



Defence Committee

Chair, Rt Hon Tobias Ellwood MP

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Rt Hon Ben Wallace MP
Secretary of State for Defence
Ministry of Defence
London SW1A 2HB

25 March 2022

Dear Secretary of State,

We understand that all Ministry of Defence police are being withdrawn from Northern Ireland, and have been told that this is part of a wider redeployment exercise. Given the important pastoral role played by the MoD police, certainly in Northern Ireland and possibly elsewhere, and the small number of individuals involved (seven in Northern Ireland), we would be interested in the thinking behind this development. I should therefore be grateful if you could provide answers to the following questions:

- What decisions have been taken over the deployment of MoD police, both nationally and specifically in Northern Ireland?
- What is the rationale for those decisions?
- How will your Department provide the policing and other services hitherto provided by MoD police in areas from which they are being withdrawn?

P.P. Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon. Tobias Ellwood MP
Chair of the Defence Committee