

The Reserve Forces

Volunteer Reserves

Volunteers, many with full time jobs, use their spare time to train as part of the Armed Forces and can expect to be called up and deployed on operations alongside their Regular colleagues. Volunteer Reserves typically meet for one night per week, train at weekends and, in many cases, attend an annual two week training event or exercise. The minimum commitment is generally 27 days training per annum, though it is 19 days for some specialist units.

Volunteer Reservists are paid on a daily basis for training which, for 27 days, may typically be £2,160 for someone without a commission and £3,050 for an officer. They also receive expenses. In addition, they are paid an annual tax free lump sum bounty for meeting the training commitment, which is £420 in their first year, rising each year to £1,670 after 5 years.

When called up they are paid that same rates as full time Regulars according to their rank. If this is less than their civilian salary they receive additional remuneration up to the value of that salary. Their civilian job is protected and will be there on their return.

There are opportunities to become a Reservist in a wide range of units in all three Services across the UK.

NAVAL SERVICE

Maritime Reserve

Training is conducted in one of 17 Maritime Reserve units around the UK, some of which have a presence at Royal Navy training establishments.

All the volunteers within the Royal Marines Reserve have passed through the same rigorous Commando course as their Regular Royal Marines counterparts.



ARMY

Territorial Army

There are 341 Territorial Army centres across the UK. Most Territorial Army recruits will join their local independent unit. The role of each unit varies across combat, engineering, communications, logistics and medical but within each unit there is range of opportunities. There are also 13 specialist units which recruit nationally and draw on specific civilian skills or previous Armed Forces experience.



ROYAL AIR FORCE

Royal Auxiliary Air Force

There are 20 RAuxAF squadrons based at 16 locations throughout the U K and based mainly on RAF operational stations.



Future Reserves 2020 - what's new?

There will be an additional investment in the Reserves of £1.8 billion over the next 10 years. This will enable the trained strengths of all 3 Services to grow by 50% or more by 2018 to 3,100 in the Royal Naval and Royal Marines Reserves, 30,000 in the Territorial component of the Army Reserve and 1,800 in the Royal Auxiliary Air Force.

The utility of the Reserves will be increased and they will be better integrated with the Regular Forces. This will place an obligation on Reservists and specific levels of training will become a compulsory part of their service. For the majority of Royal Navy, Royal Marines and Royal Air Force Reservists routine mobilisation is expected to remain at similar levels to those currently experienced. Most Army Reservists will have to accept a liability for up to 6 months deployed service, plus pre-deployment training in a 5-year period, dependent on operational demand. Deployments will be more predictable and there will be scope for shorter periods of mobilised service, in support of UK or overseas tasks, for those in some specialist roles.

NAVAL SERVICE

The Navy's Maritime Reserve will expand to deliver a greater range and depth of capability within its well established and integrated model to provide individual augmentees to the Royal Navy and Royal Marines in specialist and generalist roles. Key areas of growth will be in a range of command and communication, intelligence and surveillance disciplines, including cyber, support to the Fleet Air Arm and the exploitation of niche capabilities in the role of maritime security. The Maritime Reserve will be fully integrated and able to provide the Naval Service with a range of flexible manpower, including greater access to civilian skills. The expansion will be supported by an infrastructure programme to provide modern and efficient training facilities.

ARMY

Most Reserve recruits will continue to join their local unit. Many of the Reservist roles will see an expansion as the Army rebalances as an integrated force of Regulars and Reserves. Greater reliance on the Reserves means that they will need to be better trained, equipped and supported. There will be a new training regime that includes overseas training, collective training at formed sub-unit level and partnered training with Regular units. There will be increased equipment availability, including light reconnaissance vehicles and an uplift to Bowman communications equipment. There is also a programme progressively to deliver parity of the personal equipment used by Regulars and Reserves. The future number and location of TA centres will be confirmed on completion of the Army Basing Plan.

ROYAL AIR FORCE

The Royal Auxiliary Air Force (RAuxAF) provides resilience and strength in depth to the Royal Air Force's contribution to Defence capability by providing individual augmentees to Regular Forces. The principal areas of growth will be in the specialist areas of logistics, flight operations, medical, intelligence, media, RAF Police and cyber. Individual augmentees will be trained to a standard that enables them to be fully integrated with the Regulars as part of the Whole Force Concept. Five new Reserve Squadrons will be established.

PARTNERING

Successful delivery of the structures requires a change in the relationship between Defence, the employer and the Reservist. Many employers already give excellent support to Reservists but, to be confident that trained and capable Reservist manpower is available when it is needed, new partnering arrangements will be developed.

Things to Know

- Reserve Forces are an essential and integral element of the UK's Armed Forces. The role is growing and will be stronger - complementing rather than supplementing the regulars.
- An additional £1.8Bn will be invested in the Reserve Forces over the next 10 years to stabilise and reinvigorate them. All 3 Services will grow by 50% or more; the trained strength by 2018 will be 30,000 in the Territorial component of the Army Reserve, 3,100 in the Royal Naval and Royal Marines Reserves and 1,800 in the Royal Auxiliary Air Force.
- There will be opportunities for Army Reservists to deploy at sub unit level, with some organisations required to deploy as units.

Defence will deliver better training and equipment; but there will also be a greater obligation on Reservists to train and an expectation that they will be required to deploy. Deployment will be more predictable and requirement will vary with role.

Photographs: UK MOD/Crown Copyright 2012



Notes for Employers

- The needs of employers must be respected and addressed. These changes will require a strong partnership between Defence, the Reservists and their employers. We will give greater predictability and certainty to when Reservists will be required for training or deployment.
- Military service gives employers better qualified staff with additional skills. Through partnering initiatives we seek to identify and better exploit those areas which mutually benefit the employer, Defence and the individual.
- Employers are the custodians for Reserve capability. They are key to a strong Reserve Force. To raise awareness and understanding about Reservists and to support employers who employ Reservists, the Ministry of Defence sponsors SaBRE (Supporting Britain's Reservists and Employers). www.sabre.mod.uk



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE



The Future Reserve Force What's Changing?

Are you a Reservist now?

Thinking about being a Reservist
of the Future Force?

Are you an Employer?

It's time to get involved

[http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/
AboutDefence/WhatWeDo/
ReserveForcesandCadets/ReserveForces/](http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/AboutDefence/WhatWeDo/ReserveForcesandCadets/ReserveForces/)