



Defence Committee

Chair, Rt Hon Tobias Ellwood MP

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The Prime Minister
Rt Hon. Boris Johnson MP
10 Downing Street
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23 October 2020

Dear Prime Minister

In response to the Defence Committee's inquiry into the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy, the Government stated that "the Comprehensive Spending Review will provide a multiyear financial settlement for Defence to enable the delivery of the policy priorities set out in the Integrated Review."

On 21st October it was announced that the Comprehensive Spending Review, due to be set out by the end November, has now been scaled back in favour of a one-year review.

Please can you confirm the commitment that you recently made to me that the Integrated Review will not be delayed beyond November. If a full Comprehensive Spending Review has to be delayed for wider reasons, please ensure that the Ministry of Defence nonetheless receives a multi-year financial settlement.

As the Committee's report noted, without a multi-year settlement, ongoing issues with the affordability and availability of the UK's defence capabilities will persist and our role in the world will be diminished.

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Rt Hon Tobias Ellwood

Chair of the Defence Select Committee