



Naval Shipbuilding QSD on 20 December 2018

This briefing identifies relevant reports and useful documents, including recent parliamentary materials and press articles, which may be of assistance to Members in preparing for the following debate:

Lord Berkeley to ask Her Majesty's Government what progress has been made on the tendering process for building five new type 31e frigates; and what impact this process will have on the future of the Appledore shipyard.

Copies of the materials are available for collection from the Library.

Key Information

- House of Commons, ['Written Statement: Type 31e Frigate'](#), 10 December 2018, HCWS1161

Written statement by the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, Stuart Andrew, providing an update on the competition to build five type 31e frigates.

- Ministry of Defence, ['Defence Secretary Visits Appledore Yard As Warship Competition Ramps Up'](#), 8 January 2018;

Press release detailing the visit of the Secretary of State for Defence, Gavin Williamson, to the Appledore shipyard, which includes information on the previous work undertaken at the site on behalf of the Royal Navy.

- Ministry of Defence, ['National Shipbuilding Strategy: The Future of Naval Shipbuilding in the UK'](#), 6 September 2017; and ['Ambitious Future for Naval Shipbuilding in the UK'](#), 6 September 2017

Strategy outlining the Government's plans to increase the Royal Navy's fleet. This includes information on building type 31e frigates and how the Government will deliver the project, with a focus on procurement; and the accompanying press release which provides further information on the frigates.

- Royal Navy, ['Ministry of Defence Announces Procurement Programme for Royal Navy's Type 31e Frigates'](#), 7 September 2017; and ['Type 31e Frigate Information Sheet'](#), 1 September 2017

Press release detailing the Ministry of Defence's procurement programme for the type 31e frigates, including timescales and building costs; and an information sheet on the frigate, examining key features of the frigate.

Parliamentary Debate, Statements and Questions

- [Oral Question on 'Shipbuilding: Appledore Shipyard'](#), HL *Hansard*, 26 November 2018, cols 476–7
- [Oral Question on 'Shipbuilding: Warships'](#), HL *Hansard*, 14 November 2018, cols 1883–4
- [Oral Question on 'Royal Navy: Type 31e Frigate'](#), HL *Hansard*, 6 September 2018, cols 1890–1
- A selection of written questions from both Houses: [194609](#) (27 November 2018); [HL11342](#) (19 November 2018); [188742](#) (12 November 2018); [HL10720](#) (30 October 2018); [HL10603](#) (24 October 2018); and [HL10568](#) (23 October 2018)

Press Articles and Comment

- Forces Network, '[Defence Minister 'Confident' of First Type 31e Frigate By 2023](#)', 10 December 2018; and '[Government Urged to Take Action Over Devon Shipyard Closure](#)', 29 November 2018
- Jasper Jolly, '[Babcock International to Close Historic Appledore Shipyard](#)', *Guardian*, 1 November 2018
- Unite, '[Future of UK Naval Shipyards Hangs by a Thread Due to Government Inertia, Says Unite](#)', 5 October 2018

Further Information

- House of Commons Library, [The National Shipbuilding Strategy: January 2018 Update](#), 9 January 2018; and [The Royal Navy's New Frigates and the National Shipbuilding Strategy: February 2017 Update](#), 2 February 2017
- Ministry of Defence, [An Independent Report to Inform the UK National Shipbuilding Strategy](#), 29 November 2016

House of Lords Library briefings provide a selection of politically balanced reading material intended to help Members prepare for debates. Briefings are published on the Library's [parliamentary intranet site](#) in advance of debates, and are also automatically emailed to those Members who have their name on the speakers' list.

Please respect the copyright of the owners of the documents cited. The Library is not responsible for either the views or the accuracy of external content. Any comments on Library briefings should be sent to the Head of Research Services, House of Lords Library, London SW1A 0PW or emailed to purvism@parliament.uk.