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**Issue 149**  
**January 2021**

*the magazine for  
defence equipment  
and support*



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boost UK's prosperity**



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**BAE SYSTEMS**

desider January 2021  
Foreword

# Foreword

By Sir Simon Bollom, CEO



— “ —  
**The work we do truly  
matters and by working  
together I know we will rise  
to the challenges ahead**  
— ” —

I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy New Year. I hope you all had the opportunity for a good break and recharge of batteries. I also recognise that many of our colleagues across MOD and industry worked tirelessly throughout the festive period and I would like to say a huge thank you to them for ensuring defence outputs were maintained. Last year demanded a great deal of us, both professionally and personally. As a team, we showed agility and innovation and just how much can be achieved in extreme circumstances in support of critical defence outputs and wider government activities.

Looking ahead, there are reassuring signs that we are reaching a turning point and can move forward with a sense of optimism. We have a workforce that is passionate about providing the best possible service to our armed forces. So, let us start the year strong, remembering our purpose which is to deliver world-class equipment and support to our armed forces so they can operate effectively.

The year ahead will be challenging but also exciting for DE&S. The £16.5-billion four-year settlement and the soon to be released Integrated Review, will have an impact on how we do business as we align ourselves to new and ongoing requirements. The increase in defence spending is a substantial and important commitment that will bring many opportunities for DE&S to contribute to UK prosperity and deliver on our international ambition of a Global Britain. I look forward to our journey ahead.

Whilst we anticipate new ventures, we continue to deliver on current programmes and activities. Recently, we saw the delivery of a cutting-edge long-range air defence radar that can be deployed in support

of worldwide operations, and a new contract to equip UK armed forces with essential fire power.

Elsewhere, our talented apprentices supported pupils at a local school: including mentoring, CV writing and mock interviews to help pupils prepare for future employment as part of our schools' outreach programme.

Furthermore, it was great to see DE&S donate thousands of unused military ration packs to FareShare; an organisation that distributes food to more than 11,000 charities across the UK, including community groups, homeless hostels and lunch groups for older people.

This year will see us continuing to evolve as an organisation, deliver on our promises and wholly embrace innovation and technology. We will be at the forefront of new, fast-paced procurement and support solutions for our customers, alongside our allies and industry partners. We want to develop new ways of working that are agile and efficient whilst delivering maximum value to our customer and the taxpayer.

I feel positive that in 2021 – with enduring hard work and support – we will continue to go from strength to strength in our aspiration for excellence. The work we do truly matters and by working together I know we will rise to the challenges ahead.

Please continue to remain vigilant; keep yourselves and loved ones safe and healthy through the months ahead.



# Contents



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## Editor: Louisa Keefe

Louisa Keefe - 07971 013054  
louisa.keefe101@mod.gov.uk

## Contributors:

Daniel Evans, Louise Allford, Tom Morris, Lowri Jones, Ash Pitman, Paul McLennan, Mark Fincham and Martin Foster

## Photography and Design:

Katherine Williams, Jack Eckersley, Charlie Perham, Andrew Linnett, Geraint Vaughan, Will Andrews and Hannah Bone

## Distribution Manager:

Dick Naughton - 0117 9134342  
Dick.Naughton501@mod.gov.uk

## Advertising Manager:

Edwin Rodrigues  
edwin.rodrigues@noahsarkmedia.co.uk  
07482 571535

[cds.co.uk](http://cds.co.uk)



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## On the cover

CGI of surface-attack missiles

Credit: MBDA



# 6

**Senior Leader Comment**  
Simon Hughes, Director  
Programmes and Change



# 8

**Next Generation Munitions Solution**  
£2.4-billion ammunition  
deal secures thousands  
of UK jobs



# 10

**£20-million components contract** signed for Boxer



# 12

**DE&S delivers state-of-the-art-radar** that can be rapidly  
deployed worldwide



# 16

**First Person**  
Brigadier Anna-Lee Reilly



# 18

**DE&S provides food for  
the UK armed forces**  
deployed across the globe



# 14

**£550-million investment** in surface-attack missiles



# 20

**DE&S donates thousands of unused ration packs**  
providing over 150,000 meals



# 21

**DE&S colleagues take on Lapland Challenge** in aid of  
Princes Trust



**Simon Hughes,**  
**Director**  
**Programmes**  
**and Change,**  
talks to Desider  
about COVID-19,  
the positive  
lessons learnt  
and improving  
DE&S to meet  
future challenges.



Traditionally, as we enter a new year, we reflect on the achievements of the past 12 months and look forward to the new year with a renewed sense of hope and optimism. This year, that same feeling still exists but perhaps with a new appreciation of how uncertain and unpredictable life can be.

At the risk of repeating what's been said by my colleagues, 2020 was an unprecedented year for us all, personally and professionally. But the way everyone stepped up to the challenge of COVID-19 was exceptional. Whether deployed to assist in other Government departments, providing support for wider Government activity, or maintaining DE&S' outputs, everybody has played a valuable part.

The Programmes and Change Directorate has been heavily involved from looking after our virtual function management team and deploying people into COVID-19 roles, to creating a notification tool designed to help delivery teams raise any associated concerns or risks of COVID-19 to our suppliers.

The way we've quickly adapted to remote working is a credit to the organisation. It's proved we don't need to operate in a face-

to-face environment to do our jobs well. Of course, we mustn't forget the negative impact the lack of socialisation can have on our wellbeing. And while this is one of the downsides of remote working, it has fuelled positive changes within our organisational culture.

I'm seeing people being more considerate and putting the wellbeing of themselves and others first. Taking time away from the screen during the day, working around childcare, and taking breaks to walk the dog are now not only accepted, but encouraged. It's heartening to see the organisation become so understanding of our individual circumstances.

Talking of positive changes, Project Neptune will provide great benefits and opportunities for the organisation over the coming year.

Project Neptune is an overarching name for a group of improvement initiatives that will release capacity and streamline controls. It will help us simplify the way changes are implemented, help to prioritise and move resources to where they are needed the most, and ensure our ways of working are clear, accessible and fit for the future. Ultimately, it will give us greater control over our operations, bringing clarity to the work we need to do and

commonality in how we do it.

This is more relevant now than ever. Due to the pressure we'll face over the coming months – with COVID-19, EU transition, and the outcomes of the Spending Review and Integrated Review – DE&S will undoubtedly see significant challenges to improve how we operate. As such, we will need to become leaner and more focused

on using tools and data to improve schedule and cost adherence.

I'm really proud of the way my directorate delivered during 2020. I want my people to continue to be at the heart of driving significant improvements across the organisation, to help us succeed in future challenges and deliver for defence throughout 2021 and beyond.

— “ —  
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Project Manager  
Engineer  
Commercial  
Finance  
Graduate  
**FIND  
YOUR  
FUTURE**  
Business Manager  
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Security

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# £2.4-billion ammunition deal secures thousands of UK jobs

A new £2.4-billion contract has been awarded to equip UK armed forces with essential fire power that will sustain 4,000 jobs around the UK over 15 years.

The Next Generation Munitions Solution (NGMS) will see BAE Systems manufacture 39 different munitions for the Royal Navy, Army, Royal Air Force and Strategic Command to use on the front line, including: small arms ammunition, mortars, medium-calibre gun rounds and large-calibre artillery and tank shells.

An estimated 1,260 people will work on NGMS in engineering, operations and supporting roles across five BAE Systems UK sites, including: a further 1,500 roles will be supported along the supply chain alongside 1,300 jobs as a result of consumer spending in local economies.

This contract award follows the substantial £16.5-billion settlement for defence over four years that will modernise the armed forces and bring jobs and prosperity to every part of the UK.

Ed Cutts, DE&S Director Weapons, said: "This new, improved contract with BAE Systems secures the supply of cutting-edge key munitions for the front line while delivering even greater value for money for the taxpayer.

"We look forward to continuing our collaboration with BAE Systems to deliver on the

opportunities this partnership and agreement present."

Replacing the current MASS (Munitions Acquisition, the Supply Solution) single-source contract from January 2023, the NGMS will deliver about 50 per cent, by value, of the MOD's total general munitions (GM) portfolio and will maximise military capability and reduce cost.

The new contract will offer better value for money as it includes incentives for BAE Systems to make savings over the life of the contract.

In its bid, BAE Systems identified about £400-million of savings and efficiency opportunities to be pursued up to 2038 to meet this challenge. The contract also includes flexibility to vary the volume of orders and allow GM products to be added or removed, depending on front line requirements.

Defence Minister Jeremy Quin said, "This vital multi-billion pound contract will provide our service men and women with fire power on the front line for years to come whilst investing in British industry, British jobs and British infrastructure.

"Defence underpins hundreds of thousands of jobs across all four corners of the nation, and ongoing investment is crucial as we work together to build back better and stronger from the COVID-19 pandemic."

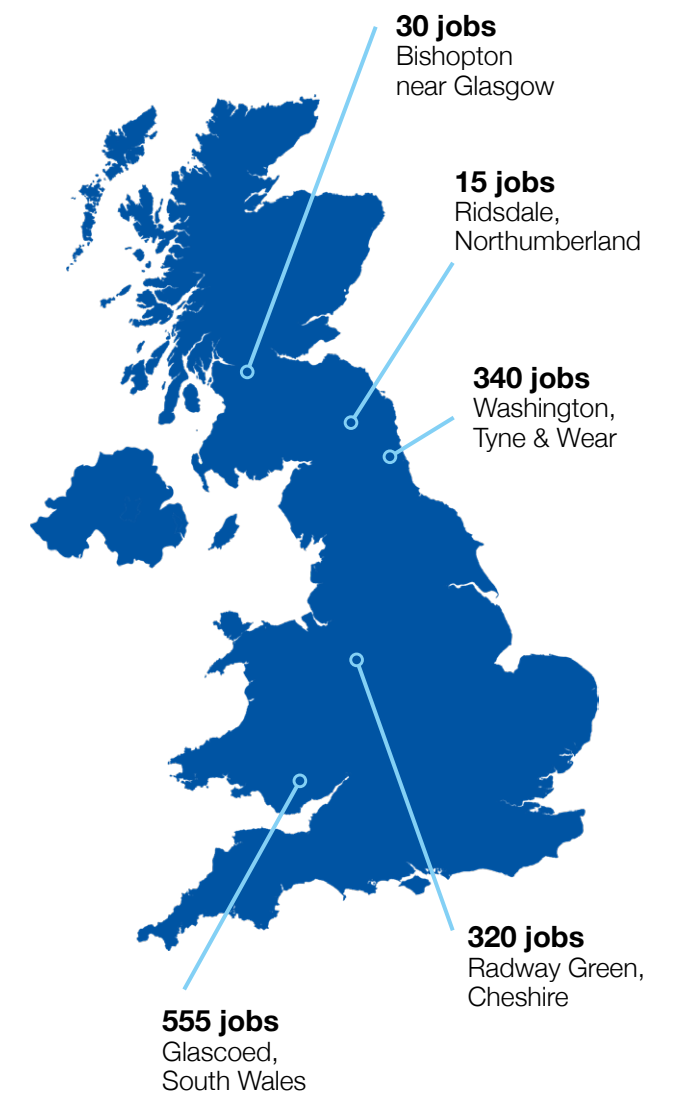
As it delivers the munitions, BAE Systems forecasts it will spend £350-million with UK-based companies on raw materials and machine components.

It pledges to invest more than £70-million refurbishing and upgrading manufacturing lines, including £32-million at Glascoed, £27-million at Washington and £12-million at Radway Green.

The company will also invest in the next generation by recruiting over 200 apprentices and graduates during the course of the contract.

Charles Woodburn, Chief Executive, BAE Systems, said: "This contract secures the future of a highly technical and critical industry which supports thousands of manufacturing jobs in several areas throughout the UK.

"By investing in new technology and skills to further develop our expertise, we can continue to deliver essential sovereign capability to the armed forces at competitive prices."



A selection of images showing production of munitions at BAES Radway Green (BAE Systems)







## Components contract signed for Boxer

Cardiff-based business MilDef has been awarded a £20-million contract to provide components for the British Army's armoured fighting vehicle, Boxer.

MilDef will provide rugged electronics such as Crewstation PCs, servers and ethernet switches for the Boxer armoured fighting vehicles under a subcontract awarded to them by RBSL and Rheinmetall.

The contract is expected to sustain and secure further development of MilDef's manufacturing facilities in the city over the next 10 years.

Major General Darren Crook, Director Land Equipment for Defence Equipment and Support, said: "The British Boxer

programme has continued at pace this year despite the significant challenges that 2020 has set us. I am delighted that we are now beginning to see real term benefits to the UK from the investment in the programme and proud that we will be delivering a state-of-the-art future capability to our British armed forces."

Much of the fleet is planned to be built in Telford and Stockport by main contractors RBSL and WFEL, supported by a nationwide supply chain that will secure around 1,000 jobs nationwide and create an ambitious UK apprenticeship scheme. The aim is to have the first vehicles in service in 2023.

## Carrier Strike Group hits major milestone

The UK's Carrier Strike Group (CSG) has reached Initial Operating Capability (IOC) ahead of its first operational deployment later this year. All elements of the group, from F-35B Lightning aircraft to radar systems to anti-ship weapons, have been successfully brought together and operated.

A key aspect of IOC is the achievement of IOC(Maritime), which enables the Lightning Force to operate jets from the UK's two Queen Elizabeth Class (QEC) Carriers.

Pilots and ground crews are now fully trained; ready to

handle weapons and maintain the equipment. The CSG is now able to deploy Anti-Submarine Warfare capabilities such as frigates and destroyers, with Merlin helicopters and F-35s operating alongside the carriers.

DE&S teams played a major role in achieving these IOC milestones on time, despite challenges associated with COVID.

Full Operating Capability for the CSG is expected by December 2023.



## MOD-wide social value model introduced

Alongside other central Government organisations, DE&S has introduced a new social value model to take account of the additional social benefits that can be achieved when delivering contracts.

The aim of the new measures is to ensure all government procurement contributes to government priorities to boost growth and productivity, help our communities recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and tackle climate change.

Social value is the consideration of the social, economic and environmental impact of our projects and programmes. While DE&S commercial activities should focus on the best commercial outcome, the business should also use its buying power to support key social objectives and deliver broader social value benefits, where possible.

The model will assist recovery from COVID-19 by promoting new jobs, encouraging economic prosperity, tackling climate change and levelling up the UK.

This is being driven by the commercial function, but both delivery teams and suppliers will need to understand the impact of the policy.

Suppliers should search social value on gov.uk for the latest information

DE&S should search social value on the DE&S intranet for training and further information.



## Type 31 frigate building hall unveiled in Rosyth

A vast building hall for the Royal Navy's Type 31 frigates has recently been welcomed as a major milestone in building the next-generation frigates.

At 147 metres long, the new hall can comfortably fit three Olympic size swimming pools, and the 30 metre high 'megadoors' can accommodate two vessels being assembled at the same time side by side.

The unveiling of the module hall follows the substantial £16.5-billion settlement for

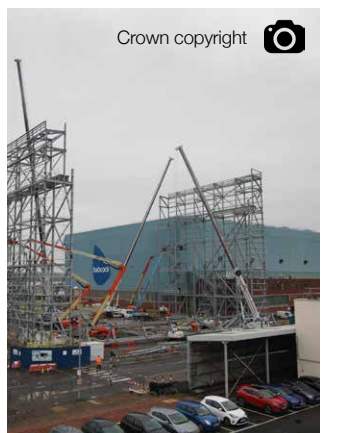
defence over the next four years that will modernise the armed forces, reinvigorate the shipbuilding industry and bring jobs and prosperity to every part of the UK.

This vast industrial facility will see Scottish shipbuilders build the Type 31 warships to take pride of place in the Royal Navy fleet.

Robertson was awarded a £31.5-million contract by Babcock to build the module hall. This project maintained 100 jobs, created five new full-time roles

at Robertson and supported a further 100 positions throughout Robertson's supply chain.

The Type 31 programme employs more than 1,250 people across the UK, which will create a legacy of infrastructure, innovation and skills for the shipbuilding sector. Off the back of the programme, Babcock have also jumpstarted a further 150 apprentice roles to set the sector up for success in the next generation.



## £127-million boost for Typhoon

DE&S have awarded a new contract to provide engineering services for the Typhoon combat aircraft.

The five-year contract will form the second part of Phased Enhancement Programme for the multi-role fighter and will provide a range of services for Typhoon – from planning and acceptance through to regulatory assurance, trials support and optimisation of in-service capability. QinetiQ will also provide expertise to the Typhoon radar development programme and data analytics for operational missions.





## New state-of-the-art long-range radar delivered

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 on home shores has been delivered to the UK.

Last year, the Air Defence and Electronic Warfare Systems (ADEWS) team based at RAF Henlow awarded a £13.1-million contract to Indra, a global company based in Spain, to produce their Lanza Long Tactical Range 25 radar for the RAF's Battlespace Management Force.

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 also benefits from being highly capable of mitigating the effect of windfarms and can rotate at two different speeds, providing an air traffic radar service mode long desired by the RAF.

The radar will be used mainly for longrange surveillance of co-operative (secondary surveillance) and non co-operative aircraft. The flexibility of the system means 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.

Last year, the DE&S ADEWS team excelled in getting Indra on contract in just six months due to hard work and an open relationship with their RAF customer.

And, despite COVID-19 significantly impacting both Spain and UK, making planning particularly challenging on both sides, the team has made significant progress.

Now the radar has arrived in the UK it will undergo extensive trials and is due to be accepted into service with the RAF by mid-2021.

ADEWS team leader David Braun said: "This is one of the first major procurements by the MOD with Indra as a prime contractor, and certainly a first for ADEWS. Having never previously worked together, a great deal of effort has been put in to managing the new relationship and expectations on both sides. By adopting a collegiate approach and working through the issues together the project continues to make steady progress."

By adopting a collegiate approach and working through the issues together the project continues to make steady progress

David Braun, Air Defence and Electronic Warfare Systems team leader



Image shows state-of-the-art long-range air defence radar being delivered at RAF Brize Norton (Crown copyright)

## DE&S apprentices step up efforts to help prepare school pupils for working



DE&S are continuing their work with secondary schools within the local Bristol community.

The Entry Talent Centre of Expertise (ETCoE) apprentices have been devising and delivering an Outreach programme with Olympus Academy Trust Schools in the North Bristol Area.

They are currently focusing on helping the pupils at Bradley Stoke Community School and are supporting them with mentoring, CV writing, mock interviews and a DE&S Apprenticeship awareness event, all of which assists the pupils to reach their full employment potential.

The outreach programme runs four projects each academic year for Year 12 and 13 students. And this year COVID-19 has not deterred ETCoE apprentices who have run the Outreach programme virtually.

Dr Tim Sheldon, key DE&S sponsor for the Outreach programme, said: "I am really pleased with the progress the team have made this year with our local schools outreach programme. 2020 has been unlike any previous year

given the impact of COVID-19 – our apprentices have done a great job rising to the challenge of developing and delivering a COVID-19 safe engagement programme in partnership with the local schools."

Project Professional Apprenticeship, and CV Writing Workshop Project Manager, Abi Peart said:

"Due to the COVID-19 circumstances we have had a change of scope. However, we have still pushed to deliver the projects for the school ensuring students are not missing out.

"We believe it's more important now than ever before that students are as best prepared as possible for the world of work and are aware of the opportunities out there. DE&S has built up exceptional relationships with the schools in the local community and I'm very proud we were able to maintain that despite the unprecedented circumstances."

Bradley Stoke Community School headteacher Steve Moir,

said: "Their work has had an impact on many levels. Students have been given fantastic opportunities to develop new skills and to gain knowledge and understanding of different career pathways in different employment sectors that they may well never have considered previously.

"The personal aspect the mentoring and interviewing has on those individual students on their life chances, personal development and employment decisions also cannot be underestimated as the programme has grown and developed.

"Finally, our parents and wider community have been given valuable insight into a large local employer doing great things within our community."

We believe it's more important now than ever before that students are as best prepared as possible for the world of work and are aware of the opportunities out there

Abi Peart,  
Project Manager



# New £550-million missile contract to protect aircraft carriers from enemy ships, submarines, aircraft and missiles

A new £550-million contract for surface-attack missiles will secure hundreds of UK jobs and provide unrivalled lethality for the UK's F-35B Lightning jets.

Known as SPEAR3, the next-generation missile can travel long distances at high-subsonic speed and over the next decade will become the F-35's primary air-to-ground weapon.

At 1.8 metres long, the missile system has a range of more than 140-kilometres and, powered by a turbojet engine, can operate across land and sea, day or night, to overpower enemy air defence systems, while the pilot and aircraft remains a safe distance away.

Its ability to attack moving targets will enhance the UK's future combat air capability and provide immense lethal capability to the Queen Elizabeth class carrier strike group.

Colonel Martin French, DE&S' Lightweight and Medium Attack Systems (LMAS) team leader, said: "The placement of this contract marks the next major stage of the SPEAR3 weapon system's development and is a result of months of detailed negotiations between MBDA and the LMAS project team.

"Building on the successes and technology achievements of the previous four years' work with MBDA, we now enter the exciting and challenging demonstration phase where we start to prove the system against the UK's requirements and ramp up activities to integrate this highly-capable weapon system onto the F-35B aircraft."

Following a successful development phase, the new seven-year demonstration and manufacture contract with MBDA will support more than 700 UK jobs, including the creation of 190 highly skilled technology jobs in system design, guidance control and navigation and software engineering.

At the peak of the contract, 570 people will work on various aspects of the system's development in Bristol, Stevenage and Bolton. Another 200 jobs are

expected to be sustained along the supply chain that includes L3 Harris, Roband, Collins, EPS and MSB.

Air Commodore Phil Brooker, DE&S Lightning delivery team leader, said: "The contract award for SPEAR3 is a key milestone for DE&S and the UK Lightning programme. The integration of this advanced weapons system onto the state-of-the-art F-35 will maintain the Royal Air Force's world-leading war-fighting capability and showcase the UK's spiral development approach that will ensure F-35 maintains its relevancy through-life in an ever-changing, complex and congested battlespace.

"The DE&S Weapons team has worked hard with industry to bring this important project to fruition, and we look forward to seeing the initial results of the upcoming demonstration phase."

With its unique combination of stealth, cutting-edge radar, sensor technology, and armed with SPEAR3, the F-35 will protect aircraft carriers from enemy ships, submarines, aircraft and missiles.

The UK currently has 21 fifth-generation F-35Bs, having received three new jets on 30 November. The platform's Initial Operating Capability (Maritime) was recently declared and, later this year, F-35 jets will sail with HMS Queen Elizabeth on her maiden Global Carrier Strike Group '21 deployment.

Defence Minister Jeremy Quin said: "The development of this next-generation missile will allow us to protect our personnel and assets on the ground, from hundreds of metres in the sky above.

"Our commitment to this system will secure hundreds of highly skilled jobs across the UK and showcase British technology and weapon expertise on the world stage."

The initial demonstration phase will assess the weapon system against the UK military's requirement through, testing, simulation and trials, which will include controlled firings from a Typhoon aircraft.

The contract forms part of the Complex Weapons portfolio with MBDA, which is on track to deliver £1.2-billion saving to UK defence. It also allows the MOD and MBDA to maximise the export potential of complex weapons, including the first-in-class SPEAR3, which supports UK prosperity and the international agenda.

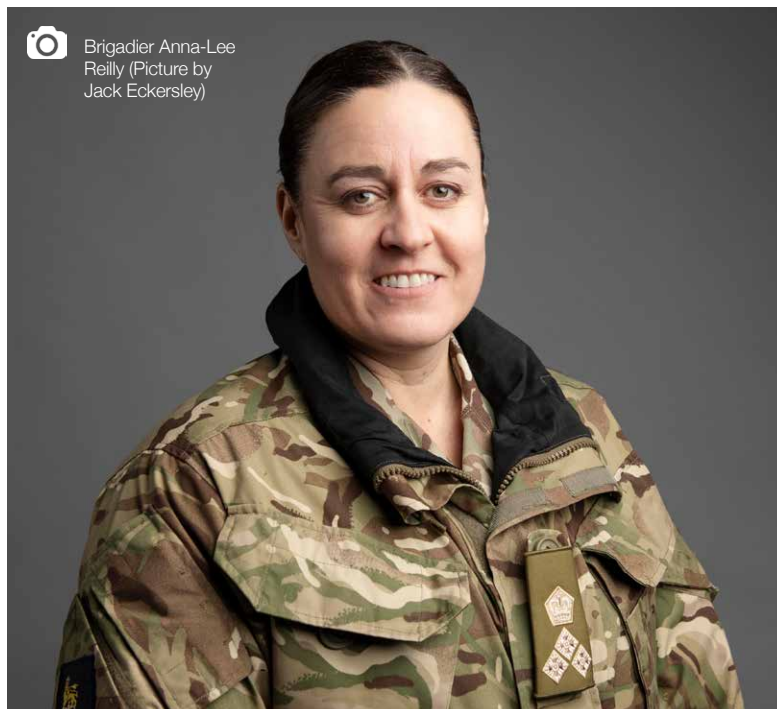


Image shows CGI of surface-attack missiles (MBDA)

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Colonel Martin French, DE&S Lightweight and Medium Attack Systems team leader

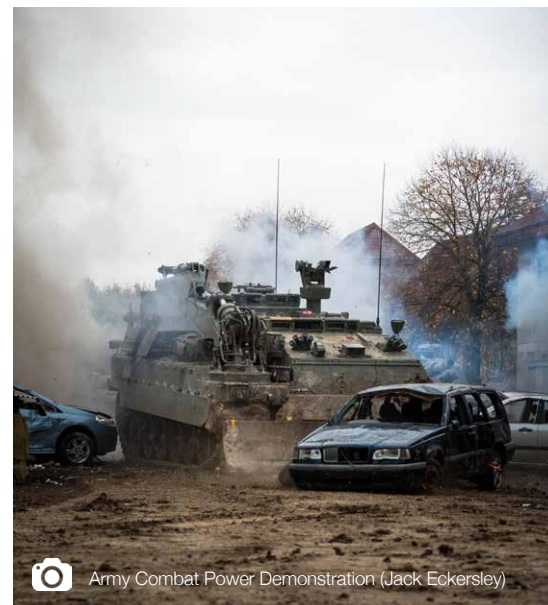




Brigadier Anna-Lee Reilly (Picture by Jack Eckersley)



NP Aerospace and Canadian Army Today at DSEI 2019



Army Combat Power Demonstration (Jack Eckersley)



British Soldiers in Jackal 2 vehicle (Crown copyright)



Army Combat Power Demonstration (Jack Eckersley)

# On supporting the armed forces, basketball and Braille

**Anna-Lee Reilly is the Head of the DE&S Vehicle Support Team where she and her team provide technical solutions to support military capability on operations in training, both in the UK and overseas**

## What does your role involve?

As the Head of the Vehicle Support Team (VST), I am responsible for the in-service support of 37,000 land platforms for the Royal Navy, Royal Air Force, Strategic Command and the British Army. My team of 400 amazing people run the spares, support contracts, engineering and technical solutions to support military capability on operations and in training, both in the UK and overseas.

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

This is a fabulous job and every day is hugely exciting, rewarding and interesting. What keeps me engaged is the breadth and scale of the business within VST. This year, we have been focused on supporting operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, Estonia and Poland, preparing vehicles for deployment to Mali, and supporting defence's commitment to COVID-19.

## How important to you is teamwork?

I am a career soldier and have spent 25 years being part of, and leading, the most amazing teams. VST is no different. People deliver projects and I am lucky to have one of the best teams I have ever worked with. One of our strengths is that we are a diverse team in terms of background, approach and experience – we positively challenge each other and put delivery at the heart of what we do.

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

There has been much change across the business over the last

few years and 2020 has been no different. In 2020, we probably saw one of the biggest changes as we have moved our business into the virtual space. Working from home has come with both personal and professional challenges for many, but what has impressed me is how the business has maintained and, in many cases, increased outputs.

In VST we have set up some great virtual contact spaces – our virtual whole team face-to-faces are a great way of keeping everyone in touch. During Lockdown we conducted a huge Virtual Away Day and, every week, I write a blog that is issued on a Sway – our one-stop-shop for all the admin emails that we were used to getting every week. However, the thing that has impressed me most is how the team has leant into talking about and dealing with mental health. 'Mind' is our charity of the year and our mental health newsletters via Sway are legendary for raising awareness and offering practical steps for all of us – thanks to Kate Pike and her team!

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

I started in DE&S as the military assistant to Chief of Materiel Land – the predecessor to Director General Land – in 2012 and then was lucky enough to be selected to lead one of the special projects teams after completing an industrial placement and the Higher Command and Staff college. I really enjoy working in DE&S. What we do matters. It directly contributes to the operational success of the UK's armed forces

and there is nowhere else I would rather work.

## What do you most enjoy about your job?

The best part of my job is the people. The sheer diversity of people I work alongside is brilliant – each with their own skills, competencies and indispensable experience. My team is simply superb – we laugh together, support each other and I have complete trust in our ability to deliver. What we do may be incredibly serious, but we have lots of fun doing it.

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

Family time is incredibly important to me and I try to protect it as much as I can. Adrian and I have two fabulous kids who keep us busy and we just got our second German Shorthaired Pointer called Hector. Working him – and training him – is going to be a full-time job!

We are very keen Scuba-divers and sailors and try to maximise both our time in, and on, the water. I am also a keen squash player, a 'semi-retired' Army basketball player and the president of Army basketball.

## What might surprise people about you?

I am in my third year of a part-time PhD with King's College, London. It is a subject close to my heart – the integration of women in the British Army. I can also read and write Braille – ask me why when you see me around!



## Serving up a taste of home in the South Atlantic this Christmas

More than 2,500 turkeys and 200,000kg of potatoes were delivered to UK armed forces deployed in the South Atlantic to keep spirits up this Christmas.

The festive season can be a difficult time for personnel, especially those stationed thousands of miles from their families and friends.

It means some home comforts like a Christmas meal – as well as a few cards from loved ones – can do wonders in boosting morale. With that in mind, the British Forces Post Office sent 134,420kg of post home and abroad in November – the same weight as 2.2-million mince pies.

Along with the usual staples including 1,150 kg of parsnips and 269 jars of cranberry jelly, those currently stationed in the Ascension and Falkland Islands were able to look forward to other tasty treats, including 651 Christmas puddings and 5,985 wafer thin mints, all of which could be enjoyed while pulling one of almost 2,000 mistletoe and holly Christmas crackers.

Captain Richard Whalley, chief of staff, Logistics Delivery

Operating Centre (LDOC), said: “Food plays a key role in maintaining morale when you are working under trying circumstances so far from home.

“This is never truer than during the festive season when the desire to see your loved ones is understandably high. A Christmas dinner can make a big difference.”

In 2017, DE&S signed two multimillion-pound deals to provide food for the UK armed forces deployed across the globe; a deal which is contributing to savings of up to £10-million across the next five years.

The contracts, worth a total of £133-million, consist of the UK and overseas elements of the Deployable Food Programme (DFP), a vital scheme which transports fresh, chilled, tinned and frozen food to the British Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force when on operations or exercises, both at home and around the world.

The DFP ensures troops can perform at their very best on operations and exercises in some of the most challenging environments around the world.

Chris Bushell, Director General Land at DE&S, said: “Our contracts, delivered with our industry partners, continue to ensure our armed forces receive the best quality nutritional food to help them remain healthy and operationally focused when faced with some of the most complex and demanding situations in the world.”

The DFP also incorporates the criteria outlined in the Department for Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Balanced Scorecard. This is a UK Government initiative which ensures factors such as animal welfare, nutrition, ethical trading and engagement with small businesses are prioritised in the delivery of food to the public sector.

“  
Our contracts, delivered with our industry partners, continue to ensure our armed forces receive the best quality nutritional food to help them remain healthy and operationally focused  
”

Chris Bushell, DE&S  
Director General Land



Army Reservists tuck in to Christmas Dinner in the Field (Crown Copyright)

# Case Study



Andrew Moul, Apprentice Scheme Manager, gives his insight into some of the benefits of working for the organisation

**Name:**

Andrew Moul

**Job title:**

Apprentice Scheme Manager phase 1 for the advanced engineering apprenticeship.

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

Although I have only been in DE&S since 2008, my association with the scheme pre-dates this as I was the NVQ assessor for the scheme from when it started.

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

When a position within the team opened up, I didn't hesitate to apply as I was already aware of the massive advantages of working for the organisation.

**What does your role entail?**

In a normal year, I will line manage between 60 and 70 new apprentices. So, what does my normal daily routine look like? The honest answer is that the only routine thing about my working day is that I arrive at my college office at 7am, although I am generally picking up text messages from apprentices from 6am onwards. I am never certain what issues or problems will come through my door when the apprentices start arriving at about 8am.

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

As well as advancing the knowledge of the apprentices I have also taken advantage of the many development opportunities offered by DE&S. You are never too old to learn and my role allows me to keep up to date with the latest thinking on education and apprenticeships.

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

The pleasure of meeting an apprentice or ex-apprentice in Abbey Wood who may have struggled in parts of the course and have now gained promotion or passed an exam is enormous.

**What's your ambition?**

My ambition is to see a team that is entirely staffed by ex-apprentices. At my age, I have completed most of my personal ambitions and the only real ambition I have is to continue to change people's lives for the better by helping them through the apprenticeship.

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

My biggest professional achievement started some years ago and continues to this day. I have a great deal of knowledge and experience of apprenticeships covering over twenty years and in the past I was contacted by some potential apprentices and their parents for advice. The word seems to have spread and I now spend a lot of my free time talking people through the good and the not so good aspects of some apprenticeships. I know that the unbiased information I pass on is appreciated and does on many occasions help them to narrow their focus on what they actually want.

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

It is never boring and the opportunity to work hard, develop yourself and enjoy social activities is unrivalled.

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

Of the many social and financial benefits, the one I value most is the number of life-long friends I have made since joining. Along with the other benefits and pension scheme, I would certainly recommend it as a place to work.



## DE&S donate unused ration packs to provide needy with more than 150,000 meals

Thousands of unused military ration packs are being donated to FareShare, which distributes food to more than 11,000 charities across the UK, including community groups, homeless hostels and lunch groups for older people.

Despite meticulous long-range planning, the Ministry of Defence has been left with a large surplus of 24-hour ration packs due to significant reduction in training and exercises as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

DE&S has taken the decision to donate 57,000 24-hour ration packs we had held in storage.

Each one contains three meals and snacks amounting to 4,000 calories per day. The total number of packs equate 171,000 individual meals plus a range of snacks.

DE&S Director Logistics Delivery Roger West said:

"The coronavirus pandemic has affected so much this year for everyone and for our armed forces this has included a reduction in training where these ration packs would have been eaten.

"I'm delighted that we are able to find a way, through our relationship with FareShare, to see these meals being consumed by those who need them the most before their best before date."

The 24-hour ration packs include a nutritionally-balanced breakfast, lunch and dinner. They feature all-day breakfasts, spaghetti meatballs, beef goulash, lamb rogan josh, Indonesian-style pork, Moroccan bean stew as well as sweet treats like sticky toffee pudding and chocolate pudding. There is also a range of snacks including: Mexican sweet chilli peanuts, caramel cereal bars and fruit flapjacks – all aimed at fuelling troops during energy-sapping activities.

It is the second time ration packs have been donated by MOD. In January, DE&S donated unused ration packs to FareShare for the first time, sending 210 10-troop Operational Ration Packs amounting to 14,000 meals.

FareShare CEO Lindsay Boswell said: "We're delighted to continue to be partnered with MOD to help them get their surplus food to good causes.

"Because these packs don't need refrigeration, they are ideal for winter night shelters where volunteers need to make food quickly, or to offer to families in temporary accommodation who might only have access to a kettle or a hob."

DE&S started delivering the 24-

hour ration packs to FareShare in early December, where they were sorted and are being delivered to charities in need of food donations over the festive period and beyond.

Operational Ration Packs offer a high-quality flexible range of food to meet the needs of servicemen and women.

Usually, around two million ration packs are used by the UK military every year, with less than one per cent of the MOD's stock requiring redistribution.

The scheme with FareShare means there is an opportunity to support those in need and ensure any good food does not go to waste. The donation is also part of the MOD's ongoing commitment to reduce unnecessary waste in an environmentally sustainable way.

“  
**I'm delighted that we are able to find a way, through our relationship with FareShare, to see these meals being consumed by those that need them the most before their best before date**  
”

Roger West, DE&S  
Director Logistic  
Delivery



FareShare distributes food to over 11,000 charities across the UK



Lunch groups for older people, community groups and homeless hostels all receive help from FareShare



24-hour ration packs contain 4,000 calories to fuel troops on operations and exercises

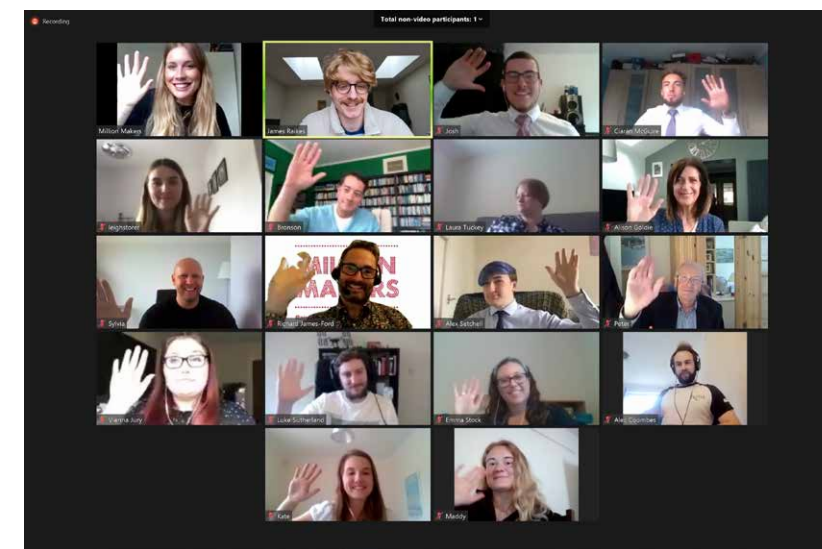
Pictures submitted

## Strategic Enablers visit the North Pole (the long way round)

People across Strategic Enablers have recently been involved in a North Pole Challenge. The idea was conceived as a way to encourage staff to get out into the fresh air and collectively walk, run or cycle the 2,666 miles from Bristol to the North Pole. The challenge took place leading up to the Christmas leave period and most definitely contributed to staff wellbeing during the second COVID-19 lockdown.

There was an overwhelmingly positive response, with over 250 people pledging a staggering total of 15,245 miles. As a result, the planned route was extended to take in the sights of Iceland, the Bahamas and Las Vegas before finally heading to the North Pole.

Organisers Tracie Lightfoot and Julie Bell, from the Strategic Enablers Headquarters, were very impressed with the level of engagement, saying: "We hoped this would encourage people to go outside for a lunchtime walk, but we never expected this many people to get involved and pledge to walk so far – it's been great to receive so many positive emails and we're already planning the next challenge".



## Million Makers team run, swim and cycle to Lapland

DE&S employees got together in teams of 5-10 to walk, run, swim or cycle their way from Abbey Wood to Lapland and back again in time for Christmas.

The Lapland Expedition competition ran across DE&S from 30 Nov - 18 Dec 2020, as part of the Million Makers challenge.

This is an entrepreneurial fundraising challenge that

sees companies from across the UK competing over a six-month period to raise at least £10,000 for the Prince's Trust, which works to transform the lives of young, vulnerable people. A group of DE&S apprentices and graduates named 'Team DESTinct' are aiming to hit that target through a series of events, raffles and competitions, and launched a fundraising expedition for

teams of DE&S people to join in. Each team were encouraged to participate in a festive, physical challenge to raise as much money as possible by running, walking, swimming, and/or cycling as far as they could and, together, rack up the distance from the MOD Abbey Wood site to Lapland in Finland, and back again, in time for Christmas holidays – a huge 6,830km.

## MOTTO the MOD Lottery August 2020 winners

£10,000	Karen Cooper, Chicksands
£2,500	Victoria Ballinger, London
£1,000	Bernadette McCluskie, Dunblane
£500	Tim Webb, Bristol
£250	Chris Pearn, Devonport
£100	Julie Harris, Cosford
	Ali Chappell, Bristol
	Alyson Goudy
	Andy Anthony, Portsmouth
	Nick Bradshaw, Corsham
	Raymond Martin, Menwith Hill
	Graham Causer, Portsmouth
	Malcolm King, Bristol
	Clive Knaggs, Blandford
	Adrian Jordan, Bristol
	Denise Barlow, Andover
	Les Minchinton-Smith, Shrivenham
	Graham Mills, Wyton
	John Parratt
	Allan Humphrey
	Shane Riley, Andover
	Rachel Newton, Andover
	Tim Bell, Bristol
	Karl Hints, Hereford
	Gerard Patterson, Plymouth



# 60 second spotlight

## Commander Yann Le Roux

### Job:

French Navy Exchange Officer working with the Naval Ships Support-Capital Ships team as a Marine Engineer and for the UK-FR Support Working Group (Lancaster House Treaty), as the Sec.

### Your route into DE&S?

It was short as I had the honour of taking this position only two years ago now. Since I joined the Navy 17 years ago, all my assignments gave me the taste for adventure and openness. It seemed natural for me to apply for a position in international relations after having been on various oceans or places in charge of, among other things, a team of 30 people on a frigate based in New-Caledonia and a nuclear reactor whilst the French aircraft carrier "Charles de Gaulle" was deployed.

I really appreciate this cooperative job. I am still convinced that all countries should get to know each other better, which would certainly avoid many problems. One thing is certain, the absence of dialogue can only lead to misunderstanding. Finally, the second certainty is that, faced with those who are closed to discussion and rules, it is better to be strong. In this respect, the cooperation of our two, similar in many ways, countries – vive l'amitié franco-britannique – is more than essential to face the challenges of tomorrow.

### Your claim to fame?

I took part in a humanitarian mission after the passage of a cyclone on the Vanuatu in 2015. If you knew how we were greeted by the people, it was really poignant and stimulating.

### Your advice to anyone?

My current and usual advice to my children is as follows: even if everything is not ideal, be proud of your country which allows you to do a lot, don't complain, keep faith and continue to work as a responsible person for the common good and look to the long term.

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

As I care about the education of my children, I am involved as much as possible in their school – experiences, creative activities and sports such as rugby, running, swimming and learning. Moreover, what we do most particularly here in the United Kingdom is to take advantage of the weekends (a very rare thing in a sailor's career) to go and discover the culture and places of this beautiful country.

### What are you most proud of?

My family. They support me in my career and in the different challenges we may face. They follow me all around the world with all that this implies – moves, distance from our respective families and friends, separation – but that's what makes us stronger every day.

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

My wife, my daughter and my son...but it would be a bit selfish of me to bring them to live a Robinson Crusoe life. So, I would rather answer a ship to return to them with a bottle of (French) red wine and cheese in the glovebox.

### What irritates you the most?

I am hardly irritable. If we are unhappy with a situation, we must first of all question ourselves personally and then be free to take matters into our own hands, either by working, or by committing ourselves to change things. "Joy's Soul Lies In The Doing" – Shakespeare

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

United Kingdom of course! And a little bit of France though!

### What would surprise people about you?

What might be surprising is that I don't really like frog's legs!

“  
My current and usual advice to my children is as follows: even if everything is not ideal, be proud of your country which allows you to do a lot, don't complain, keep faith and continue to work as a responsible person for the common good and look to the long term  
”

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

Email  
Louisa.Keefe101@mod.gov.uk



## SIX GREAT REASONS TO WORK FOR DE&S



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Professional Development



Holiday



Facilities

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