the UK (a) continues to exceed the NATO target of spending 2 per cent of GDP on defence and (b) at least maintains its



level of established strength in each branch of the armed forces and Reserves; and if he will make a statement.

**Answering member: Ben Wallace | Ministry of Defence**

Her Majesty's Government will continue to exceed the NATO target of spending 2 per cent of GDP on defence and increase the budget by at least 0.5 above inflation every year of this parliament. The UK is one of only a handful of nations that meets the 2 per cent target, and we remain the largest European Defence spender in NATO. It is too early to speculate on the outcomes of the Integrated Review but I can assure you that our national security capabilities will be determined by the threats that we face and that this country will maintain the strength of our world class Armed Forces.

**Integrated Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy**

**Review: Military Bases**

**15 Jul 2020 | HL6539**

**Asked by: Lord Touhig**

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether visits to Armed Forces bases will be part of the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy.

**Answering member: Baroness Goldie | Ministry of Defence**

The Integrated Review will cover all aspects of international policy from defence to diplomacy and development. Visits to Government locations, including Armed Forces bases, will be included when helpful for the conduct of the review, as they are for normal Government working. These visits are arranged on a case by case basis with the relevant Departments.

## 5. Other Parliamentary material

### 5.1 Debates

#### [Integrated Review: New Ships](#)

25 Jan 2021 | House of Lords | 809 cc1376-9

#### [Integrated Review: Publication](#)

07 Dec 2020 | House of Commons | 685 cc555-6

#### [Integrated Review: Treasury Discussions](#)

07 Dec 2020 | House of Commons | 685 cc553-5

#### [Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy](#)

03 Nov 2020 | House of Lords | 807 cc619-22

### 5.2 Statements

#### [Equipment Plan](#)

12 Jan 2021 | HCWS700

**Secretary of State for Defence (Ben Wallace):** I wish to inform Parliament that the Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Defence has written to the Chair of the Public Accounts Committee with our 2020 update on the affordability of the Defence Equipment Plan, covering the period 2020/21-2029/30. His letter and the supplementary tables have been placed in the Library of the House and published online. This more concise update takes the place of the usual Equipment Plan financial summary report and maintains continuity of financial reporting ahead of implementing the outcomes of the Spending Review and Integrated Review. I welcome the continued engagement of the National Audit Office (NAO) who have today published their independent assessment of our plans.

Last month, the Prime Minister announced a once in a generation modernisation of the Armed Forces including £16.5 billion additional spending on Defence over the next four years. I am determined that we seize this opportunity to modernise the Armed Forces to meet today's threat whilst taking hard decisions to put defence on a sustainable footing. To do so will require a transparent approach to taking these decisions, inviting robust scrutiny of our plans and recognising where we could be doing more to deliver better value for our spending.

In this context, today's update on the affordability of our plans as they were in April 2020, are a reminder of the challenge ahead and the need for decisive action now to ensure that we match our ambition and resources.

Over the year to April 2020, our central estimate of the shortfall in funding for equipment spending increased from £3 billion to £7 billion over 10-years, with potential for this to be greater if risks materialise and we take no action to intervene. This increase was largely the result of three sources of increased costs:

- Deferral of spending on some projects to save money in the short-term while allowing decisions about their future to be taken in the context of the Integrated Review;
- There were more limited opportunities to reduce the cost of established projects than in previous years and projects were more confident in delivering milestones and achieving their spending forecasts; and
- Risks materialising including less favourable foreign exchange rate forecasts and additional non-discretionary spending in high-priority areas including the nuclear enterprise that we were not able to fully offset through savings.

The settlement we have received in the recent Spending Review means we are now in a position to tackle the root causes of these issues. We are already using the findings of the NAO's assessment of the Equipment Plan alongside our work on these issues to improve our approach to implementing the outcomes of the Spending Review and ensure that our plans are affordable and deliverable.

I am pleased to see that the NAO has recognised the progress we are making in some areas, including management of efficiencies. Our ambitious transformation programme will build on this progress.

I expect our 2021 edition of the Equipment Plan financial summary to present the implications of the Spending Review and Integrated review for equipment spending and on progress in improving the management of our plans.

### [Integrated Review](#)

**19 Nov 2020 | 684 cc487-1446**

**The Prime Minister (Boris Johnson):** With permission, Mr Speaker, I will update the House on the Government's integrated review of foreign, defence, security and development policy.

Our review will conclude early next year and set out the UK's international agenda, but I want to inform the House of its first outcome. For decades, British Governments have trimmed and cheese-pared our defence budget. If we go on like this, we risk waking up to discover that our armed forces—the pride of Britain—have fallen below the minimum threshold of viability, and, once lost, they can never be regained. That outcome would not only be craven; it would jeopardise the security of the British people, amounting to a dereliction of duty for any Prime Minister.

I refuse to vindicate any pessimistic forecasters there may have been by taking up the scalpel yet again. Based on our assessment of the international situation and our foreign policy goals, I have decided that the era of cutting our defence budget must end, and it ends now. I am increasing defence spending by £24.1 billion over the next four years. That is £16.5 billion more than our manifesto commitment, raising it as

a share of GDP to at least 2.2%, exceeding our NATO pledge, and investing £190 billion over the next four years—more than any other European country and more than any other NATO ally except the United States.

The Ministry of Defence has received a multi-year settlement because equipping our armed forces requires long-term investment, and our national security in 20 years' time will depend on decisions we take today. I have done this in the teeth of the pandemic, amid every other demand on our resources, because the defence of the realm and the safety of the British people must come first. I pay tribute to my right hon. Friends the Chancellor and the Defence Secretary, who believe in this as fervently as I do. Reviving our armed forces is one pillar of the Government's ambition to safeguard Britain's interests and values by strengthening our global influence and reinforcing our ability to join the United States and our other allies to defend free and open societies.

The international situation is now more perilous and intensely competitive than at any time since the cold war. Everything we do in this country—every job, every business, even how we shop and what we eat—depends on a basic minimum of global security, with a web of feed pipes, of oxygen pipes, that must be kept open: shipping lanes, a functioning internet, safe air corridors, reliable undersea cables, and tranquillity in distant straits. This pandemic has offered a taste of what happens when our most fundamental needs are suddenly in question. We could take all this for granted, ignore the threat of terrorism and the ambitions of hostile states, hope for the best, and we might get away with it for a while, before calamity strikes, as it surely would. Or we could accept that our lifelines must be protected but we are content to curl up in our island and leave the task to our friends.

My starting point is that either of those options would be an abdication of the first duty of Government: to defend our people. My choice—and I hope it will carry every Member of the House—is that Britain must be true to our history and stand alongside our allies, Toggle showing location of Column 488 sharing the burden and bringing our expertise to bear on the world's toughest problems. To achieve this, we need to upgrade our capabilities across the board. We have already united our international effort into a new Department combining aid and diplomacy, led with grip and purpose by my right hon. Friend the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Secretary. Next year will be a year of British leadership when we preside over the G7, host COP26 in Glasgow, and celebrate the 75th anniversary of the first United Nations General Assembly in London. We are leading the world towards net zero with our 10-point plan for a green industrial revolution. We are campaigning for our values, particularly freedom of religion and the media, and giving every girl in the world access to 12 years of quality education.

But extending British influence requires a once-in-a-generation modernisation of our armed forces, and now is the right time to press ahead, because emerging technologies, visible on the horizon, will make the returns from defence investment infinitely greater. We have a chance to break free from the vicious circle whereby we ordered ever decreasing numbers of ever more expensive items of military hardware,

squandering billions along the way. The latest advances will multiply the fighting power of every warship, aircraft and infantry unit many times over, and the prizes will go to the swiftest and most agile nations, not necessarily the biggest. We can achieve as much as British ingenuity and expertise allow.

We will need to act speedily to remove or reduce less relevant capabilities. This will allow our new investment to be focused on the technologies that will revolutionise warfare, forging our military assets into a single network designed to overcome the enemy. A soldier in hostile territory will be alerted to a distant ambush by sensors on satellites or drones, instantly transmitting a warning, using artificial intelligence to devise the optimal response and offering an array of options, from summoning an airstrike to ordering a swarm attack by drones, or paralysing the enemy with cyber-weapons. New advances will surmount the old limits of logistics. Our warships and combat vehicles will carry “directed energy weapons”, destroying targets with inexhaustible lasers. For them, the phrase “out of ammunition” will become redundant.

Nations are racing to master this new doctrine of warfare, and our investment is designed to place Britain among the winners. The returns will go far beyond our armed forces, and from aerospace to autonomous vehicles, these technologies have a vast array of civilian applications, opening up new vistas of economic progress, creating 10,000 jobs every year—40,000 in total—levelling up across our country, and reinforcing our Union. We are going to use our extra defence spending to restore Britain’s position as the foremost naval power in Europe, taking forward our plans for eight Type 26 and five Type 31 frigates, and support ships to supply our carriers.

We are going to develop the next generation of warships, including multi-role research vessels and Type 32 frigates. This will spur a renaissance of British shipbuilding across the UK, in Glasgow and Rosyth, Belfast, Appledore and Birkenhead, guaranteeing jobs and illuminating the benefits of the Union in the white light of the arc welder’s torch. If there is one policy that strengthens the UK in every possible sense, it is building more ships for the Royal Navy. Once both of our carriers are operational Toggle showing location of Column 489 in 2023, the UK will have a carrier strike group permanently available, routinely deployed globally, and always ready to fight alongside NATO and other allies.

Next year, Queen Elizabeth will lead a British and allied task group on our most ambitious deployment for two decades, encompassing the Mediterranean, the Indian ocean, and East Asia. We shall deploy more of our naval assets in the world’s most important regions, protecting the shipping lanes that supply our nation, and we shall press on with renewing our nuclear deterrent. We will reshape our Army for the age of networked warfare, allowing better equipped soldiers to deploy more quickly, and strengthening the ability of our special forces to operate covertly against our most sophisticated adversaries.

The security and intelligence agencies will continue to protect us around the clock from terrorism and new and evolving threats. We will invest

another £1.5 billion in military research and development, designed to master the new technologies of warfare. We will establish a new centre dedicated to artificial intelligence, and a new RAF space command, launching British satellites and our first rocket from Scotland in 2022. I can announce that we have established a National Cyber Force, combining our intelligence agencies and service personnel, which is already operating in cyberspace against terrorism, organised crime and hostile state activity. And the RAF will receive a new fighter system, harnessing artificial intelligence and drone technology to defeat any adversary in air-to-air combat.

Our plans will safeguard hundreds of thousands of jobs in the defence industry, protecting livelihoods across the UK and keeping the British people safe. The defence of the realm is above party politics, and we all take pride in how British resolve saved democracy in 1940, and in how British internationalism, directed by Clement Attlee, helped to create NATO and preserve peace through the cold war. The wisdom and pragmatism of Margaret Thatcher found a path out of confrontation when she met Mikhail Gorbachev in 1984. In each case, Britain tipped the scales of history and did immense good for the world. Now we have a chance to follow in this great tradition, end the era of retreat, transform our armed forces, bolster our global influence, unite and level up across our country, protect our people and defend the free societies in which we fervently believe. I commend this statement to the House.

### **Review of the UK's Defence and Security Industrial Strategy** **05 Mar 2020 | HCWS145**

**Secretary of State for Defence (Ben Wallace):** I wanted to inform the House of our work to review the UK's defence and security industrial sectors, which will inform the broader Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy.

The UK has built up a world-leading defence and security industrial base over many decades with a broad footprint across the UK, helping our Armed Forces and the broader national security community to deter or defeat any threat that presents itself. At the same time, these industries make a significant contribution to our prosperity through investment, exports, skills, and research and development. The defence and security industry employs hundreds of thousands of people - including thousands of apprentices - across the breadth of the Union, from building warships in Scotland and armoured vehicles in Wales, to manufacturing aircraft in England and satellites in Northern Ireland. Our industries are also at the forefront of technology development in creating new ways to prevent and defend against terrorism and serious organised crime. And on the international stage, UK defence and security companies play a crucial role in maintaining the UK's global influence, underpinning our strategic partnerships with key allies.

Many of the UK's defence and security companies are flourishing, but suppliers from large companies to SMEs are also now facing a range of challenges for the future. They are impacted by the pace of technological change, the need for innovation and partnership, and increased competition from abroad, alongside the difficulty of

sustaining necessary skills. We need to consider how to address these challenges and maximise potential opportunities.

The Integrated Review will define the long-term strategic aims for our national security and foreign policy and determine the capabilities and reforms needed to meet those aims. The review of the UK's defence and security industrial sectors will support this work by considering how to ensure the UK continues to have competitive, innovative and world-class defence and security industries that drive investment and prosperity across the Union, that underpin our national security now and in the future.

The Ministry of Defence will lead a cross-government team to progress this work, engaging closely with industry, Parliament, and other stakeholders over the course of the review. The House will be kept informed as work progresses.

## [Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy](#)

**26 Feb 2020 | HCWS126**

**The Prime Minister (Boris Johnson):** Today the Government is setting out its approach to the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy.

The Government has set in train the biggest review of our foreign, defence, security and development policy since the end of the Cold War. We need to grasp the opportunities of the next decade and deliver upon the Government's priorities. This is a defining moment in how the UK relates to the rest of the world and we want to take this unique opportunity to reassess our priorities and our approach to delivering them.

The Integrated Review will

- i) Define the Government's ambition for the UK's role in the world and the long-term strategic aims for our national security and foreign policy.
- ii) Set out the way in which the UK will be a problem-solving and burden-sharing nation, examining how we work more effectively with our allies.
- iii) Determine the capabilities we need for the next decade and beyond to pursue our objectives and address the risks and threats we face.
- iv) Identify the necessary reforms to Government systems and structures to achieve these goals.
- v) Outline a clear approach to implementation over the next decade and set out how we will evaluate delivery of our aims.

The Review will be underpinned by the commitments the Government has already made to continue to exceed the NATO target of spending 2% of GDP on Defence, to commit 0.7% of GNI to international development and to maintain the nuclear deterrent.

A cross-Whitehall team in the Cabinet Secretariat, and a small taskforce in No10, will report to me and the National Security Council. The review will be closely aligned with this year's Comprehensive Spending Review but will also look beyond it. The Government will consult with experts beyond Whitehall – in the UK and among our allies – in order to ensure the best possible outcome and to build a strong platform for the decade ahead. We will keep Parliament fully informed during the process as we deliver a review that is in the best interests of the British people across the United Kingdom.

### 5.3 Early Day Motions

#### [Human security and the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy](#)

**EDM 1384 (session 2019-21)**

**20 January 2021**

**Wera Hobhouse**

That this House welcomes the upcoming Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy; notes with concern the changing nature of global threats to the UK, including irreversible climate change, emerging artificial intelligence and the risk of increased frequency and size of global pandemics; highlights that many of these threats could cause far greater disruption to the lives of UK citizens than traditional military threats; emphasises that unforeseen developments of this nature can occur at pace and must be pre-emptively addressed; believes that the Integrated Review is an opportunity to reframe the UK's approach to defence and security to ensure future generations are protected; and calls on the Government to champion an inclusive, positive vision of global and local security.

#### [Sector consultation on DFID-FCO merger and Integrated Review](#)

**EDM 772 (session 2019-21)**

**21 July 2020**

**Wendy Chamberlain**

That this House notes that the Government has repeatedly misrepresented consultation of the development sector on the Department for International Development's response to the covid-19 crisis as equating a formal mechanism for consultation on the DFID-FCO merger or Integrated Review; further notes that consultation on the UK's international covid-19 response has never been a formal mechanism for consultation on wider government policy; and calls on the Government to urgently commit to meaningful engagement and consultation with the development sector on the new Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office and the strategy that defines it (the Integrated Review) so that aid and development expertise informs the new department's structure and priorities and that poverty reduction and sustainable development remain UK aid's primary objectives.



### About the Library

The House of Commons Library research service provides MPs and their staff with the impartial briefing and evidence base they need to do their work in scrutinising Government, proposing legislation, and supporting constituents.

As well as providing MPs with a confidential service we publish open briefing papers, which are available on the Parliament website.

Every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in these publicly available research briefings is correct at the time of publication. Readers should be aware however that briefings are not necessarily updated or otherwise amended to reflect subsequent changes.

If you have any comments on our briefings please email [papers@parliament.uk](mailto:papers@parliament.uk). Authors are available to discuss the content of this briefing only with Members and their staff.

If you have any general questions about the work of the House of Commons you can email [hcinfo@parliament.uk](mailto:hcinfo@parliament.uk).

### Disclaimer

This information is provided to Members of Parliament in support of their parliamentary duties. It is a general briefing only and should not be relied on as a substitute for specific advice. The House of Commons or the author(s) shall not be liable for any errors or omissions, or for any loss or damage of any kind arising from its use, and may remove, vary or amend any information at any time without prior notice.

The House of Commons accepts no responsibility for any references or links to, or the content of, information maintained by third parties. This information is provided subject to the [conditions of the Open Parliament Licence](#).