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# desider

**Issue 132**  
**July 2019**

*the magazine for  
defence equipment  
and support*

**Apache touches down  
on QEC for first time**



# WHEN IT COMES TO DEFENCE, THE SKY'S NO LONGER THE LIMIT.



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# Foreword

**W**elcome to the latest edition of Desider, which highlights our achievements in delivering equipment and support

**"Everybody has a role in safety and it must run through the heart of everything DE&S does. Along with our partners in industry and the armed forces customer, we must maintain the highest of standards in this regard"**



By Sir Simon Bollom, CEO

to the armed forces, individual excellence across DE&S and some of the main priorities for the organisation going forward.

For me personally, June was a busy month for international engagements. The annual F-35 CEO Round Table in Washington DC provided a useful opportunity for all involved in the programme, including industry and partner nations to take stock of progress.

The first UK jets have now been at RAF Marham for over a year, and were recently successfully deployed to Cyprus for the first time and have since flown their first operational missions. This is substantial progress on one of our biggest programmes.

I followed the visit to the States with a trip to the Paris air show, which provided an excellent opportunity to engage with a whole range of suppliers on several of our programmes.

I was also able to meet with several of my overseas counterparts; National Armaments Directors from France, the US, Germany and Japan were available to discuss issues of mutual interest from programmes to transformation.

My attention will now turn to our own UK air event, the Royal International Air Tattoo, later this month, where I intend to have equally insightful and constructive conversations with key people from across the national and international Defence community.

Among our current key priorities is an unwavering focus on safety and right at the end of last month we held our annual Safety Day.

The focus was on 'a safe place to work', which included our duty of care to ensure we are looking after the health, safety and wellbeing of our own people and our responsibility

for providing safe equipment for our armed forces.

Everybody has a role in safety and it must run through the heart of everything DE&S does. Along with our partners in industry and the armed forces customer, we must maintain the highest of standards in this regard.

Like safety, innovation is another key DE&S priority. Last month DE&S showed how the organisation pushes new ideas and fresh thinking with the first batch of innovative contracts to improve the supply of general munitions to our armed forces, which could result in reductions on bulk purchases of up to 50 per cent.

Elsewhere, the Leaders Award competition, supported by DE&S and aimed at inspiring the future generation of engineers, was again a tremendous success with 4,300 school children entering some wonderfully creative ideas. Competitions like this encourage innovative and fresh thinking in the younger generations and can inspire us all to think differently.

Our goal of providing the very best equipment to the armed forces was highlighted through a £13.1 million contract to procure a new state-of-the-art long-range air defence radar that can be deployed in support of worldwide operations or used to cover gaps in coverage within the UK.

Last month was also full of other notable programme successes.

The Vehicle Support Team have awarded a contract exceeding £60 million to maintain the British Army's cutting-edge fleet of armoured vehicles ensuring they are repaired, upgraded and returned to the front line as quickly as possible.

And our teams played a key role in Apache trials after the attack helicopter touched down on the deck on the Queen Elizabeth aircraft carrier for the first time.

With the announcement of the Queen's Birthday Honours list there has been a great deal to celebrate with a number of the DE&S workforce recognised for their hard work and dedication.

All those who were honoured should be very proud that their vital work has got the recognition it deserved.

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Apache debuts on HMS Queen Elizabeth  
Photo by LH Kyle Heller

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## Henry Parker, Director Ships Acquisition, talks to Desider about his role, pride in his work and the achievements of DE&S' ship building programmes



**S**hips Acquisition is responsible for buying the Navy's complex warships. We've currently got four projects on the go – the Queen Elizabeth Class Aircraft Carrier, the T26 Frigate, the T31e Frigate and the Offshore Patrol Vessels.

I have a background as a Naval Officer and working in DE&S was part of my reason for joining the Navy. I was always attracted by the big ship building programmes and I saw it as part of my career path from the very beginning – it's great to still be living that dream!

The biggest highlight for me has to be seeing how well HMS Queen Elizabeth has been doing since we handed her over to the Navy at the end of 2017. It's the fruit of many years' work and it's very unusual for a first of class ship to hold its programme so well after you've handed her over to the customer. Even though I'm not responsible for her anymore, seeing she's now ahead of the trials programme and watching her in the D-Day celebrations a few weeks ago gives me a sense of huge professional pride.

More long term has been the huge achievement of selling the T26 Frigate design to Canada and Australia, thereby creating the biggest UK maritime export for a generation. This has created a genus of three closely-related classes of 32 ships, rather than just the eight we had before.

Over the last year, we've had some significant challenges to overcome within our projects. My team have been fabulous in responding to these with great determination. Now, based on that hard work, we're looking forward to some prominent milestones and achievements.

The Prince of Wales will sail later this year, leading to her commission and an in-service date in 2020 – our second fantastic aircraft carrier, delivered on time. We're also hoping to achieve preferred bidder status on the T31 Frigate. It's a radical piece of procurement but compared with previous classes of warship, getting that much ship for that much money in such a short time will be a huge achievement.

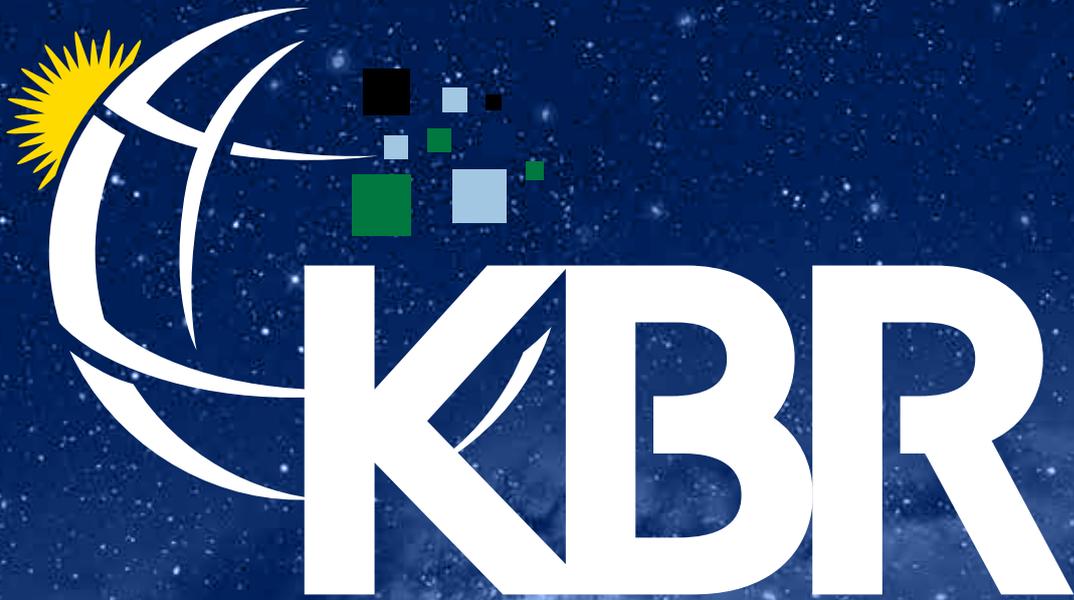
Ships Acquisition is an

**The biggest highlight for me has to be seeing how well HMS Queen Elizabeth has been doing since we handed her over to the Navy at the end of 2017**

extremely close-knit team of just 180 people based across five different sites. It's a real privilege to work with them, and to achieve so much with so few people is very impressive.

I think ship building is the biggest team sport on the planet and it goes much wider than DE&S. It's an industry that's seeing a renaissance and programmes like the carrier are increasing our credibility in the world and giving us confidence to do projects of that scale.

The project control measures we've introduced in DE&S over the last few years have really made an impact on how we manage our projects. Applying them and then using the information gathered to manage our strategic workforce planning and deployment is a great benefit. This year, we're probably employing around 14,000 people somewhere in the world, so having those controls in place to manage those operations is key to our success.



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# Desider meets the new Chief of Materiel (Joint Enablers) Adrian Baguley

Pictured: Chief of Materiel (Joint Enablers) Adrian Baguley (Picture by Jack Eckersley)



## You have worked in Defence since you graduated from university – what drew you to that field?

Actually, I worked for the MOD since I left school. I was keen to be an engineer and my parents, who both worked in atomic energy, introduced me to an engineer they worked with. His advice was that the MOD offered great training and a wide spectrum of opportunities – something that I think DE&S still offers to this day. Of course, at the tender age of 18 I had absolutely no idea that 37 years later I would still be working in Defence!

## Have you worked abroad during your career?

I have been lucky enough to work abroad three times. Firstly, in Germany to help prepare the 7th Armoured Brigade prior to their deployment to the Gulf in the operation to liberate Kuwait. Secondly, to Munich on the Typhoon project, where I led a multinational team responsible for developing the aircraft's complex avionics. And, finally, Washington DC leading our technology cooperation with the US – a fascinating time, shortly after 9/11. It was a huge privilege

**Leading one of DE&S's delivery domains is a great honour and I am immensely proud to be given this opportunity**

to be exposed to some truly extraordinary senior people in the Pentagon and White House during that time.

## What roles have you held at DE&S since joining the organisation?

I have worked in DE&S and its predecessor organisations on and off throughout my career. My first role in was in the Procurement Executive in Guided Weapons and I later worked on Typhoon in the UK as well as Munich. Since returning to the Defence Procurement Agency/ DE&S in 2005 I worked for quite some time in the Helicopters Operating Centre (OC), before

spending three years leading the Air Support OC and then Director Programmes before I was fortunate enough to be appointed as Chief of Materiel (Joint Enablers) (COM JE) – which I confess is like a dream come true and I am absolutely loving.

## What excited you about the COM JE role?

Leading one of DE&S's delivery domains is a great honour and I am immensely proud to be given this opportunity. I have an affinity for all things rotary after my time in the Helicopter OC but the programme of work in Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance (ISTAR) is quite unlike anything I have done before and there is a huge spectrum of very exciting and fast-moving projects that are fabulous adverts for innovation in DE&S. I'm also excited to be part of the DE&S Executive Committee, which carries enormous responsibility to create the conditions for the organisation to thrive now and in the future.

## Can you describe your leadership style?

I try to adapt my style depending upon circumstances!

Mostly I look to set out a high-level intent for where we are trying to get to, and then empower my teams to achieve that outcome. What I keep finding in DE&S is that if we set a challenging goal and then apply senior help to align the stakeholder environment we can, together, achieve truly remarkable results.

## What most impresses you about DE&S staff?

Undoubtedly it is the absolute and unquestioning professionalism, integrity and resilience of our people. We have much to celebrate in DE&S but the ability of our people to deliver despite potential frustrations is something that I am immensely proud of.

## What might surprise people about you?

I once kidnapped Stirling Moss in a 1902 veteran car as part of a university fundraising stunt. Closer to home, my Aunt used to go to bingo with (radio presenter) Chris Evans' mum.

# DE&S team awards £63 million Army vehicle support contract to British industry

Pictured: The Foxhound Light Protected Patrol Vehicle will benefit under the new contract (Picture by Graeme Main)



**D**E&S has awarded a contract worth more than £60 million to maintain the British Army's cutting-edge fleet of armoured vehicles.

These vehicles offer soldiers, medics and other Army personnel protection from mine and ballistic threats as they navigate rough terrains on the battlefield. This contract will ensure vehicles are repaired, upgraded and returned to the frontline as quickly as possible.

As an example, under this contract, a request could be made by Army personnel in Afghanistan to fit a new loudspeaker to a Foxhound patrol vehicle. NP Aerospace would rapidly design, procure and fit the equipment, as well as providing technical advice throughout the contract period.

The DE&S Vehicle Support Team secured the £63 million contract with NP Aerospace in Coventry for the upkeep, update and upgrade of more than 2,200 protected mobility vehicles based in the UK and on operations. The contract will support approximately 100 jobs in Coventry and 250 jobs across the UK supply chain until 2024. A

**A lot of time and effort has been spent working with NP Aerospace to get this contract right and we are delighted with the outcome. The Front Line Commands will see a clear benefit and the hard work of the team has paid off**

Brigadier Anna-Lee Reilly,  
Vehicle Support Team  
Leader

further 50 jobs will be created at NP Aerospace's Headquarters in Foleshill.

Brigadier Anna-Lee Reilly, Vehicle Support Team Leader, said: "A lot of time and effort has been spent working with NP Aerospace to get this contract right and we are delighted with the outcome. The Front Line Commands will see a clear benefit and the hard work of the team has paid off."

The contract was announced by Defence Minister Stuart Andrew during a visit to Tidworth Barracks in Wiltshire.

He said: "This vital contract demonstrates how the MOD benefits every region of the UK by providing hundreds of skilled jobs and multi-million-pound investment to the West Midlands."

Other protected mobility vehicles to benefit from the contract include Mastiff, Wolfhound, Ridgeback, RODET, Jackal, Coyote and Husky vehicles, all of which are currently being used by the British Army for either training or operations in the UK and overseas.

Director Land Equipment for DE&S, Major General Colin McClean, added: "The Protected

Mobility fleet has been hugely important for defence over the last 15 years, saving numerous lives on operations. It is vital that we continue to invest in our battle-winning capabilities, ensuring that they are always ready for training or operational purposes.

"Given its significant role now and in the future, I am pleased we are partnering with NP Aerospace to deliver this contract".

The MOD invested £622 million with industry in the West Midlands in 2017/18, sustaining 4900 jobs across the region.



## HMS Prince of Wales comes to life

HMS Prince of Wales came to life when the electric power and propulsion system were fully energised for the first time by turning on the powerful electric motors.

The cranking up of the energy-efficient system means the electrical power, provided by General Electric, is now feeding both the low voltage power network for the ship and applying power to the high voltage propulsion system.

Out of the 110MW of power running through the system, fed by six electrical alternators, 80MW is dedicated to the electric propulsion motors. To put that into context, that's the amount of electricity needed to power the domestic needs of a small town.

The event is another important milestone on the programme of the second Queen Elizabeth class carrier as the 65,000-tonne vessel progresses towards sea trials later this year.

Director Ships Acquisition at DE&S, Henry Parker, said: "This major milestone is a reflection of the hard work and effort that is going into delivering our second aircraft carrier, HMS Prince of Wales, on time. The news, once more, highlights the effective and collaborative relationship between DE&S and industry."



## Richard lands prestigious position

DE&S' Richard Ireland, who heads up the United Kingdom's National Codification Bureau in Glasgow, has been elected as Chairman of NATO's Codification Budget and Strategic Planning Committee.

The organisation has over 70 members from 63 countries. It answers to the Conference of National Armament Directors (CNAD) twice per year at NATO Headquarters in Brussels.

The committee oversees the financial governance of contributions from 63 states, manages the Global Capital Fund of working capital, sets and delivers strategic policy and oversees a number of working groups and think tanks on behalf of the NATO CNAD.

Richard, pictured left with

Elaine Chapman (US NCB Director & NATO AC/135 MG Chair) and Thierry Vanden Dries (Belgium NCB Director and retired MG Chair), said: "This will be a challenging but rewarding opportunity, and I look forward to the opportunity to share my governance experience from the UK in this international forum."

Sir Simon Bollom, DE&S CEO, said: "I'm pleased Richard has been selected as next chairman of this important group. Interoperability with our allies is one of the key objectives of NATO, and codifying our military equipment ensures we can share procurement and support costs with our international partners and enable the efficient delivery of equipment and support to the warfighter."

## Let's make Desider even better

This month is your chance to give your views on Desider in the latest readership survey – and it doesn't take more than two minutes.

Whether you are a DE&S employee, work for the wider MOD/Armed Forces/Government or industry, we are interested in hearing what you have to say about the magazine.

What stories interest you? What would you like to see more of? What could be improved?

Let us know and let's see if we can make Desider even better.

DE&S staff are able to fill in the survey on the intranet, while anyone can fill the survey in at <https://surveys.mod.uk/index.php/672653>



## Chinook deployed to allay UK flooding

A Chinook was deployed last month to try and stem the flow of water in Wainfleet, Lincolnshire.

The Environment Agency confirmed that the river had breached its defences after more than double June's average rainfall came down within three days.

A Chinook was deployed alongside a Puma to tackle the

floods after an assessment by the Lincolnshire Local Resilience Forum and Environment Agency decided that air support was needed to create a plug to stem the flow, while the evacuation of the village took place.

The RAF, with support from a Joint RAF and Army unit, flew in almost 70 one tonne bags of gravel

suspended under a Chinook, dealing with adverse weather conditions.

This operation was designed to reinforce the flood defences and drastically reduce the chances of further flooding, which saw some residents evacuated from their homes.



## QEC plays role in D-Day 75

The Prime Minister Theresa May went on board HMS Queen Elizabeth to pay tribute to Normandy veterans as part of the D-Day 75 commemorations.

Mrs May was joined on the deck of the 65,000-tonne aircraft carrier in Portsmouth by Defence Secretary Penny Mordaunt and First Sea Lord Sir Philip Jones.

Following an hour-long performance telling the story of D-Day, which featured testimonies from D-Day veterans and a 24-aircraft flypast, the dignitaries waved to veterans as they made their way over to France on MV Boudicca, a ship specially-commissioned by the Royal British Legion.

As a lone Spitfire flew overhead the ship was ushered out of the harbour by nine Royal Navy ships in gratitude for their voyage 75 years beforehand.



Pictured clockwise from top left: Lynn Tyler, Lieutenant General Paul Jaques, Commander Steve Drysdale, Major Taitusi Saukuru, and Geoffrey Forder (Pictures by Beth Squire, Jack Eckersley and Andrew Linnett)

# Queen's Birthday Honours

**"I am chuffed to bits to be recognised"**

Lynn Tyler, Executive Assistant to Director  
Air Support Richard Murray

A dedicated DE&S employee who started working for the Ministry of Defence as a teenager has been awarded an MBE for her services to Defence in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

**Lynn Tyler**, Executive Assistant to Director Air Support Richard Murray, is one of several DE&S employees to be recognised in the annual awards.

She said: "I have been with the MOD for 44 years. I started as a 17-year-old in the typing pool and now I'm a proud 60-year-old and working as an EA in DE&S.

"The honour was a complete and lovely surprise to receive a letter from the Cabinet Office – I didn't even know that I had been nominated.

"It was very difficult to keep a secret and I desperately wanted to tell all my family and friends – only my husband knew about it as he saw the letter when it arrived.

"I am chuffed to bits to be recognised."

Another recognised was **Lieutenant General Paul Jaques**, Chief of Materiel (Land), who has been appointed a Companion (CB) of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath for services to Defence.

The Order of the Bath is an order of chivalry founded in 1725 for service of the highest calibre. The Order takes its name from the symbolic bathing which, in former times, was often part of the preparation of a candidate for knighthood.

Lt Gen Jaques, who retires from the Army in September after more than 30 years of service, said: "It came as a complete surprise and was difficult to keep under wraps. I certainly took great pride in being honoured and the first people I told were my wife and daughter.

"The reality for any leader is that they're being recognised as a reflection of the whole team's efforts. Being part of DE&S, and leading the Land Domain, has been a real privilege. I see this as recognition of our collective work."

**Geoffrey Forder**, who works in Ships Support as the Marine Systems Support Partner /Future Support team leader, has been awarded an OBE for his devotion to delivering highly technical projects during a 29-year career, with a particular focus on his exceptional contribution to the success of the QEC programme.

"It was an absolute surprise and very difficult to keep under wraps," he said.

"However, my wife knew before me because she reads all my letters because I am partially sighted!

"I was tremendously proud and emotional but everyone I have worked with should share in this award given their contribution to the projects I have worked on and support they have given to me during my career."

**Commander Steve Drysdale**, who works within Ships Support at DE&S, has been awarded an OBE for his exceptional performance as the Commander, United Kingdom Cruise Missile Support Activity (Vice Agency) in the Permanent Joint Headquarters.

He said: "It was quite some surprise and I had to project my best poker face for a couple of days, with the first person I told being my wife.

"I felt an immense sense of pride but that pride was for what the team did, rather than my efforts."

**Major Taitusi Saukuru**, a Chief of Staff within the Support Enabling Operating Centre at DE&S, has been awarded an MBE for voluntarily promoting diversity and inclusion and for welfare provision to Fijian Service personnel, families and veterans in Defence.

"It was a pleasant surprise and very humbling," he said.

"My wife and I did find it hard to keep it a secret and it was a relief to tell others. I feel truly honoured and especially proud to be recognised because it's something I do voluntarily and not for recognition.

"I'm lucky because my immediate line management at DE&S are very supportive of my voluntary work and the organisation's flexible ways of working allow me to balance my voluntary work with my primary role."

**Also recognised:** Meritorious Service Medal: **Warrant Officer 1 Lee Cole (ISTAR)**, **Warrant Officer 1 Kieron Riddy (Land Equipment)**; CAS Commendation: **Squadron Leader Laura Frowen (Combat Air)**; AOC 2 Gp Commendation: **Chief Technician Dale Johnson (Air Support)**.

## Ella is shining example of what bright young minds have to offer the wonderful world of engineering

Pictured: Air Marshal Julian Young, Chief of Materiel (Air) presents Year 8 student Ella Cornish with her prize (Picture by Beth Squire)



Young aspiring engineers aged between four to 14 gathered at a ceremony in Bristol recently to find out who would be crowned the overall winner of the South West Primary Engineer and Secondary Engineer Leaders Awards.

Supported for the second time by DE&S, the annual competition challenges children to answer the question: 'If you were an engineer, what would you do?' by identifying a problem in society that engineering could solve, devising a solution.

More than 4,300 children entered this year, with each entry graded by engineers from DE&S and the wider Bristol engineering community. These engineers spent time going into schools to speak to students to share their personal stories and experiences, and to help students with their designs.

The awards aim to inspire young minds and promote engineering as a career of choice, and the event at the University of West of England (UWE) was a chance for

**These awards have once again proved to be a great way to inspire young minds and help them gain a greater understanding of what it means to be an engineer**

Air Marshal Julian Young,  
Chief of Materiel (Air)

all shortlisted winners to receive a medal and certificate, presented by Air Marshal Julian Young, Chief of Materiel (Air) and the Defence Engineering Champion, Professor Steve West, Vice-Chancellor, UWE, and Chris Skidmore MP, Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation.

Shortlisted designs ranged from a water powered car that can help alleviate harmful emissions to energy efficient floating farms that can move around the world to the best location in the world for maximum growth.

The overall winning entry, a unanimous decision among the judges, was by Ella Cornish, a Year 8 student from Bodmin College who has designed an air and water rescue drone, a lifesaving device that can get emergency aid, such as food, water and medicines to very hard to reach disaster zones.

Air Marshal Young, who presented the award to Ella, said: "These awards have once again proved to be a great way to inspire young minds and help them gain

a greater understanding of what it means to be an engineer. I am proud that DE&S has supported Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) outreach and has played its part in bringing the awards to the South West.

"Ella is a shining example of the influence these awards have. Her winning design has the potential to have far-reaching impact in many humanitarian situations. It is also an innovation that chimed with DE&S as unmanned aid such as this is a future technology we are exploring."

The event was followed by a day of public exhibition at UWE where all shortlisted designs, along with the winners in each age group in the South West region, were on display.



# Proud to support our armed forces

Pilots, soldiers, sailors, day after day, night after night – our armed forces put their lives on the line to keep us all safe. They do this vital job so we can live our lives to the full without fear.

We are proud of the armed forces and proud of the role our highly skilled people play in supporting them.

**Commitment** where it counts.



Picture: Jack Eekersley

# On leading, learning and his love of yoga

**Colonel Daryl Hirst is Programme Director for Common Support Model (Land) and is responsible for improving the delivery of support to land platforms**

## ***What does your role involve?***

As Programme Director for Common Support Model Land (CSM(L)), I am responsible for bringing improvements to the effectiveness and efficiency of delivering support to land platforms. By focusing on delivering commonality of processes, supported by effective data insights and clear definitions of roles and responsibilities, we will optimise support. Our decision support digital prototypes are already improving things. If you want somewhere exciting, challenging and fun to work where you are absolutely valued – come and chat. I'd love to see what you can contribute.

## ***What about your role is exciting, rewarding or interesting?***

This is easy – it is all about the people. I joined the Army to lead people. DE&S provides me with the most diverse array of people to lead, work with and learn from. This excites me and gets me up every morning. Having been fortunate enough to be involved in developing materiel and personnel exploitation capability in Special Projects, I find robotics, DNA and biometric technology development fascinating and a real growth area.

## ***How important to you is teamwork?***

Teamwork is critical. Together we excel. Divided we fall. In my previous role as a Deputy Team Leader in Special Projects, working as one with our customers and industry, we procured an additional 66 Starter bomb disposal robots for UK Homeland Defence. Concurrently, we were working collaboratively with industry anticipating this change to integrate these new robots seamlessly into the new

bomb disposal vehicles under Project Gasket. This was all done by DE&S people whilst going through unprecedented change as transformation beds in. Our legacy – one of agile equipment procurement and support of interconnected projects – will benefit the bomb disposal community for decades!

## ***How are you helping embed change in your area?***

Change is all about people. It is a threat when done to us and an opportunity when done by us. I am glad to say that my programme will be at the forefront of embedding change across support.

## ***Why did you choose to pursue a career in DE&S?***

As a chartered mechanical engineer, DE&S is an obvious place for military engineering officers to make a difference. In my three previous DE&S roles as requirements manager for protected mobility vehicles, military assistant to Director Land Equipment and within Special Projects, I have grown hugely as a leader, an engineer, a manager and a professional staff officer. All military people leave DE&S far better for the experience.

## ***What do you most enjoy about your job?***

I love being empowered and empowering my people to make a difference. It is through this trust that we deliver the most. Trust is an interesting notion in this business. It is easy to say – not easy to follow in practice. I am convinced that it is the way to unlock our true potential. I was once privileged enough to have a US Army Second-in-Command. He would always challenge me – asking whether my work was setting the conditions for my

people to succeed. That was an insightful lesson and one which I live by to this day. If my work is not improving my people's ability to succeed, then I am not focused in the right area. Are you improving your people's ability to succeed? If not, change and do it.

## ***What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?***

Sport. I need to compete and exercise to keep myself grounded. My passion is surfing though my appetite to ride some of the bigger waves (as I did when younger) has waned now that I have two baby girls that I am responsible for. I live for my two daughters – even though they have me wrapped around their little fingers. Being born, bred and schooled in Africa, I also love cooking meat over a fire.

## ***What might surprise people about you?***

I love yoga. It has transformed my life. Over the last decade I have been forced to have two knee reconstructions (on the same knee). I found yoga whilst rehabilitating from the first op and it is singularly the key to my mobility today. I love it. Not only is it great for the body, it is great for your mind. If there is anything I could leave you with, it is this, Do yoga – it will change your life.

## DE&S awards the first tranche of innovative contracts for General Munitions

Pictured: A soldier with a type of grenade which will be purchased under the DE&S contract (Picture courtesy of Rheinmetall)



The first tranche of innovative contracts has been signed as DE&S looks to continuously improve the way it buys general munitions for our armed forces.

These contracts, secured by the Defence General Munitions (DGM) project team at DE&S, have been negotiated with suppliers in Germany and Canada – Rheinmetall Waffe Munition and General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems.

It means 40 different types of munition previously tried, tested and used by the armed forces can be repeatedly bought during the next five years including small and medium calibre ammunition, impact rounds and grenades and could result in reductions in price of high quantity purchases by as much as 50 per cent.

Further contracts, including for specialist small arms munitions, countermeasures, explosives, flares and pyrotechnics, will collectively deliver up to £400 million of munitions in the interim period whilst a long-term munitions strategy is developed and implemented.

**These contracts represent a flexible commercial approach with industry for the supply of munitions**

Brigadier Richard Spencer,  
Deputy Director Weapons

Brigadier Richard Spencer, Deputy Director Weapons, said: “These contracts represent a flexible commercial approach with industry for the supply of munitions.

“In contrast to historic approaches where DE&S makes firm commitments to a supplier for the quantity of munitions required over defined periods, these contracts provide the flexibility to place orders on an annual basis that keep pace with customer demand.”

The British Army is expected to be the greatest beneficiary of the contracts, as they use such munitions in combat and training situations.

The contracts will also support Front Line Commands such as the Navy with the supply of rounds for defence against anti-ship missiles as fired from the Phalanx Weapons system installed on Royal Navy and RFA ships, including Type 45 destroyers, Bay class landing ships and Wave class tankers.

The project team is currently assessing different options for buying munitions from 2023 and

these new contracts provide a range of early benefits.

Edd Davies, Assistant Head Commercial, added: “The contracts provide a stable set of terms on which to do business and offer savings made possible by closely aligning specifications and ordering processes with industry standards.”

Paul Opie, DGM team leader, added: “The new pricing approach is driving a change in behaviours by informing customer decisions such as when and how many munitions to buy in any given year.”

## DE&S team procure new cutting-edge radar to support worldwide operations

Pictured: The Long Tactical Range 25 (LTR25) radar (Picture courtesy of Indra)



**A** DE&S project team has completed a competition to procure a new state-of-the-art long-range air defence radar that can be deployed in support of worldwide operations or used to cover gaps in coverage within the UK.

The Air Defence and Electronic Warfare Systems (ADEWS) team based at RAF Henlow have awarded the £13.1 million contract to Indra, a Spain based global company with offices in London and Hampshire.

Indra won the competition with their Long Tactical Range 25 in the face of stiff competition from other radar manufacturers. Due to its small number of components, this system can be rapidly deployed worldwide using in-service military vehicles and transport aircraft such as the C130.

The radar will be used mainly for long range surveillance of cooperative (secondary surveillance) and non-cooperative aircraft. The flexibility of the system means that the RAF will be able to carry out a variety of battlespace management missions, including long and short term deployments worldwide, as well as gap-filling in the UK in

response to national operational requirements.

ADEWS team leader David Braun said: "Through hard work, dedication and a strong open relationship with our RAF customer, the team have surpassed expectations with getting Indra on contract in a little over six months (instead of the usual 12) in order to meet tight delivery timelines. We are looking forward to developing an excellent relationship with our new supplier, as we seek to accept the radar into service in less than 12 months, rather than the usual 24."

Indra will deliver the radar to the RAF later this year.



**Through hard work, dedication and a strong open relationship with our RAF customer, the team have surpassed expectations**

David Braun, ADEWS team leader



Pictured: Apache debuts on HMS Queen Elizabeth (Pictures by LH Kyle Heller)

# Apache touches down on QEC during much anticipated debut

**D**E&S teams have played a key role in trials after an Apache attack helicopter touched down on the landing deck of Britain's biggest warship for the first time.

The DE&S Apache delivery team and Warship Aviation Authority team for QEC Class helped with a Preliminary Ship Interface Trial (PSIT) following the arrival of the aircraft on board HMS Queen Elizabeth (QEC) on June 3.

Members of the teams were on board as a key part of a multi-stakeholder joint integration trials team led by 667 (Development and Trials) Squadron Army Air Corps (AAC) Middle Wallop.

They worked jointly with Queen Elizabeth Air Engineering Department, 656 Sqn AAC ground crew, REME Aviation engineers, QinetiQ, AAC Aviation Standards and staff from the Apache Helicopter Force at Wattisham.

Procedures evaluated by staff during the three-day trial included stowing the gunship securely to carry out maintenance and refuelling the helicopter, as well as the safe handling and loading of weapons and ammunition.

Colonel David Potts, Apache project team leader at DE&S, said: "My team took immense pride in seeing Apache touch down for the very first time on QEC and played a key role in evaluating on board procedures that will ensure the aircraft can safely be operated from the carriers.

"I am delighted that the trials were declared a success and the team were thanked for their valuable contribution by Major Alex Warner (667 Sqn AAC)."

Apache operated sporadically from the decks of HMS Illustrious and HMS Ocean – including conducting air strikes at targets in Libya during the civil war of 2011. It had not, however, touched down on the nation's new class of carriers until last month, flying in from Wattisham in Suffolk and safely guided on to the sprawling flight deck by Leading Aircraft Handler Sion Rose.

QEC has already hosted Merlin, Wildcats and RAF Chinooks to help write the ship's operations manual, so the arrival of the first Apache on board signalled another major milestone in the life cycle of the 65,000-tonne aircraft carrier.

The trials are a vital step in granting approval for QEC and eventually HMS Prince of Wales to embark Apache helicopters and also issuing a Ship Air Release clearance for the aircraft to operate safely from the ships for training and ultimately on operations.

## Apache at a glance:

<b>330kph</b> Max Speed	<b>2</b> Crew
<b>15,000ft</b> Max altitude	<b>14.63m</b> Span
<b>475km</b> Range	<b>17.57m</b> Length

- Apache is assigned to roles including offensive action, control and direction of firepower, information, surveillance, target acquisition, and reconnaissance (ISTAR), command and control and escort duties.
- It is armed with a 30mm automatic cannon, wing-mounted 70mm rockets and Hellfire missiles.
- The Army's 50 Apache AH-64D helicopters will be replaced by 50 AH-64E variants.
- The AH-64E flies faster, has a greater lift capability and greater range. It will also see improvements to sights and sensors, allowing targets to be accurately identified and engaged at greater ranges.
- The DE&S Helicopters Project Team supports the existing Apache fleet and is overseeing the upgrade to the AH-64E variant.

# UK F-35s join fight against Daesh

Pictured: F-35 has undertaken its first operational missions over Syria and Iraq (Picture by Cpl Nicholas Egan)



**T**he Lightning Delivery Team (LDT), DE&S, has supported the UK F-35B Lightning's first operational missions which took place over the skies of Syria and Iraq.

The stealth jets have been flying alongside Typhoon as part of Operation Shader, which is the UK contribution to the Global Coalition's fight against Daesh in these two Middle Eastern countries.

The F-35's operations follow a successful training period in Cyprus, called Exercise Lightning Dawn, aimed at building capability for the aircraft and supporting elements.

Due to the exceptional performance of the aircraft, pilots, and support staff during this time, it was decided that the F-35s were ready to make their operational debut from RAF Akrotiri, alongside the Typhoons.

The first UK F-35B operational sorties were flown on Sunday, June 16, when the aircraft conducted a patrol over Syria, and UK F-35s have flown a further 12 sorties since then.

Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier, said: "This first operational mission for the UK's F-35 Lightning confirms the impressive progress which we have made in introducing this formidable new capability

**This first operational mission for the UK's F-35 Lightning confirms the impressive progress which we have made in introducing this formidable new capability into service**

Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Hillier

into service. It is testament to the outstanding abilities of our dedicated and highly trained air and ground crew that 617 Squadron has achieved this important milestone so quickly and so effectively."

Three members of the LDT Security Team deployed to Cyprus to support their RAF security colleagues, providing additional resilience, skills and expertise to the deployed security team. In addition, the LDT worked alongside contractors and military personnel to sustain the operation.

A critical piece in the ability of F-35 to do its job is the deployable ops facility, which houses classified systems equipment needed to support UK F-35 operations. LDT personnel have worked with their operational counterparts to maximise the potential of this facility, while learning valuable lessons on its first deployment.

The LDT has also worked with the F-35 programme on supply chain support, to ensure maximum spares availability at all times, thereby preventing any potential disruption to Exercise Lightning Dawn.

Mark Thornton, LDT Leader, DE&S, said: "The Lightning Operations Centre at RAF Marham continues to support the whole UK F-35 fleet wherever they may be in the world.

"The deployment to Cyprus has shown that the LDT and the Lightning Enterprise as a whole are all focused on the same goal of delivering a safe, affordable, sustainable expeditionary airpower capability into UK service."

Later in the year, 617 Squadron will embark in HMS Queen Elizabeth for the first time. The UK jets will conduct operational tests, alongside 17 Test and Evaluation Squadron, onboard the carrier in the USA during the Westlant 19 deployment, proving their capability at sea. This is a vital step on the path to the first carrier strike deployment planned for 2021.

## DE&S staff give back during National Volunteers' Week

Pictured: Members of DE&S staff build a bug hotel at MOD Abbey Wood (Picture by Beth Squire)



**D**E&S employees took part in a range of activities to benefit the local community and environment as part of Volunteers' Week.

Volunteers' Week, held during the first week of June every year, was created as a way to celebrate the fantastic contribution that millions of volunteers make across the UK.

At DE&S, a series of volunteering events were organised by the Volunteers' Network to encourage staff to think about the difference volunteering can make to the communities around us.

During the working week more than 120 employees, including those from the Submarine Delivery Agency and Head Office and Corporate Services staff based at Abbey Wood, gave their time to take part in different "taster" activities which highlighted some of the variety of opportunities that exist.

Twenty members of the DE&S Waddington Team took part in two days of volunteering at the International Bomber Command Centre (IBCC). Together they built fences, placed memorial benches, cleaned and placed sign posts, repaired and fitted 50 tree supports, weeded and cut grass. The team accomplished a

**The amazing response and support from staff made Volunteers' Week a huge success**

Darren Kewley, Co-chair of the Volunteers' Network

huge amount within two days of volunteering.

Chief Technician Christopher Godfrey said: "It was great to get out and physically do something as a team, and especially to support such a unique and important place as the IBCC. I would recommend to anyone to take part in future volunteering events, even if your practical skills are limited."

At Abbey Wood, 18 volunteers set out around the outside perimeter fence with bags, hoops and grabbers borrowed from South Gloucestershire Council to assist in a litter pick, collecting in total a bag of recycling and non-recycling waste each, which were picked up by the council the next day.

There was the creation of a 'bug hotel', in partnership with the Abbey Wood site Safety, Health, Environmental and Fire lead. Volunteers foraged around site to collect natural materials such as leaves, sticks and pine cones to be included in layers providing hide-oholes for creatures galore.

The event went so well that the Environment team are looking at locating further sites at MOD Abbey Wood to situate even more hotels and encourage wildlife.

Elsewhere, 23 volunteers went into three local primary schools,

Little Stoke Primary School, Meadowbrook Primary School and Saltford Primary School, to assist in reading with students. The children had a chance to read their books either one-to-one or in small groups with DE&S volunteers, a task the teacher or teaching assistant would normally do.

Chris Jelf, Deputy Headteacher, Little Stoke Primary School, said: "We are really keen to have volunteers come into school. We really appreciate any support your network of volunteers can offer and look forward to building strong links with the MOD."

And there was a fantastic response to a donation request, enabling volunteers to donate to the three chosen charities: Caring in Bristol, North Bristol Foodbank and Baby Bank. Over 90 bags were donated to the charities, including more than 700 nappies.

Co-chair of the Volunteers' Network, Darren Kewley, said: "The amazing response and support from staff made Volunteers' Week a huge success. I'd like to say a big thank you to all those that took part. We made some important links with local schools and charities and hope that we can continue to support them."

# 60 second spotlight

**"I appeared on Mastermind in November 2018. My specialist subject was the Cambridge Spy Ring"**

## Alister Jones

### Job:

Commercial Lead for the UK E-7 Wedgetail Delivery Team

### Your route into DE&S?

I joined through a bulk recruitment campaign in 2009. I had been looking for a larger organisation with variety and opportunities and DE&S fitted the bill.

### Your claim to fame?

I appeared on Mastermind in November 2018. My specialist subject was the Cambridge Spy Ring, which I had become fascinated about after reading a book about Kim Philby. In those days security vetting was almost non-existent for anyone joining MI5, MI6 or the Foreign Office. The authorities assumed that no-one with a middle-upper class background who'd been educated at Cambridge could possibly be a spy... How wrong they were. I came second in my heat, but did as well as I could, and had fun.

### Your advice to anyone?

Be prepared to learn from other people at DE&S beyond your specialism or function. Find out what they do and how you can work with them, as it makes you more effective. Secondly, when you are maxed out, make sure you take the time to pause, check you are on track and that others around you are ok as well, and then refocus on the task in front of you.

### What do you do when you're away from work?

Lots of family things – increasingly involving me being my kids' taxi service. I do a pub quiz once a week too, which I very much enjoy.

### What are you most proud of?

In work, I was the Commercial lead helping place the £1.5bn contract for the UK Airborne Early Warning & Control E-7 Acquisition Contract in March this year. We submitted a business case to Investment Approvals Committee and negotiated the contract in five months – surprising many who thought it couldn't be done. Out of work I have run six marathons, five of them in under three hours. Running a marathon had been a long-standing goal for me, and once I'd done one I realised I really wanted to improve – hence doing five more. With age come more injuries, so now I do less running and more cycling.

### If you were sent to a desert island, what three things would you take with you?

An atlas, because I love reading maps, a cricket ball because I'm a huge cricket fan and want to perfect a decent leg spin delivery and my bed because I'll need something cosy to sleep in.

### What irritates you the most?

People who are hypocritical or don't take responsibility.

### What is your favourite place in the world?

Anywhere I can sit and watch a day's test cricket. I'd be happy at the Basin Reserve in Wellington (New Zealand), Lord's, the home of English cricket, and the Melbourne Cricket Ground – I've never been there but would love to be part of the famous Boxing Day crowd.

### What would surprise people about you?

My friend and I were bored one wet school holidays, and we decided to see who could hold their breath for the longest. I won with 3 minutes 40 seconds, but just about passed out in the process.



**Do you or someone you know deserve their 60 seconds in the spotlight?**

Email  
tom.morris114@mod.gov.uk



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# Inspiring school children and a worthy charity cycling challenge



## Members of the Yeovil Branch of the MOD Women's Network returned to volunteer at a local school again conducting interviews with Year 10s.

The group carried out 120 interviews at the Westfield Academy in Yeovil and provided valuable feedback on their performance, as well as gaining insight on how to adapt their questions to get the best out of each pupil.

The students were given a job specification before being asked about their skill set, what they could bring to the role, their ambitions and where they saw themselves in five years.

The feedback covered the quality

of their answers and emphasised the importance of positive body language, information students captured in their career logs.

Louise Stevens, Wildcat Business Manager and Yeovil Branch Co-Lead, said: "Our volunteers benefitted by developing their personal skills, testing their interview techniques and providing constructive feedback. It was a win-win for all concerned. There was a fantastic feel good factor in the office the following day and everyone was sharing their experiences and pleased they had contributed to the local community."

## A group of nine DE&S Project Professional Graduates left MOD Abbey Wood to cycle 260 miles to Land's End for charity.

The three-day ride to the most westerly point of mainland Cornwall was organised by Henry Honeywood, who also took part in the challenge.

The cyclists stopped in Exeter after day one, in Newquay after battling the Dartmoor Hills on day two, and Penzance on day three, having reached Land's End 10 miles earlier.

Henry said: "What started out as an idea to do the London to Brighton Cycle quickly spiralled

into planning a three-day 260-mile ride with far too much disregard for our preparedness.

"We started the planning late last year and got together a team of nine Project Professional graduates to raise money for Help for Heroes.

"We have raised more than £750. This amount will go a long way to help those servicemen and women, veterans and their families who serve us and our country to keep us safe.

"However, we would really like to increase that amount."

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/henry-honeywood2](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/henry-honeywood2)



## Two Defence Munitions Gosport apprentices inspired primary school children during a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) event at CEMAST College in Lee-on-the-Solent.

Over the day, Frazer Graham and Connor Kwaitkowski encouraged the children to design, build and test their own miniature parachutes.

Following the tests, the children reviewed their parachute design and were asked how they thought it could be improved or adapted. Using the information gained from the experiments, the children collectively produced a strong theory for a good parachute design.

Frazer (pictured right) said: "It was really good to see the children engage hands on with the topic. Hopefully we have sparked an interest for them to follow a STEM related topic in the near future."

Overall the task allowed the children to see how STEM relates to everyday problems and how solutions can be conceived when working together as a group.



# Susan humbled by RNLI award

**A DE&S employee has been recognised for her commitment with the Portishead Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI).**

Susan Beaton, a project controls officer within DE&S' Defence Equipment Sales Authority, was given an award for excellence in volunteering by RNLI CEO Paul Boissier.

The award recognised her dedication and professional support to the Portishead team by mentoring trainees and helping them achieve full competence within 12 months of joining.

Susan's courage, hard work and commitment to saving lives at sea was also highlighted.

Susan said: "Volunteering with Portishead RNLI is something I am incredibly passionate about and I was both humbled and proud to receive this award."

Previously operated by the Portishead Yacht and Sailing Club (from 1970) and the Portishead Lifeboat Trust (from 1996), the rescue service was officially adopted by the RNLI in April 2015, becoming the RNLI's 238th Lifeboat Station.

To secure that adoption, a new purpose-built lifeboat station with better facilities was built. The service covers an area of the Bristol Channel around the River Avon.



## MOTTO the MOD Lottery March winners

- £10,000** Karen Devlin, Blackpool
- £2,500** Andrew Foy, Feltham
- £1,000** Victoria Nolan, Salisbury
- £500** Jack Attan, Feltham
- £250** Paula Lambert, Lincoln
- £100** Giles Padfield, Corsham
- Samantha Cannon, Huntingdon
- Darren Tyler, Catterick
- Graham Bradley, Essex
- Stuart Cherrie, ABW
- Hazel Duncombe, Andover
- Ian Glass, Reading
- Phineas Gale-Sides, Corsham
- Christopher Marchant, Portsmouth
- Adrian Hall, Yeovil
- James Callaway, DSTL
- Denise Cracknell, Aylesbury
- Linda Kelly, ABW
- Paul Bowen-Miller, ABW
- TBC, UKHO
- Linda Cope, Andover
- Carrie-Ann Truckle, Andover
- Gareth Ames, Liverpool
- Douglas Proctor, Gosport
- Christopher Sturgess, Paderborn

Last month's missing word was:

## Support

## Word Search

- |             |             |            |
|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Academy     | Inspire     | Project    |
| Apache      | Lands End   | Specialist |
| Cricket     | Lifeboat    | Success    |
| Cycle       | Maritime    | Technology |
| Engineering | Melbourne   | Vehicles   |
| Foxhound    | New Zealand | Wedgetail  |
| Indra       | Portishead  | Yeovil     |

Find which word or name is missing from this wordsearch.

Note - they may appear vertically, horizontally, diagonally, forward or backward.

E F K B S Y E E M A A V D T C L F M  
T R O D F R M A N P U E P E R I P M  
B X N X I P R E A N N I H K T F Q Z  
U A T P H I R C D R E D E C L E P G  
L K S S T O H O U A K W Y I B B G O  
T N R I I E U O J Q C X G R S O K B  
I R M P E L B N C E S A O C U A A H  
A E Z E A L A N D I C G L H C T R J  
G N I R E E N I G N E T O N C Y D M  
B S W M L B E F C O E V N Y E Y N N  
W E D G E T A I L E R L H J S B I G  
N B U U L I V O E Y P T C Z S E N D  
H S E L C I H E V P P S E Y X J B K  
A P H N S P B B Y T E E T M C X Y O

# Case Study

Rebecca Bradshaw, Customs Specialist within DE&S, gives her insight into some of the benefits of working for the organisation

**Name:**

Rebecca Bradshaw

**Job title:**

Customs Specialist within the DE&S Financial Accounting Tax Enabling team based in Manchester.

**How long have you worked for DE&S?**

Since it began operating in 2007 as part of an audit team.

**Why did you choose to pursue a career in DE&S?**

Honestly, default rather than choice, but I have chosen to remain because it continued to provide interesting and challenging tasks as well as being a supportive organisation to work for.

**What does your role entail?**

My role in DE&S is to provide support in identifying and managing customs-duty related influences and costs on projects from design through to disposal. As customs compliance sits firmly with the devil in the detail, I liaise with commercial, finance and project staffs as well as our contractors regularly. I need to keep up to date with legislative requirements that affect not only the movement of goods but also the affordability of projects. Customs is sometimes a missed aspect in a procurement plan, but it can incur significant costs, so the earlier I engage with a team the easier it is to ensure there are no nasty surprises when goods arrive.

**What are the opportunities to develop within your function?**

I have recently completed a diploma in World Customs Compliance and Regulations with the

Institute of Export (IOE) funded by DE&S Finance. I will sadly be missing my graduation ceremony but will be celebrating in Disney (Mickey Mouse graduation cap and all). The IOE also run courses on specific aspects of compliance that my department has supported me to attend. My function primarily supports finance qualifications but is open to any training that can benefit the business.

**What do you most enjoy about your job?**

The diversity of the programmes I support and the challenges of the issues that arise: one day it's ships, another it's aircraft, then food, dogs, clothing, vehicles – you name it. I get to see all aspects of the projects within DE&S. I love a challenge and this role provides that in spades.

**What's your greatest achievement in your role to date?**

There are a few but a recent one was supporting the Defence Equipment Sales Authority and the Brazilian Navy with the sale of HMS Ocean. In the past, the Brazilian Navy had incurred VAT bills on the goods they were importing to support the sale on a previous purchase. For HMS Ocean I coordinated the import of goods and drugs licensing to legitimately suspend all taxes. This not only saved an ally significant costs but also enhanced the reputation of DE&S.

**Why would you recommend DE&S to others as a great place to work?**

The department offers a diversity of roles, projects and opportunities for those that want them, along with being flexible and supportive of people's lives outside of work as much as in work. I am a remote worker, based in Manchester, which shows that the department is open to all types of working patterns and locations.

**What are the social benefits of working for DE&S?**

Flexible and smart working both jump to mind but, as part of the Civil Service, there is also access to a myriad of discounts that can save a lot on things like cinema trips, theatres, shopping and sporting events.



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Civil Service

## Here are six great reasons to work for DE&S



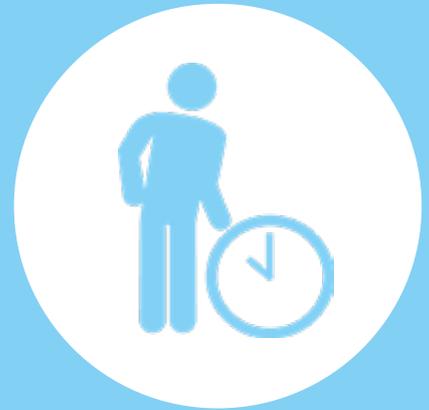
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### DE&S/SDA Commercial Officer DE&S

Bristol | £19,000 - £34,000pa | Level SAS

Estimated timeline: July - August 2019

Post type **Permanent**

**Job Description:** Within DE&S/SDA, the Commercial function is the only function that is contractually allowed to commit taxpayers' money to support the needs of the Armed Forces. The role comes with great responsibility and you may hold a commercial delegation of up to £2.5 million. Our Commercial function provides independent professional judgement on commercial and procurement business matters. It is made up of professionals specialising in commercial strategies, compliance with public procurement regulations, tendering and contracting and commercial risk. In these diverse and dynamic roles, you will be at the heart of all kinds of commercial projects, which will involve leading and assisting with the development of appropriate contracting methods and strategies. Additionally, you will be working at an organisation that believes in developing its employee's talents and DE&S offer a vast array of training and development opportunities to help employees develop their careers. As an example, within the Commercial function you are encouraged to gain qualifications with the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS).

# WORK FOR DE&S

"The department offers a diversity of roles, projects and opportunities, along with being flexible and supportive of people's lives outside of work"

*Rebecca Bradshaw, Customs Specialist within DE&S*

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