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*the magazine for
defence equipment
and support*



**Putting the 'S' in DE&S: new
contracts for RFA fleet**

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Foreword

"It's great to see employees spreading the word that DE&S is a great place to work, giving their time to inspire hundreds of young people about job opportunities with us"



By Sir Simon Bollom, CEO

It's been another busy month in DE&S and it's great to receive further positive feedback over the past few weeks from the Chief of Defence Staff and Defence Minister Stuart Andrew

about the excellent work we deliver.

Some of this month's achievements include the signing of contracts with British firms to support the UK's Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA) ships and the Royal Navy's Survey and Hydrographic Fleet. Expected to be worth more than £1 billion, these contracts secure more than 700 jobs at shipyards across the country. The deal is also expected to deliver savings worth more than £100 million for defence.

In addition, we have signed a £23 million agreement to provide Royal Navy and Royal Fleet Auxiliary ships with new state-of-the-art radios that are more secure and easier to use, ensuring those on board can concentrate on performing their roles to the very best of their ability.

The Apache Capability Sustainment Programme is progressing well with the news that the final two Apache AH Mk1 helicopters from storage will be transported to the United States later this month. This programme to replace the current Apache fleet with the latest Apache AH-64E is a huge endeavour and the team's foresight to use parts from the current fleet rather than buying brand new variants is expected to save the MOD in the realms of £175 million.

And the Minister for Defence Procurement has also announced a £93 million deal to modernise the British Army and Royal Marines' very short-range

air defence capability, securing 100 jobs in Belfast and ensuring our armed forces have a potent defensive ability.

Last month I know the A400M Atlas team were delighted to see the aircraft deliver UK aid to Indonesia, which had been devastated by an earthquake and tsunami. A very proud moment that was facilitated by DE&S' Defence Supply Chain Operations and Movements (DSCOM) team at MOD Abbey Wood.

More than 15,000km away in New York, there was huge excitement when the HMS Queen Elizabeth anchored in the city's harbour during a break from F-35B flight trials. This incredible aircraft carrier is a spectacular capability and I am also immensely proud that DE&S continues to play a key role in supporting the Royal Navy getting back into the business of Carrier-borne operations.

Closer to home, it's great to see employees spreading the word that DE&S is a great place to work, giving their time to inspire hundreds of young people about job opportunities with us at South Gloucestershire and Stroud College last month, while a daring team of DE&S graduates and apprentices successfully completed the Three Welsh Peaks Challenge as part of the Prince's Trust Million Makers competition.

And finally, congratulations to DE&S business manager James Gregory, who recently won a World Strongest Man title in Finland. You are clearly a force to be reckoned with! Well done.

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RFA Fort Victoria during a counter-piracy operation in 2010

Photo by LA(Phot) AJ MacLeod

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Air Vice-Marshal Keith Bethell, Director Combat Air, talks to Desider about pride in Project Centurion, his plans for upgrading military flying training and RAF 100



In my role, I'm lucky to be at the heart of developing and implementing some of the most exciting and cutting-edge capability and programmes in DE&S. This includes fast jets, Unmanned Air Systems and military flying training.

Thinking back on this year, the highlight that leaps out at me is the RAF 100 celebrations, particularly the event held in London on July 10. My wife and I were lucky enough to attend the Westminster Abbey service and watched the Buckingham Palace parade and flypast on a big screen in Horse Guards Parade.

Knowing most of the aircraft in the flypast came from the Combat Air portfolio was a source of great pride. Almost every aircraft was represented, including the three new F-35s. This was the first time these aircraft had been seen in public in the UK and something I'll never forget.

In December 2018, we hope to have achieved the F-35 initial operating capability. This is a culmination of over 20 years of effort from thousands of people within DE&S over that time. It was a great privilege to be at RAF

Marham in June when the first four aircraft landed.

Another success I hope to be celebrating is Project Centurion, the upgrade to introduce three new weapon types onto Typhoon, as well as a major upgrade to the aircraft Mission Systems. We're currently on track to deliver that in December too. It's been a huge accomplishment for my team and is probably my proudest achievement to date – the reason I say that is because I was Head of the Fast Air Support Team when we came up with Project Centurion as a concept.

It's a huge improvement in the capability of Typhoon. Despite all the obstacles we've had to overcome, it's a fantastic example of the whole force in action (DE&S, RAF and industry) and a remarkable effort from the team. I've been there from start to finish and we'll hopefully get it over the line this year.

Moving into 2019, my main priority is upscaling our flying training system to improve training capacity and cope with the increased demand. However, we don't only need to meet the demands of UK defence. We also

My aim is to be able to empower people to do their job without undue hindrance, restriction or constraint

need to increase our offering for International Defence Training to meet our international obligations linked to our equipment exports and, more broadly, our relationship with Partner Nations.

But despite my focus on equipment and capability, DE&S is a people organisation. The only asset we have is our people and the intellectual property they bring, and we need to look after them. My aim is to be able to empower people to do their job without undue hindrance, restriction or constraint. There's a whole raft of talent here – why wouldn't we want to ensure they can operate to the best effect?

We've been through a massive change programme over the last two years and we now need to focus on how we ensure our culture is aligned to the new ways of working we have introduced. Cultural change is hard and doesn't happen overnight. We need to constantly streamline how we do business to make life simpler for our people, so we can continue supporting the Front Line Commands for the next 100 years.

A trusted partner

Key technology, advanced manufacturing, highly skilled teams – every day, we bring our operational excellence to play a critical role in the development, production and sustainment of the F-35.

Contribution where it counts.





Pictured clockwise from left: One of the Apaches from storage on a Joint Aircraft Recovery and Transportation Squadron (JARTS) low loader at RAF Brize Norton, Apache being off-loaded from an RAF C-17 at Huntsville International Airport, Apaches being towed along the perimeter road at Huntsville International Airport to the dismantling facility two miles away, Apache being off-loaded from the low loader at RAF Brize Norton, further picture of the Apaches under police escort at Huntsville and an Apache in Joint Helicopter Command (JHC) temporary hangar at RAF Brize Norton (Pictures by Captain Craig People and Duncan Metcalfe)

Apache programme reaches significant milestone

"Apache CSP is a high value programme to deliver battle-winning capability to the British Army and it is good to see the team making such good progress"

Colonel David Potts, Apache Delivery team leader

The final two Apache AH Mk1 helicopters from storage will be transported to the United States later this month to be stripped of parts that can be used on the new AH-64E variant.

The aircraft, at the Attack Helicopter Force's Wattisham Flying Station in Suffolk, have been in storage as a cost-saving measure so they could be harvested for parts for the current AH Mk1 fleet.

The Apache Capability Sustainment Programme (CSP) is replacing the Apache AH Mk1 Attack Helicopters with the latest Apache AH-64E through a Foreign Military Sale with the US Government.

As part of the production process for the AH-64E, some parts, including the fire control radar, the targeting and sighting system and main rotor hub from the AH Mk1, will be removed and updated where necessary at the Boeing sub-contractor facility in Huntsville, Alabama.

Using parts from the current Apache AH Mk1 rather than buying 50 'brand new' AH-64E variants is set to save the MOD up to \$250 million (£175 million).

Mk1 parts that are needed to maintain the Apache AH Mk1's capability through to end of service in 2024 were removed by Leonardo Helicopters, the prime contractor for the original Apache AH Mk1, before the aircraft left the UK.

The harvested parts will then be transported to the Boeing facility in Mesa, Arizona, where they will be remanufactured into the UK's AH-64E aircraft, which comes with a new airframe, engines, rotor blades and avionics systems.

The first four Apaches in storage were transported to the US aboard C-17/Antonov aircraft in February, a move coordinated by the Apache CSP in conjunction with DE&S' Defence Supply Chain Operations and Movements (DSCOM) team.

DSCOM's efforts in finding aircraft to transport the Apache aircraft to the United States from RAF Brize Norton is thought to have saved in the region of \$2 million (£1.5 million).

The first Apache AH-64E are expected to be delivered to the UK in summer 2020, with the 50th and final aircraft due to arrive in 2024. Full operating capability is expected later that year.

Duncan Metcalfe, transportation lead for Apache CSP, said: "Transporting the final 'in-storage' Apache to the US is a significant milestone in the Apache CSP programme.

"I would like to thank the efforts of those at DSCOM who have ensured we made significant savings on transporting the aircraft to the US and to staff at RAF Brize Norton whose support has been critical in terms of keeping the programme on track."

Colonel David Potts, the Apache Delivery team leader, said, "Apache CSP is a high value programme to deliver battle-winning capability to the British Army and it is good to see the team making such good progress. I know the Attack Helicopter Force is watching this programme with eager anticipation."



DM Beith celebrates 75 years

Defence Munitions (DM) Beith have held a Families Day to celebrate the site's 75th anniversary and to help raise awareness of DE&S in the local community.

Established in 1943 as an MOD munitions depot during the Second World War, DM Beith has facilities to store, maintain, modify, refurbish, produce and test weapons for all the armed services.

Earlier this year the site opened its doors to more than 500 family members, friends and employees to showcase the important work that is done there.

Visitors were invited to enjoy a

bus tour to help them appreciate the sheer scale of the site, which occupies almost 1,000 acres.

In addition, other displays included a sniffer dog demonstration, Scottish Ambulance Service, Scottish Fire and Rescue, owl exhibit, police equipment and DM Beith's own vehicle displays.

Opening the event, Head of Establishment Stephen Brown presented two of the DM Beith Depot Charities – Erskine Care Homes for veterans and North Ayrshire Cancer Care – each with a cheque for £650 (one pictured above), which had previously been fundraised by staff.

New contract for Engineering services signed

DE&S and the Aurora Engineering Partnership – formed by QinetiQ, Atkins, a member of the SNC-Lavalin Group, and BMT – signed the Engineering Delivery Partner (EDP) contract in October.

The EDP contract provides a streamlined, structured and efficient mechanism for securing engineering products and services, and temporary specialist engineering support to the business where internal resource is not available. This will help DE&S reduce the costs of engineering services, while ensuring the UK's armed forces receive the best equipment and support.

As with our existing partnerships, Programme Delivery Partner and Commercial Delivery Partner, the new arrangements ensure that this is the default route to market when internal options have been exhausted or for urgent requirements.

The EDP contract delivers significant benefits including improved value for money and enabling a step-change in the way services are delivered. It means DE&S can easily access some of the best engineering resources in the country, which will help to provide a better service in providing equipment to the armed forces.

Wildcat supporting F-35B trials

A Wildcat helicopter from RNAS Yeovilton has been embarked on HMS Monmouth escorting HMS Queen Elizabeth in the US as her historic F-35B fighter jet trials continue.

Wildcat Flight 213 from the Somerset base, better known as call sign 'Blackjack', is enhancing capability as the Type 23 frigate's 'eyes in the sky'.

DE&S Wildcat team leader, Captain Mark Langrill, said: "Wildcat will be an important part of the Royal Navy's new Carrier Strike Group, and it is exciting to see 213 Flight's aircraft operating so successfully with HMS Queen Elizabeth."

F-35B aircraft recently conducted their first night flying trials off the aircraft carrier, which is fitted with specially-designed LED lighting on her flight deck.

The night-time trials were

carried out using state-of-the-art night-vision technology, with the pilots and aircraft handlers successfully guiding the aircraft onto the flight deck.

The cutting-edge aircraft has also successfully carried out Shipborne Rolling Vertical Landings (SRVL).

SRVL, an innovative manoeuvre unique to the UK fleet, allows jets to land onboard with heavier loads, meaning they won't need to jettison expensive fuel and weapons before landing.

**See page 14 for more on the trials*





HMS Queen Elizabeth arrived in New York last month, taking a break from F-35B flight trials and marking the start of an historic visit to the US city. The largest ship in the history of Great Britain's Royal Navy, which has been home to more than 1,500 military and civilian personnel for the past two months, anchored in New York Harbour under the gaze of the Statue of Liberty for a week before returning to the North Atlantic to resume trials.

Type 26 frigate announcement

Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson has announced that one of Britain's new cutting-edge Type 26 frigates will be called HMS Birmingham, becoming the fourth Royal Navy ship to bear that name.

The 6,900-tonne frigates will be world-class anti-submarine warships and will provide cutting-edge protection for the likes of the UK's nuclear deterrent and the Queen Elizabeth Class aircraft carriers, with the ability to conduct a whole range of other operations anywhere in the world.

The Defence Secretary said: "Three of our nation's ships have proudly borne the name Birmingham. Those ships won five battle honours. Today, in honour of this great city, we will be naming one of our eight Type 26 global combat ships HMS Birmingham."

HMS Birmingham is the fourth of the UK's eventual eight Type 26 frigates to be named, with HMS Glasgow, HMS Belfast and HMS Cardiff the first three to be built. The frigates will begin to enter service in the 2020s. All the ships are being constructed by BAE Systems on the Clyde in Scotland, where the project is guaranteeing 20 years of work and safeguarding over 4,000 jobs.



DE&S success at policy awards

DE&S employee John Izzard has been recognised at a prestigious award ceremony for his outstanding contribution in advising ministers on a wide range of issues.

John (pictured right) was presented with a Parliamentary Award at the Policy Strategy and Parliamentary (PSP) Awards at Main Building on September 26.

The awards were created in 2017 to recognise and reward excellence in the PSP profession, and commend the achievements of teams and individuals demonstrating outstanding contributions in their respective areas.

John's was one of 14 awards presented, reflecting the important, challenging and varied range of defence business handled by PSP professionals across the department.

Formerly with DE&S Secretariat, John has now moved on promotion to a PSP post in the DE&S Approvals Support Team.

Mark Bailey, Head of DE&S Secretariat, said: "We are very proud that John was presented with a Parliamentary Award for his work in delivering well received and quality advice to Ministers, utilising his extensive knowledge of Secretariat work, built up over 16 years."

UK Naval gun demonstrates firepower during DE&S trials

Pictured: A Mk8 naval gun firing a 4.5 inch shell during trials (Picture courtesy of Babcock)



One of the most powerful weapons in the Royal Navy's arsenal has proven its mettle during spectacular tests overseen by DE&S staff.

Newly-released footage shows a Mk8 naval gun firing a 4.5 inch shell out to sea from shore in a display of the weapon's stopping power.

The trials, carried out at a Cumbrian range through a £41 million contract with Babcock signed in May 2016 to improve the gun and extend its service life, involved the first land-based firing of a fully-turreted 4.5 inch gun since 2001.

Overall, work to fulfil the contract is sustaining 35 jobs across the supply chain, including 25 at Devonport and 10 at Barrow-in-Furness.

DE&S International Guns, Missiles and Rockets Project Team Service Delivery Manager, Matthew Norris, said: "DE&S is dedicated to delivering essential improvements to ensure this weapon remains available for Royal Navy operations into the future, and being part of these tests

These tests will ensure these warships, the backbone of the surface fleet, will remain at sea armed with this formidable weapon for years to come

Lt Cdr Daniel Gatenby, Royal Navy Offensive Surface Warfare officer

was extremely rewarding.

"To feel the thump of a 4.5 inch shell being fired first-hand was a good way to finish the last 12 months of work."

The Mk8, which arms the Royal Navy's Type 23 Frigates and Type 45 Destroyers, is based on a design which has been in active service for nearly half a century. The modern, semi-automatic variant can rapidly fire high explosive rounds against land and sea targets with pinpoint accuracy.

DE&S provided the full gun system for the test, inspected and re-certified the barrel and breech involved in the firing and worked with suppliers to ensure the firings were carried out in a safe and effective way.

Lieutenant commander Daniel Gatenby, Royal Navy Offensive Surface Warfare officer, said: "Royal Navy Frigates and Destroyers are at sea every day in defence of the UK's national interests and security, supported by DE&S and their partners across industry.

"These tests will ensure these warships, the backbone of the

surface fleet, will remain at sea armed with this formidable weapon for years to come."

Carried out in partnership with QinetiQ over a five-day period at the MOD Eskmeals Range, the firings were tested against various ranges, altitudes and accuracy criteria.

Results from the successful trials will now be fed into the programme as the five-year contract continues.

Bonus content at
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New £1 billion deal for Navy operations support

Pictured: RAF Tideforce, one of the ships supported under the contracts, arriving in Cornwall for customisation in August (Picture by Charlie Perham)



DE&S have signed new contracts expected to be worth more than £1 billion with British firms to support military ships for the next decade.

The contracts, which will secure over 700 jobs at shipyards across the country, will support the UK's Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA) ships and the Royal Navy's Survey and Hydrographic Fleet.

The deal, secured by the Future in Service Support (FISS) team within DE&S Commercially Supported Shipping and announced by Defence Minister Stuart Andrew, covers 17 ships and will improve how spares, repairs and maintenance work are carried out.

The successful companies will work on the ships at dockyards around the UK to ensure they are serviced and fitted with the latest equipment and systems, whether they are undergoing a refit, undertaking training or on operations.

The deal is expected to deliver savings worth more than £100 million for defence, with agreements including delivering improved support and greater efficiency in ways such as new support solutions and improved performance targets. The whole contract is underpinned by a robust set of performance

measures to ensure continued value-for-money.

Richard Burge, FISS project manager at DE&S, said: "The team are incredibly proud to have delivered a crucial maritime engineering support solution to our customer within a challenging time frame.

"This could not have been achieved without the dedication to the cause by our small team and our excellent working relationship with industry. We are especially delighted that much of our activity has been considered 'best practice' and is being shared amongst the DE&S community."

The team are incredibly proud to have delivered a crucial maritime engineering support solution to our customer within a challenging time frame

Richard Burge, FISS project manager at DE&S

In addition to the four already signed, a further three contracts under the FISS project are expected to be signed within the next year. The news is the latest development in supporting the nation's military ships, after the MOD unveiled a new model in October 2017 worth around £1 billion to support the Royal Navy fleet and sustain over a thousand British jobs.

DE&S acting Chief of Materiel Ships, Neal Lawson, said: "Through the placing of these contracts and making changes to the way we provide support under this agreement, we will be able to deliver significant financial benefits."

Royal Fleet Auxiliary vessels supply all Royal Navy ships, from the Queen Elizabeth class carriers to destroyers, frigates and patrol vessels, with fuel, ammunition, food and spares, wherever they are in the world. They also undertake disaster relief, counter-piracy, counter-narcotics and humanitarian operations around the world.

Hydrographic vessels conduct oceanographic survey duties and safeguard the integrity of the UK's territorial waters, while the Ice Patrol Ship, HMS Protector, is the MOD's sole capability in the ice.

Agreements following a competition include contracts expected to be worth:

£357 million with Cammell Laird in Birkenhead to support the RFA's Fort and Wave class tankers.

£262 million also with Cammell Laird in Birkenhead, to support the RFA's new fleet of four 39,000-tonne Tide class tankers.

£239 million with A&P in Falmouth to support the RFA's Bay class landing ships as well as the casualty ship RFA Argus and Royal Navy ocean survey vessel HMS Scott.

£150 million contract with UK Docks Ltd on Tyneside to support the survey ships HMS Echo and Enterprise and the ice patrol ship HMS Protector.



Pictured clockwise from top left: The first F-35B lands on QNLZ (Jaime Howard is in a white boiler suit at the front), two F-35Bs approach the aircraft carrier, Royal Navy Commander Nathan Gray in his F-35B, F-35B Lightning jets on board QNLZ, an F-35B departs the carrier, the view from the 'Flyco' as Commander Nathan Gray makes the first ever F-35B Lightning jet vertical landing on board QNLZ, Andy Duthie and Jaime Howard pictured on board the aircraft carrier during trials (Pictures by PO Arron Hoare, Lockheed Martin and LPhoto Kyle Heller)

A monumental moment in military history

F-35 carrier trials: DE&S employees share their experiences of witnessing a historic moment in Defence

Fast Facts

The first F-35B landing on board the carrier took place in mid-September.

Royal Navy Commander Nathan Gray and RAF Squadron Leader Andy Edgell were the first pilots to land their stealth F-35 Lightning fighter jets on board the carrier.

The landings marked the start of more than 500 take-offs and touch-downs set to take place from the mammoth warship during an 11-week period in a range of weather conditions.

The return of 'Carrier Strike' to the UK comes eight years after a fighter jet last landed on a British carrier.

The historic flight trials come more than 100 years after the UK's HMS Argus became the world's first carrier capable of safely launching and recovering naval aircraft.

Bonus content at www.des.mod.uk



In September the first F-35B Lightning fighter jets landed on the deck of the HMS Queen Elizabeth (QNLZ) aircraft carrier and made headlines around the globe.

The incredible spectacle was an unashamed demonstration of force and marked the beginning of more than half a century of 'Carrier Strike' operations while also being a statement of Britain's determination to promote peace and prevent war.

The first deck landing took place off the east coast of the US, where QNLZ and F-35B aircraft have been undergoing flying trials at sea.

Seeing the most advanced fighter jets on the planet take their place on the largest warship in British history was a proud moment for the nation and signified a major landmark for all DE&S employees who have contributed to either the extraordinary F-35 or Carrier programmes.

Some from DE&S were lucky to experience the drama first hand and play a role on the historic day.

Two of those people were Commander Andy Duthie and Warrant Officer Jaime Howard of the DE&S QNLZ Strategic Class Authority Warship Approving Authority Aviation Systems Team.

Their job was to make sure the aircraft carrier was compatible with the F-35B, which for Andy meant focusing on the effect of the first and subsequent landings on the flight deck surface, while Jaime's attention was on ensuring the jets could be refuelled once they had landed.

Andy, manager of the team, said: "Both the carrier and F-35 programmes have been 20 years in the making, so being there when these two phenomenal platforms came together was very special, and I felt honoured to have had the opportunity to witness this first hand.

"Watching the first aircraft was an exciting and anxious experience, and following those first recoveries, as I checked the flight deck surface coating and realised it had performed extremely well, was an emotional moment.

"I had worked with an exceptional team of academics, scientists and engineers who had done everything to identify risk and solutions – but until the trials start you just don't know.

"It was our responsibility to see that these systems worked so that the trials could flow seamlessly and we achieved that, making all our hard work and sleepless nights worthwhile."

Jaime added: "Without a doubt, standing on the deck of QNLZ as the first jet came in made me feel very lucky to be part of Naval history and is one of the proudest moments in my career.

"There was enormous pressure for everything to go well, as it is such a high-profile programme, and successfully refuelling that first aircraft was a huge moment.

"Many people had spent years on these programmes and I consider myself incredibly fortunate to reap the rewards of their efforts and witness these trials – a once in a lifetime opportunity."

Lieutenant Commander Lee Garth, of UK F-35B Ship Integration, within the DE&S Lightning Delivery Team, was also lucky enough to be on board for the trials.

He said: "Prior to the jets arriving, there was a noticeable sense of anticipation throughout the whole ship.

"Having witnessed some of the last UK fixed wing launch and recoveries more than eight years ago, I was excited to step on to the flight deck just as the two F-35s entered the circuit above the ship.

"Being part of a very exclusive group of people who were able to be on the deck during the first landing felt very special."

Commander David Downie, NAVAIR Liaison Officer, Lighting Delivery Team, DE&S, added: "Being onboard HMS Queen Elizabeth as the first F-35B aircraft embarked on the ship was a proud moment for me, as it marks the return of Fixed Wing Carrier Aviation to the UK.

"It was history in the making and I feel fortunate to have the sort of job that gives me these opportunities – this is one of the best things about working for the Royal Navy and DE&S.

"During the flying trials, we've been able to gather some invaluable data about the performance of both the aircraft and ship. This will help us work up towards full 'Carrier Strike' capability for the UK."

HMS Queen Elizabeth remains set to be deployed on global operations from 2021. Britain now has 16 out of the MOD's plan to buy 138 F-35 Lightning jets over the life of the programme as part of its world-leading fleet of military aircraft.



On teamwork, his career and being fired up by delivery

Marcus Bruton is the Project Director for the Warrior Capability Sustainment Programme (WCSP). He leads the team responsible for delivering a £1.5 billion upgrade to the capability

What does your role involve?

I'm the Project Director for the Warrior Capability Sustainment Programme, leading a team of 40 people to deliver a £1.5 billion upgrade to the Warrior Infantry Fighting Vehicle (IFV). The Warrior IFV is a critical component of the Army's capability and to build upon and sustain that capability beyond 2040 is key.

What about your role is exciting, rewarding or interesting?

WCSP is challenging, but dealing with difficulties is when we really test ourselves. I'm a deliverer by nature, and getting on and delivering this key capability to the Army is what really fires me. I was asked by Director Land Equipment to come and run WCSP and after nearly 20 years of running programmes and portfolios I'm back to running a project, which to me is coming home as I haven't had that challenge for a long time.

How important to you is teamwork?

Teamwork is the critical component of project management. Successful projects can only be delivered by teams that work in harmony, all pulling together in the same direction making the whole greater than the sum of the parts. A project manager can't be the expert in all the functions required to deliver a project, so a team of people with different skills and different characters is needed. The project manager orchestrates those different skills and characters into delivering the outcome desired by the customer.

What is your view on transformation?

Those who know me are probably bored with me banging on about implementing a matrix management organisation in DE&S. In my opinion the organisation was allowing the needs of the individual – in terms of career development – to override the needs of the organisation to deliver its outputs. We need people to gain experience in different areas but it needs to be done in a controlled way which benefits the organisation first and foremost. Implementing a balanced matrix has gone some way to redress that. Putting together the suite of project artefacts is another great step forward to more efficient and effective delivery. This is allowing teams to spend their time planning – thinking about what products are needed and what work is required to deliver them rather than saying 'I've got this much money, in this profile, how do I deliver the project'. I also think that rewarding success drives people to focus on what is needed.

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

After studying electronic engineering at university, I realised I wasn't a very good design engineer but I was a good team leader and planner – I had never heard of project management and just applied to join the MOD as part of the milk round. I fell into MOD (Procurement Executive) by accident and realised that this was exactly what I wanted to do. DE&S and its predecessors have been really good to me in terms of educating and upskilling me,

not only in the jobs I have done, giving me huge responsibility at a very young age, but also in the interesting work that I have done. I can honestly say I have enjoyed every moment of the 28 years I have worked in Defence procurement.

What do you most enjoy about your job?

Projects are, by definition, going to have problems and I really enjoy creating high-performing teams to solve these problems. I recently started the project intern programme with UWE (see Desider January 2017) and the questions I asked were really simple – can you communicate? Can you plan? And what do you do when you get knocked down? Building a focused, highly-performing team is quite an unbelievable feeling. Watching how that team becomes a single entity to deliver the project is probably the best in-work feeling there is.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I have extensively researched my family tree and have come to the sad conclusion that my family has only moved 20 miles in just under 400 years. Personally, I like to travel and have spent time travelling around Australia, as well as South and North America. I also enjoy watching my son's rugby matches, F1, reading and drinking red wine.

What might surprise people about you?

I almost became a Bristol City Councillor. I was pipped by 110 votes.

£93 million missile project secures more than 100 Belfast jobs

Pictured: STARStreak, fired from the Stormer armoured vehicle during trials, one of the very short range air defence capabilities that will have an enhanced support package under the new contract (Picture courtesy of Thales)



A multi-million-pound deal to modernise and boost the British Army and Royal Marines' very short-range air defence capability has been secured by DE&S.

The £93 million Future Air Defence Availability Project (F-ADAPT) contract, awarded to Thales UK, will secure more than 100 jobs in Belfast and provide the UK armed forces with a potent defensive ability.

The project will enhance the High Velocity and Lightweight Multi-role Missile systems, which are designed to intercept a wide range of air and surface threats such as enemy drones, helicopters and armoured vehicles.

The upgrades include thermal imaging, which ensures the High Velocity Missile system can be used 24 hours a day, and 'friend or foe' identification, which will maximise intelligence on potential threats and targets.

The F-ADAPT will ensure that this critical capability is maintained during peacetime training but can also be rapidly deployed for operations into the 2020s.

The team worked exceptionally well with industry to ensure we continue to provide the armed forces with the very best equipment at the very best price

Adrian Birch, Short Range Air Defence team leader at DE&S

Adrian Birch, Short Range Air Defence team leader at DE&S, said: "I have been incredibly impressed by the hard work put in by the team to secure a contract to modernise this vital capability while also supporting jobs in the region. The team worked exceptionally well with industry to ensure we continue to provide the armed forces with the very best equipment at the very best price."

The announcement was made by Defence Minister Stuart Andrew during his visit to Northern Ireland's capital last month.

The Minister said: "Defence investment benefits every corner of our United Kingdom and Northern Ireland is no exception. This £93 million deal will secure over 100 local jobs and demonstrates the ingenuity and skill of Northern Irish industry."

DE&S Director Weapons Richard Smart added: "The F-ADAPT is crucial in safeguarding our Very Short-Range Air Defence capability and the team at DE&S has worked collaboratively with industry to deliver the enhancements needed

to ensure this project continues to support our troops for years to come."

Northern Ireland plays an important role in UK defence, providing over 4,000 regulars and reserves to the armed forces, supporting over 600 industry jobs and is renowned for its defence manufacturing industry.

Industry has committed to more than double its revenue from the aerospace, defence, security and space activities in the region to over £2 billion a year. Northern Ireland companies are part of the overall Ministry of Defence equipment and support plan to spend £180 billion over the decade to 2026-27, which will enhance prosperity across the UK.



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Employee spread the word of DE&S at careers fair

Pictured: DE&S STEM ambassador Luke Sullivan (centre) helps pupils programme their robots (Picture by Beth Squire)



DE&S employees gave their time in a bid to inspire hundreds of schoolchildren about the amazing opportunities available at the organisation during a two-day careers event.

Ambitions 2018, held at South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (SGS), was attended by more than 75 companies looking to reach Year 9 pupils.

More than 2,000 pupils from secondary schools in the Bristol area attend the event looking to be excited by what career opportunities the city can offer.

The DE&S stand, manned by Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) ambassadors, allowed pupils to try their hand using Lego Mindstorms to programme two robots to work in harmony and swap places on a set grid.

DE&S STEM ambassador Luke Sullivan said: "This was the brainchild of the engineering group's chief technician Robert Bates and it was certainly a hit.

"The pupils took to it really well and there was a nice balance of learning how to programme but also working as a team with the person programming the other robot to ensure they didn't crash.

I hope they go away both inspired about engineering and with more idea of the exciting things we do at DE&S

Luke Sullivan, DE&S STEM ambassador

"It was enjoyable seeing them grow very quickly in confidence and I hope they go away both inspired about engineering and with more idea of the exciting things we do at DE&S."

Ella, 12, of Marlwood School in Alveston, said: "I found the DE&S stand really fun. I enjoy using computers and liked the challenge of having to programme the robots. I think engineering is definitely something I will consider pursuing."

In addition to the stands, a careers evening was held where STEM ambassadors from DE&S could engage with families wanting to know more about the organisation and the apprentice schemes available.

John Walker, head of careers and school services at SGS, said: "This is not a traditional careers fair – it is designed to be far more interactive and engaging so as to capture student's imaginations.

"It allows students to engage directly with industry and helps them make informed decisions about the career path they may wish to follow, as well as giving organisations like DE&S the invaluable opportunity to showcase the exciting roles they have on offer."

DE&S team and equipment play key role in getting humanitarian aid to Indonesia

Picture: UK and Indonesian aid is loaded onto an RAF A400M aircraft in Jakarta (Picture by Corporal Stephen Harvey)



A vital delivery of aid to Indonesia was orchestrated by the DE&S Defence Supply Chain Operations and Movements (DSCOM) team based at MOD Abbey Wood.

The island of Sulawesi was hit by a devastating earthquake and tsunami that resulted in more than 800 people losing their lives and leaving more than 1.5 million affected, the Red Cross estimate.

After MOD direction to deploy an A400M, DSCOM re-prioritised the high tempo ongoing Defence activity so that the aircraft was able to transfer aid to the international relief centre at Balikpapan as part of Operation Rakeful on three consecutive days between October 5 and 7.

The RAF aircraft, procured by DE&S and based at RAF Brize Norton, transported more than 43 tonnes of Indonesian supplies, in addition to the 17.5 tonnes of UK aid.

On board were 1,280 much-needed shelter kits and 288 hygiene kits, as part of the £3 million pledged by the Department for International Development to the relief effort.

Lieutenant Colonel Ceri

Being able to provide help during a humanitarian disaster to those desperately in need is a privilege and one this incredibly motivated team thrives on

Lieutenant Colonel
Ceri Morton, DSCOM
Operations

Morton, of DSCOM Operations, said: "DSCOM provided strategic movement support to Operation Rakeful, the humanitarian aid disaster relief in Indonesia, requiring us to re-prioritise the high tempo ongoing Defence activity.

"Being able to provide help during a humanitarian disaster to those desperately in need is a privilege and one this incredibly motivated team thrives on."

A400M is ideal for humanitarian missions, as the aircraft can carry large amounts of supplies over 4,000 nautical miles at an impressive speed and is capable of using short and unprepared runways.

James Dowson, the A400M Delivery Team Leader, said: "The entire team takes great interest and pride whenever A400M undertakes such duties. This was a significant humanitarian mission and it's rewarding to see the aircraft again playing a key role in underlining the UK's commitment to helping others in times of need."

Devonport will home Type 26 frigates

Pictured: Computer generated image of the future Type 26 ship for the Royal Navy (Picture courtesy of BAE Systems)



All of the Royal Navy's next-generation Type 26 frigates will be homed in Devonport, the Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson has announced.

The eight 6,900-tonne frigates, which will replace the current anti-submarine warfare Type 23 frigates, will start being delivered to the Royal Navy from the mid-2020s.

The Type 26 frigates will be world-class anti-submarine warships and will provide cutting-edge protection for the likes of the UK's nuclear deterrent and the Queen Elizabeth Class aircraft carriers, with the ability to conduct a whole range of other operations anywhere in the world.

Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson said: "The largest Naval Base in western Europe, Devonport is the lifeblood of Plymouth and is as synonymous with this city as it is with our famous Royal Navy."

"Ships have set sail from Devonport's dock to defend our great nation for hundreds of years, and I can reveal that the truly world-class Type 26 frigates will follow in their wake.

"We are living in increasingly

Ships have set sail from Devonport's dock to defend our great nation for hundreds of years, and I can reveal that the truly world-class Type 26 frigates will follow in their wake

Gavin Williamson, Defence Secretary

dangerous times, with threats intensifying both on and beneath the water. Plymouth should be in no doubt that it will be right at the heart of Britain's fight for a safer world by homing these formidable warships."

Devonport has been supporting the Royal Navy since 1691, with the vast site covering more than 650 acres with four miles of waterfront.

The base employs 2,500 people, supporting around 400 local firms and generating around 10 per cent of Plymouth's income. It is a key part of defence's huge footprint in the South West, where the MOD spends £5.1 billion with industry – more than in any other part of the country.

The first three Type 26 ships have already been ordered for £3.7 billion from BAE Systems' yards on the Clyde and have been named as HMS Glasgow, HMS Cardiff, and HMS Belfast. The Defence Secretary has also announced that a further Type 26 will be named HMS Birmingham.

The flexible design of the frigates will enable these capabilities to be adapted to counter future threats, and the

ships will benefit from the latest advances in digital technology. Support, including deep maintenance, of the Type 26 Frigates will be delivered through the DE&S Future Maritime Support Programme which is currently in its assessment phase.

The formidable anti-submarine warship will include an embarked helicopter, powerful sonar detection systems, ship and helicopter-launched torpedoes and a design which makes the Type 26 extremely difficult for enemy submarines to detect.

The announcement follows last month's news that Canada had selected the Type 26 Frigate as the preferred option for the Royal Canadian Navy's future Canadian Surface Combatants – the procurement project that will replace the Iroquois and Halifax class warships with up to 15 new ships beginning in the early 2020s.

Australia also recently decided to build nine of the British-designed Type 26 warships in a deal which could be worth up to £20 billion.

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Supporting the Poppy Appeal is a family affair

Pictured: Adam, Alan, Sue and Gemma all support the Poppy Appeal (Picture by Jack Eckersley)



The Poppy Appeal raises tens of millions of pounds each year to provide lifelong support for the armed forces community – and it's those like the Hodson family that make it happen.

Sue and husband Alan both served with the RAF and their children, Gemma and Adam, spent their childhood growing up on RAF bases around the country. Now they all work at DE&S.

As such, they are well acquainted with military ways and, when the opportunity to support the Royal British Legion presented itself three years ago, they were all keen to get involved.

Three years on Sue is the lead for the Poppy Appeal activities at DE&S, Gemma runs sporting challenges to raise money – including this year's inaugural Abbey Wood Games and Adam runs the popular annual football tournament.

Meanwhile Alan, while supporting the others, busies himself with extreme cycling events, on occasion with Gemma, to raise money and awareness of the charity, and they all give up

It's just a great charity that does so much good – that's a big enough reason for me to get behind it

Adam Hodson

their time to help out with the main Poppy Appeal activities in Bristol.

Alan, who served in the RAF between 1980 and 2006 and toured the Falklands and Iraq, said: "I guess I see it as giving something back and, having served in the military myself, I may need their services one day – you just never know."

"My father did National Service in the RAF and they helped him get a mobility scooter – without which he would find it very difficult to cope. It's a charity that really does matter."

Gemma said: "I think having grown up in the military environment it was just something that I really wanted to lend my support to."

Adam added: "It's just a great charity that does so much good – that's a big enough reason for me to get behind it."

Last month, Air Marshal Julian Young, Chief of Materiel (Air), launched this year's 'Thank You' Poppy Appeal campaign, which is marking the end of the First World War centenary and saying thank you to all who served, sacrificed

themselves and changed our world.

Sue, who served in the RAF between 1978 and 1981, said: "There is the opportunity for teams at DE&S to sponsor a poppy for the memorial garden. I hope there will be plenty of support."

This year Sue hopes to raise more than £20,000 for the Poppy Appeal at MOD Abbey Wood. For more information contact Sue.Hodson894@mod.gov.uk



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A new home for careers at DE&S

DE&S and SDA apprentices and graduates hit the heights during epic hiking challenge

Pictured: Team DEStinct make their way up Cader Idris during their Welsh Three Peaks Challenge (Picture by Peter Attrill)



A team of DE&S and Submarine Delivery Agency (SDA) graduates and apprentices have returned triumphant having conquered the Welsh Three Peaks Challenge.

The 21-strong group headed off from MOD Abbey Wood at 1.30am on October 19, and reached the summit of the final mountain at 1.30am on Saturday – just 24 hours later.

The challenge saw the intrepid explorers successfully reach the summit of Snowdon, Cader Idris and Pen Y Fan – a total walking distance of 17 miles (27.4km) and an ascent of 2,334 metres (7,657ft).

The team took on the feat as part of the Prince's Trust Million Makers challenge – an innovative entrepreneurial fundraising challenge aimed at helping them develop essential business skills for their domain – whether that be project professional, finance, engineering or commercial.

The competition challenges teams of employees across UK organisations competing to raise at least £10,000 or more over a period of six months. Collectively, teams are aiming to raise £1 million to transform the lives of disadvantaged young people

around the country.

Their efforts in Wales have seen Team DEStinct, as they have chosen to be known, raise more than £3,000 for the cause.

Team member Ieuan Wilcox, an apprentice in finance, said: "I found completing the challenge very rewarding. I met some great people and it was a huge confidence boost.

"It was incredibly cold at the top of Pen Y Fan and we had little or no sleep but we were determined to finish the challenge and showed the strength of mind and team spirit to get over the finish line."

DE&S graduate Liam Roche-Lamerton added: "Reaching the top of the final mountain – Pen Y Fan – was a huge relief and gave us all a real sense of achievement.

"I found it incredibly challenging to go without any hot food so for Bex, a member of the Prince Trust's team, to deliver us a homemade chilli before the final peak was incredible. It gave the whole team a real boost."

Team DEStinct have until December 31 to raise the £10,000 required.

You can still donate at www.justgiving.com/teamDEStinct

It was incredibly cold at the top of Pen Y Fan and we had little or no sleep but we were determined to finish the challenge and showed the strength of mind and team spirit to get over the finish line

Ieuan Wilcox, Team DEStinct

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60 second spotlight

"I was once trampled by a bull at the Pamplona bull run. I was seeing stars for about 20 minutes"

John Leitch

Job:

Training manager, Defence Munitions Crombie

Your route into DE&S?

I applied externally for the Defence Munitions (DM) training manager position after my wife found the DE&S job advert online and said: 'this would be perfect for you'. I had been involved in training throughout my 24-year military career and finished my time as a training manager, coach and mentor and counter terrorism search instructor at the Defence Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Munitions and Search Training Regiment. Therefore, applying for the DM training manager position seemed a natural transition. Now based at DM Crombie in Fife, this new position ticks all the boxes.

Your claim to fame?

I once met HRH Prince Harry when I delivered his Mines Awareness and Counter Improvised Explosive Device brief prior to him deploying to Afghanistan. A very down to earth individual.

Your advice to anyone?

Firstly, travel as much and as widely as you can. Experiencing new places and foreign cultures really does give you a more considered outlook on life. Secondly, always seek to achieve something, no matter how small – it gives you a sense of success – and finally, and most importantly, (as I learnt in the military) maintain a sense of humour – it will get you through anything.

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

Woodwork projects, tinkering in the man shed and hillwalking. I'm currently making a mahogany

whisky table and drinks set, and recently returned from two days wild camping around Ben Macdui (the second highest mountain in the UK, located in Aberdeenshire), with some wild, and rather invigorating swimming in Loch Etchachan thrown in for good measure.

What are you most proud of?

My wife when she gave birth to our son Barnaby and my 24 years service with the Corps of Royal Engineers. In that order obviously.

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

As an ex-military engineer I'm afraid it would be disappointingly practical. A metal pot (with lid), a large ball of green string and a Leatherman multi-tool.

What irritates you the most?

People making assumptions or people not thinking things through and considering others. Also, untidiness, in the military you learn to keep things 'squared away'.

What is your favourite place in the world?

I have been lucky to do a far bit of foreign travel, but I always consider Edinburgh as my favourite place. With great architecture, pubs, entertainment and places to be I always relish a trip into the city, and Edinburgh never fails to make me love it. Despite all of the places I have been, Edinburgh somehow always comes out on top.

What would surprise people about you?

I was once trampled by a bull at the Pamplona bull run. I was seeing stars for about 20 minutes.



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

Email
tom.morris114@mod.gov.uk

DE&S' James lands World Strongest Man title

DE&S employee James Gregory has returned triumphant from Finland having beaten the globe's most muscular athletes to secure a World Strongest Man title.

James, a business manager within information management and IT, is now the United Strongman World's Strongest Man in the under 105kg class following his triumph in Helsinki.

He beat strong men from a host of nations including the USA, Canada, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden, Norway and Ireland to land the prestigious title.

James can now add the accolade to his British Natural Strongman Federation (BNSF), England's Strongest Man title, and his three podium finishes at the BNSF Britain Strongest Man.

He said: "The events in Helsinki included zercher carry, power stairs, deadlift, log press, wrist roller, front hold and sand bag carry.

"To win the competition on the power stairs was a massive relief as last year I made a mistake in that

event and it cost me the title."

James, who stands 6ft 2inches tall and dead lifts 300kg, the equivalent of three fridge freezers, maintains his phenomenal strength by spending four hours a day in the gym and consuming around 4,000 daily calories – made up of steak mince, chicken, rice, sweet potato, egg whites and oats.

"That said, the first thing I reach for after a tournament is over is lasagne and cheesecake", he admits.

James first started going to the gym when he was 16, purely to bulk himself up for rugby.

"The first time I went in the gym I bench-pressed 120kg and a few eyebrows were raised – I guess I was just naturally strong", James said.

It was only about five years ago that he first got a taste of the sport when he attended Strong Man Sunday at Trojan Fitness in Ashton and, egged on by mates, he went to try out the different strong man events.

Nowadays his prowess in the sport also sees him traveling the world – this year alone he has competed in the United States, Finland, Hungary and Spain – where last month he competed in Barcelona at the Arnold Strongman series (devised by Arnold Schwarzenegger) and met the great man himself.

"Being at DE&S gives me an amazing work-life balance that is giving me the opportunity to fulfil my potential and still spend quality time with my family", he said.

Volunteering success and a worthy bowls champion



DE&S Ship Acquisition employees have undertaken two highly successful community volunteering events.

Staff volunteered as they wanted to show DE&S gives back to its local communities and because they wanted to support the wider Government principles of corporate social responsibility.

As part of their ongoing volunteering partnership with the Scouting Association at Woodhouse Park, staff (pictured) returned to Almondsbury to prepare and paint two large bunk rooms, part of a rolling programme of work in which the team have to maintain the property and grounds.

In addition, staff in the Type 26 team undertook a Community Investment Day alongside their BAES colleagues at

two community centres at Cockleshell and Crossley in Portsmouth, which are operated by the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Welfare department.

The centres provide accessible support services that strengthen and enhance the resilience and resourcefulness of Naval Service personnel, their families and communities.

Staff worked in groups to clear and improve the outside areas of both centres – cutting back bushes, rebuilding a BBQ area, painting and planting new flowers.

Pat Browning, Type 26 Project manager, said: "It was a great day. The community centres offer such valuable services and facilities to Naval Service personnel, their families and communities."

A DE&S employee based at Defence Munitions Beith has become the 2018 Scottish Civil Service Bowling Association (CSBA) singles champion.

Jamie Campbell, who works within the Spearfish (Torpedo) Fuelling Facility, is a member of Beith & District CSBA in North Ayrshire.

He won the prestigious title on August 24 at the Parkside Bowling Club in Edinburgh, which is beneath the spectacular setting of Arthur's Seat, next to the Scottish Parliament.

The miserable conditions

failed to dampen Jamie's performance and he won the title by a convincing 21 shots to 16.

His Beith & District CSBA teammates also tasted success, with the trio of Adam Grant, Joe Reid and Duncan Meldrum picking up the triples title and the same threesome with the addition of Robert Bogle picked up the fours title.

As a result of their triumphs they will represent Scotland at next year's British Championships.

A spokesman said: "Congratulations to Jamie from all at Defence Munitions Beith."



Edward Smart, of the DE&S Weapons Operating System team, has been awarded Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant's Certificate for Meritorious Service.

The RAF Cadet Flight Sergeant received the prestigious accolade from Dame Janet Trotter for his leadership, enthusiasm and commitment to the Air Training Corps.

As part of his citation, Edward, a member of 1329 (Tetbury) Detached Flight Squadron, was recognised for escorting 19 cadets and staff from nine different squadrons in Bristol and Gloucestershire on Exercise Mountain Storm in Canada last summer.

The exercise later won the esteemed 2017 Shackleton Trophy for the most successful, imaginative and adventurous expedition.

His citation also highlighted Edward's time commitment to the Air Cadets since becoming an adult instructor in 2011 and applauded him for leading more than 20 Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award expeditions, having been a DofE Gold Award holder himself.

Finally, it marked his efforts in getting a regional cadet team into the International Four Day Marches in Nijmegen, Holland – the largest multiple day marching event in the world.

His sister Fiona Smart, who works in DE&S Corporate Communications, said: "Seeing Edward presented with his award was an incredibly proud moment."



Patricia picks up prestigious award

MOD LGBT+ Sh..OUT network committee member Patricia Hughes travelled to London to help receive a team commendation from the MOD Chief Operating Officer, David Goldstone.

Patricia, Ajax operations manager from Land Equipment's Vehicle Support Team, is also a member of DE&S Pride – one of the organisation's numerous Diversity & Inclusion networks.

The MOD LGBT+ Sh..OUT network committee works hard to promote positive and inclusive practices within DE&S, wider MOD and the local communities.

Patricia says in the past year the

network has made many contributions, such as influencing policy change, providing informed knowledge to project teams, participating in external events to promote careers in the MOD, running conferences and working with external organisations such as Stonewall and industry to share and promote best practice.

"A more diverse and inclusive workforce is generally more productive and stronger", Patricia, pictured second from left, said.

"DE&S actively promotes the Pride network, encouraging membership across the workforce. We are not just for those who identify as LGBT+, but also for people to sign up as allies."



MOTTO the MOD Lottery July winners

- £10,000** Colin Clarke, Gosport
- £2,500** Peter Robertson, Andover
- £1,000** George Gibson, Beith
- £500** Adrian Hall, Yeovil
- £250** Jessica Darby, ABW
- £100** Christopher Mason, Tewkesbury
- Ian Etheridge, Whitehall
- Alan Evans, Glasgow
- Joanne Durant, ABW
- Alistair Gibbs, ABW
- Ross Franklin, Anglesey
- Lisa MacKenzie, Corsham
- Tracey Taylor, Salisbury
- Elizabeth Martin, Andover
- Alan Church, Ramsgate
- Nick Morris, Andover
- Dennis Collin, Plymouth
- Caroline Mayall, ABW
- Jacqueline Worsdell, Portsmouth
- Rebecca Groves, ABW
- Lynne Smith, Corsham
- James Moreton, Fareham
- John Hayter, ABW
- Emily Brushett, Feltham
- David Clancy, Aldershot

Last month's missing word was:

Marham

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

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Apache | Deliver | Poppy Appeal |
| Atlas | Edinburgh | School |
| Birmingham | Firepower | Service |
| Bowls | Frigate | Teamwork |
| Careers | Hiking | Trials |
| Champion | Indonesia | Volunteer |
| Contract | Milestone | Wildcat |

Find which word or name is missing from this wordsearch.

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

Case Study

Richard Evans, Head of IT Service Delivery and Supplier Management at DE&S, gives his insight into some of the benefits of working for the organisation

Name:

Richard Evans

Job title:

Head of IT Service Delivery and Supplier Management

How long have you worked for DE&S?

Seven months

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

I left the Army in 2013 following a period as the Project Management Office lead within the Battlefield and Tactical Communications and Information Systems Delivery Team. Whilst filling this role I completed the Defence Acquisition Management MSc at Cranfield University and joined Babcock International Group as the Head of IT Programme Management Office. I became aware of the Head of IT Service Delivery and Supplier Management opportunity within the DE&S Chief Information Officer (CIO) team. The challenge was simply too good an opportunity to miss.

What does your role entail?

The Head of IT Service Delivery and Supplier Management role is diverse and includes elements of service management, supplier management, service operations, project delivery and knowledge and information management (KIM) support. Activities range from the support of the IT infrastructure across Abbey Wood, the delivery of the Information Services Plan and the provision of KIM services across DE&S. It requires effective customer communication,

the ability to plan and deliver change at pace, the management of major incidents and the delivery of IT services across the estate.

What are the opportunities to develop and progress within your function?

There are many opportunities to develop and progress within the Information Management/IT function with roles across the IT delivery lifecycle. Whether you have explicit knowledge, skills and experience of IT strategy, design, transition or operations, a keen interest in Continual Service Improvement or the provision of KIM services there are opportunities at every level.

What do you most enjoy about your job?

That there's a genuine commitment and desire from the DE&S CIO senior leadership to stabilise and modernise ageing IT infrastructure for the good of the business and its people, as well as a desire to provide an improved IT service and support environment for our customers across DE&S, the MOD and Defence.

What's your ambition?

To continue to deliver the organisational change required to provide improved IT services to our customers. I also want to address the key IT infrastructure challenges, stabilise our operating environment, improve performance and increase resilience.

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

It's early days but there are big challenges in the IT infrastructure environment which my team and I are taking significant steps to address. We have recently delivered a revised Disaster Recovery Plan for Abbey Wood, which marks significant progress in our ability to plan for and manage disaster recovery events.

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

Having served as member of the armed forces, a civilian within defence industry and now a Civil Servant, I believe I have the breadth of experience to confirm that DE&S is a great place to work. There are huge and diverse opportunities at all levels of the organisation and every day is spent either building or supporting capability for our armed forces.

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

There is an excellent gym at Abbey Wood for the minimal cost associated with Civil Service Sports Club membership. In addition, DE&S CIO are at the vanguard of smart working, which allows staff to work more flexibly, whether that be from home or remotely. I firmly believe that these changes will help attract new talent to DE&S.



Picture: Jack Eckerley

WORK FOR DE&S

For more info and job opportunities visit:
www.des.mod.uk



Here are six great reasons to work for DE&S



Bonuses & Recognition

Annual bonus and one-off payments based on performance for going above and beyond



Pension

Our Alpha pension is conservatively valued at 21% of your salary. Most private companies only offer 6-12%



Flexible Working

Balancing work and life, various working patterns



Professional Development

Choose a career path that's right for you



Holiday

25 days rising to 30 days after 5 years



Facilities

We provide a modern, safe and convenient work environment

For even more reasons see our 'Little Book of Big Benefits' at

www.des.mod.uk

Future Vacancies

Commercial Managers & Commercial Officers DE&S

Yeovil | £30,000 - £44,000pa (Commercial Managers) £19,000 - £34,000pa (Commercial Officers)

Professional II (Commercial Managers) Senior Admin Specialists (Commercial Officers)

Estimated timeline: Launching mid November 2018

Post type **Permanent**

Job Description: We are looking for a number of experienced Commercial Managers and Commercial Officers to join our team. Based at Leonardo Helicopters in Yeovil, you will be providing support for a range of commercial projects relating to our helicopter capability, including commercial arrangements for equipment, in-service support and technical advice.

Commercial Officer DE&S

Waddington | £19,000 - £34,000pa | Senior Admin Specialist

Estimated timeline: Launching mid November 2018

Post type **Permanent**

Job Description: We are looking for a Commercial Officer to join our Air Support Operating Centre, in the Air Intelligence Surveillance Targeting Acquisition and Reconnaissance programme based at RAF Waddington. You will provide support to the contract of the Sentry availability service, which is aircraft with airborne early warning and control system equipment, as well as various supporting contracts.

IT Administrator DE&S & SDA

Bristol | £17,000 - £23,000pa | Admin Specialist

Estimated timeline: Launching January 2019

Post type **Permanent**

Job Description: We will be recruiting a number of IT Administrators throughout IM&IT, who will provide accurate and timely administrative support to various areas of DE&S and SDA. You will regularly interact with and support colleagues within their specialist areas, in addition to engaging with internal IT and IS users.

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Civil Service

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