



UK Government policy is to maintain political and military freedom of action despite the presence, threat or use of chemical, biological or radiological (CBR) weapons, highlighted in the Strategic Defence and Security Review and the National Security Strategy. Dstl supports this policy via a broad programme of work, aimed at protecting UK interests (military or civilian) in the UK or overseas.

The programme covers a range of CBR activities, from capabilities to facilities. It provides decision-makers with timely information relating to a CBR attack or event that would inform the course of action to survive such an incident.

Research covers detection of chemical and biological agents and providing protective measures. This includes medical counter-measures, ranging from vaccines to protect individuals against infection, to post exposure treatments; physical protection including CBR suits, respirators and collective protection; and decontamination of personnel, equipment and infrastructure.

The CBR programme maintains the UK strategic sovereign capability to assess the hazard from current/emerging chemical and biological threats to UK Forces and wider UK interests. This includes skills and techniques to handle harmful agents, the analytical

Approximate funding (2015/16):

**£94.6 million - 29% is delivered externally\***

\*The 2015/16 funding is a projected forecast and is subject to change in-year

techniques to identify them and quantify their toxicity, and the ability to maintain and update the UK's knowledge base.

### Working in partnership

Dstl played a very active role supporting UK Government's operation to fight Ebola in West Africa providing advice on

- decontamination
- treatment
- diagnosis
- casualty rates and forecasting bed occupancy rates.

Working together UK industry and Dstl developed an improved method of testing blood samples which reduced the strain on facilities.

Some aspects of this programme may be contracted through a number of mechanisms throughout the 2015/16 year.

Details of these routes to contracting can be found in the 'How to sell to Dstl - get involved' factsheet.

For more information on the CBR programme, contact:  
centralenquiries@dstl.gov.uk.

