Ministry of Defence Economists

The purpose of the Ministry of Defence (MOD) is to protect the people of the United Kingdom and our overseas territories, prevent conflict, and be ready to fight our enemies.

What We Do
Economists within MOD are employed across the department’s Analysis Function, in commercial teams, Defence Intelligence and in cost assurance. This provides a broad range of roles and opportunities that apply different areas of economics, thereby promoting career development. Often working in cross-disciplinary teams, economists operate at the heart of the department’s decision making.

Areas of work include:

- providing analysis, briefing, assessments, advice and forecasts of economic matters to help MOD policy-making, including industrial policy and personnel policy;
- providing forecasts of fuel prices and advice on exchange rates;
- reviewing and scrutinising Business Cases and Investment Appraisals on all major items of expenditures (e.g. new weapons systems, accommodation and IT projects);
- developing MOD policy and providing advice on Investment Appraisal and Evaluation;
- producing economic statistics and accompanying advice such as estimates of defence inflation;
- analysing the macro-economic position and prospects and defence spending internationally

Where We Work
Assistant Economists are currently employed in MOD Main Building in London, Abbey Wood (Bristol), and Porton Down (Wiltshire). Whilst every effort will be made to meet geographic preferences, posts will not always be available in all of these locations.
The Chief Economist is based in London.

Pay and Conditions
Assistant Economists: Starting at £32,929 inside London and £31,691 outside London (2018 rates – awaiting pay award confirmation wef August 2019). London staff also receive £3000 location Recruitment and Retention allowance and an Economist specialist function allowance of £1,000pa with the possibility of an additional £1,500pa for a relevant MSc, to be offered at the discretion of the Chief Economist).

After two years in service Fast Stream Assistant Economists are considered, by the Chief Economist, for advancement to a higher level. This advancement attracts a starting salary of £40,123 in London and £38,585 outside (2018 rates).

Staff inside and outside of London are able to work flexible working hours: 37 hours per week and are entitled to 25 days annual leave a year rising by one day per year to 30 days.
You will be entitled to choose between a defined benefit pension scheme or a stakeholder pension with an employer contribution.

**Training and Development**

We offer an extensive induction programme for Assistant Economists including the MOD Fast Stream induction course at the Defence Academy.

A variety of Continuous Professional Development opportunities are available to develop both technical skills and knowledge and leadership and management behaviours including opportunities for sponsorship of a part-time Masters Degree in Economics.

Assistant Economists will rotate posts at roughly 12-month intervals. After the first two postings, Assistant Economists are invited to participate in the post rotation cluster that MOD jointly operates with Home Office and Ministry of Justice. The cluster opens up an even broader range of roles across all three departments to provide opportunities for development and experience.

**Routes in:**

**Assistant Economists**

Successful applicants are members of both the Government Economic Service and the Civil Service Fast Stream and are assessed against competencies required by both. Forms of assessment include online aptitude tests, presentations, interviews and written exercises.

**GES Graduate Apprentice Programme**

The department offers economics degree apprenticeships as part of the GES Graduate Apprentice Programme

MOD also offers **sandwich student** placements and GES **summer student** placement opportunities.

**Security Clearances**

All Ministry of Defence posts require security clearance. Some posts in Appraisal and Evaluation are ‘Reserved’ posts for which additional nationality constraints apply. Posts in Defence Intelligence require Developed Vetting – a high level of security clearance, which individuals can apply for once in their first post.

**Further Information**

John Ogilvie (Chief Economist)
Tel: 020 7218 4538
email: john.ogilvie254@mod.uk

David Disney (Cluster Manager)
Tel: 020 7807 0459
email: david.disney146@mod.uk