



Ministry  
of Defence

# Strategic Defence Review 2025

## The world has changed.

The threats we now face are more serious and less predictable than at any time since the end of the Cold War.

This Review sets out a vision to **make Britain safer, secure at home and strong abroad.**

## Contributions to the Review

**8000** responses

**1700** contributions from individuals, political parties, and other organisations

**200** industry contributions

**150** experts in their fields

## A landmark shift in our deterrence and defence:



### Move to warfighting readiness

With a more lethal 'integrated force' equipped for the future and strengthened homeland defence.



### Engine for growth

Driving jobs and prosperity through a new partnership with industry, radical procurement reforms, and backing UK businesses.



### 'NATO first'

Stepping up on European security by leading in NATO, with strengthened nuclear, new tech, and updated conventional capabilities.



### UK innovation driven by lessons from Ukraine

Harnessing drones, data, and digital warfare to make our Armed Forces stronger and safer.



### Whole-of-society approach

Wider participation in national resilience and renewing the Nation's contract with those who serve.



# Key Announcements

**The SDR is the Plan for Change for Defence.** It sets out a new vision for UK Defence:

## Move to warfighting readiness



**'New Hybrid Navy':** Dreadnought and SSN-AUKUS submarines, cutting-edge warships and support ships, transformed aircraft carriers, and new autonomous vessels.

**10x more lethal British Army:** armoured capability, AI, software, long-range weapons, and land drone swarms—and aim to increase full-time troops to at least 76,000 into the next Parliament.

**Next-generation RAF:** F-35s, upgraded Typhoons, next-generation fast jets through GCAP, and autonomous fighters.

**Sovereign warhead programme:** £15bn this Parliament, supporting 9,000+ jobs.

**Homeland air and missile defence:** up to £1bn new funding.

**New CyberEM Command:** defending Britain from daily attacks in the grey zone.

## UK innovation driven by lessons from Ukraine



**World-leading innovation in autonomy:** doubling investment in autonomous systems this Parliament to boost UK export potential.

**New Digital Targeting Web in 2027:** up to £1bn for the digital integration of our Armed Forces.

**New 'Drone Centre':** accelerating the use of autonomous systems across our Armed Forces.

## Engine for growth



**Munitions:** £6bn this Parliament—including £1.5bn in an 'always on' pipeline and at least 6 new munitions and energetics factories in the UK, creating 1,000+ jobs.

**Continuous submarine production:** up to 12 conventionally armed, nuclear-powered attack submarines through the AUKUS programme.

**UK Defence Innovation:** £400m to invest in UK-based companies.

**New Defence Exports Office:** driving exports to our allies and growth at home.

## 'NATO first'



**First European hybrid airwings:** transforming our aircraft carriers, combining fast jets, long-range weapons, and drones.

**First European laser directed energy weapon in service:** through nearly £1bn of new funding.

**Greater European deterrence:** up to 7,000 new long-range weapons and supporting around 800 jobs in the UK.

## Whole-of-society approach



**Renewal of military accommodation:** at least £7bn this Parliament, with £1.5bn+ new investment to fix forces family housing.

**More opportunities for young people:** delivering a 30% increase in cadets by 2030 and introducing a voluntary 'Gap Year' scheme.

**Whole-of-society approach:** a new UK Strategic Reserve by 2030 and the Navy taking a leading role in protecting undersea infrastructure.

**New Defence Readiness Bill:** legislating to improve national preparedness.