



Formal Minutes of the Defence Committee in Session 2021–22

The Formal Minutes of a select committee record its formal proceedings and decisions.

They include:

- the names of the members who attended (all or part of) each meeting of the Committee;
- declarations of members' interests;
- details of written and oral evidence reported to the House by the Committee;
- any other formal decisions taken by the committee (recorded as 'orders' or 'resolutions'), for example to begin an inquiry, to report evidence to the House, to make a visit or to appoint a specialist adviser; and
- visits made by the Committee.

When the Committee publishes a Report, the Formal Minutes relating to consideration of the draft Report are published with the Report itself, and are not included in this document. You can find these reports on the Committee's webpages.

For more information about Formal Minutes, see [Erskine May paragraph 38.26](#).

Transcripts of oral evidence taken in public by the Committee are available on the Committee's webpages.

Attendance statistics for members of the Committee are available on the Committee's webpages.

Tuesday 11 May 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair ¹

Stuart Anderson

Sarah Atherton

Richard Drax

Mark Francois

Gavin Robinson

John Spellar

1. Women in the Armed Forces: From Recruitment to Civilian Life

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Elaine Dobson (WAF0001)

Anonymous (WAF0010)

2. Responsibilities of the Minister for Defence People and Veterans

The Committee considered this matter.

Johnny Mercer MP gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 18 May 2021 at 2.00pm.

¹ Elected by the House (Standing Order No. 122B); see Votes and Proceedings [18 June 2015].

Tuesday 18 May 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Emma Lewell-Buck

Gavin Robinson

John Spellar

Derek Twigg

1. Obsolescent and outgunned: the British Army's armoured vehicle capability

Draft Special Report (Obsolescent and outgunned: the British Army's armoured vehicle capability: Government Response to the Committee's Fifth Report of Session 2019-21), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Fifth Report from the Committee of Session 2019-21 was appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the First Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

2. The Navy: Purpose and Procurement

Ordered, That Alex Burton be appointed a Specialist Adviser to assist the Committee in matters relating to the Navy.

3. Future Programme

Ordered, That the Chair have leave to visit Singapore in June 2021 in a representative capacity for the purposes of attending the IISS Shangri-La Dialogue.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 25 May 2021 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 25 May 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Sarah Atherton

Martin Docherty-Hughes

Richard Drax

Mark Francois

Kevan Jones

Gavin Robinson

John Spellar

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Ajax Armoured fighting vehicles

Correspondence with the Minister for Defence Procurement

Fleet Solid Support Ships

Correspondence with the Secretary of State for Defence in relation to Fleet Solid Support Ships.

2. Future Programme

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into Space Defence.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the treatment of contracted staff for the MOD's ancillary services.

3. UK-French Naval Co-operation

The Committee considered this matter.

Rear Admiral Nicolas Vaujour, French Navy gave oral evidence.

4. Defending Global Britain in a Competitive Age

The Committee considered this matter.

Professor Patrick Porter, University of Birmingham and Dr David Blagden, University of Exeter, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 8 June 2021 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 8 June 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Sarah Atherton

Martin Docherty-Hughes

Richard Drax

Kevan Jones

Emma Lewell-Buck

John Spellar

Derek Twigg

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

The Navy: Purpose and Procurement

Mr Michael Vidal (NAV0001); Gabriele Molinelli (NAV0002); Jag Patel (NAV0003); Dr Basil Germond, Lancaster University (NAV0004); Professor Greg Kennedy, King's College London (NAV0005); Defence Synergia (NAV0006); Mr Christopher Cope, Warship World/ Navy Books (NAV0007); Mr Neil Stratton (NAV0009); Professor Keith Hartley, University of York (NAV0010); Lockheed Martin UK (NAV0011); techUK (NAV0012); Professor Trevor Taylor RUSI (NAV0013); Dassault Systemes (NAV0014); ADS (NAV0015); Miss Angie Hesham Abdo

Ahmed, University of Hull (NAV0016); Airbus (NAV0017); Thales UK (NAV0018); BAE Systems plc (NAV0019); Dr David Blagden, University of Exeter (NAV0020); James London (NAV0021); Professor Geoffrey Till, US Naval War College (NAV0022); Harland & Wolff (NAV0023); Cllr. Anthony Linden (NAV0024); Human Security Centre (NAV0025); Centre for Historical Research, University of Wolverhampton (NAV0026); Babcock International (NAV0027); Philip Dunne (NAV0028); Serco (NAV0029); Ministry of Defence (NAV0030)

Women in the Armed Forces: From Recruitment to Civilian Life

Anonymous (WAF0037)

Ministry of Defence (WAF0079)

Estimates Memoranda and Ministerial correspondence

Memorandum for the Ministry of Defence Main Estimate 2021-22

Armed Forces Pension & Compensation Schemes Main Estimate 2021-22:

Estimates Memorandum

2. Future Programme

Resolved, That the Committee visit Washington D.C. in the second week of September 2021.

3. The Navy: Purpose and Procurement

Admiral (retd) Sir Philip Jones, Former First Sea Lord (2016-2019) and Professor Jonathan Caverley, Professor of Strategy, US Naval War College, gave oral evidence.

In the absence of the Chair, Rt Hon John Spellar was called to the chair.

Admiral (retd) Sir Philip Jones, Former First Sea Lord (2016-2019) and Professor Jonathan Caverley, Professor of Strategy, US Naval War College, gave further oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 15 June 2021 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 15 June 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Sarah Atherton

Martin Docherty-Hughes

Emma Lewell-Buck

John Spellar

Gavin Robinson

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Oversight of the National Security and Investment Regime

Correspondence with the Minister of State for Defence Procurement

2. Future programme

Resolved, That the Committee visit RAF High Wycombe on Monday 28 June 2021, the BAE Shipyard in Barrow on 8 July 2021 and the Army Foundation College in Harrogate in September 2021.

3. Space Defence

Resolved, That Alexandra E. W. Stickings be appointed a Specialist Adviser to the inquiry into Space Defence.

4. Reserve Forces Review 2030

Elisabeth Braw, Resident Fellow at American Enterprise Institute and Dr Patrick Bury, Senior Lecturer in Security at University of Bath, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 23 June 2021 at 1.45pm.

Tuesday 23 June 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Martin Docherty-Hughes

Mark Francois

Emma Lewell-Buck

Gavin Robinson

John Spellar

Derek Twigg

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

The Navy: Purpose and Procurement

NAV0031

NAV0032

NAV0033

Women in the Armed Forces: from recruitment to civilian life

WAF0067

Iraqi civilians acting as interpreters for British Armed Forces in Iraq

Correspondence with the Minister for Defence People and Veterans

2. Defending Global Britain in a Competitive Age

Rt Hon Ben Wallace MP, Secretary of State for Defence and Air Marshal Richard Knighton, Deputy Chief of Defence Staff, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 29 June 2021 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 29 June 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair
Sarah Atherton
Mark Francois
Kevan Jones
Emma Lewell-Buck
Derek Twigg

1. Russia and Ukraine border tensions

Draft Report (Russia and Ukraine border tensions), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

Ordered, That the draft Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraphs 1 to 112 read and agreed to.

Summary agreed to.

Resolved, That the Report be the First Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That embargoed copies of the Report be made available (Standing Order No. 134).

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Provision of support for UK veterans residing in the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man

Correspondence with the Minister for Defence People and Veterans

3. The Navy: purpose and procurement

Sir John Parker GBE FREng, Ian Waddell, General Secretary at Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, David Lockwood OBE, CEO at Babcock International Group, Glynn Phillips, Group Managing Director Maritime and Land UK at BAE Systems and Sam McBriar, Director of Strategic Marketing for Maritime at Thales UK, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 6 July 2021 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 6 July 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair
Sarah Atherton
Richard Drax
Martin Docherty-Hughes
Mark Francois
Kevan Jones
John Spellar
Derek Twigg

1. Manpower or mindset: Defence's contribution to the UK's pandemic response

Draft Special Report (Manpower or mindset: Defence's contribution to the UK's pandemic response: Government Response to the Committee's Sixth Report of Session 2019-21), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Sixth Report from the Committee of Session 2019-21 was appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the Second Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

2. Space Defence

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Dr Bleddyn Bowen (SPDF0001)

Team Athena, Lockheed Martin UK, CGI UK, Serco, Inmarsat (SPDF0002)

Mr Neil Fraser (SPDF0003)

CND (SPDF0005)

3. Defending Global Britain in a competitive age

Lt Gen (Retd.) Ben Hodges, Pershing Chair in Strategic Studies at the Center for European Policy Analysis and former Commanding General, United States Army Europe (Wiesbaden, Germany) from 2014 to 2017, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 12 July 2021 at 2.00pm.

Monday 12 July 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

John Spellar, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Sarah Atherton

Martin Docherty-Hughes

Kevan Jones

Derek Twigg

1. Protecting those who protect us: Women in the Armed Forces from recruitment to civilian life

Draft Report (Protecting those who protect us: Women in the Armed Forces from recruitment to civilian life), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

Ordered, That the draft Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraphs 1 to 229 read and agreed to.

Annex and Summary agreed to.

A paper be appended to the Report as an appendix.

Resolved, That the Report be the First Report of the Sub-Committee to the Committee in this session.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That embargoed copies of the Report be made available (Standing Order No. 134).

2. Future Programme

Ordered, That a Sub-Committee be appointed to consider The treatment of contracted staff for the MoD's ancillary services.

Ordered, That Martin Docherty-Hughes be Chair of the Sub-Committee on The treatment of contracted staff for the MoD's ancillary services.

3. The treatment of contracted staff for the MoD's ancillary services

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

TCS0001 Capita
TCS0002 CBI
TCS0004 GMB
TCS0005 PCS
TCS0006 Serco
TCS0007 Unite
TCS0008 Ministry of Defence

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 13 July 2021 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 13 July 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair
Stuart Anderson
Sarah Atherton
Richard Drax
Kevan Jones
Emma Lewell-Buck
John Spellar
Derek Twigg

1. Space Defence

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

SPDF0006 Lockheed Martin UK
SPDF0007 Dr Mark Hilborne (Lecturer at King's College London); Dr Mark Presley (Director at MAP Analytica)
SPDF0008 Northrop Grumman Corporation
SPDF0009 Viasat UK
SPDF0010 UKspace (trade association)
SPDF0011 Airbus
SPDF0013 Astroscale Ltd
SPDF0014 Thales SPDF0015 CGI
SPDF0016 Haydn Belfield (Academic Project Manager at Centre for the Study of Existential Risk, University of Cambridge); Tildy Stokes (External Consultant at Centre for Long-Term Resilience)

Dr Mark Hilborne, Lecturer in the Defence Studies Department, Kings College London and Dr Mark Presley, Consultant on Space Policy and Strategy, MAP Analytica, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 20 July 2021 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 20 July 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair
Stuart Anderson
Sarah Atherton
Martin Docherty-Hughes
Richard Drax
Mark Francois
Kevan Jones
Emma Lewell-Buck
John Spellar
Derek Twigg

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Ajax: recent developments

AJA0001 Cablescon
AJA0002 AeroGlow International
AJA0004 Mr Julian Nettlefold (Editor at BATTLESPACE)
AJA0006 Mr Michael Cover (Member at ArbDB Chambers)
AJA0007 LML Products Ltd (& Riker Ltd)
AJA0008 PRV Engineering Ltd
AJA0009 Williams Advanced Engineering Ltd

AJA0010 Mr Allan Sneller (Retired Met Police senior procurement manager at Late Metropolitan Police)

AJA0011 Daco Scientific Ltd (Daco Hand Controllers)

AJA0013 AVoptics Ltd

AJA0015 Francis Kirk (Socket Screws) Ltd

AJA0016 HORIBA MIRA

AJA0017 Greeve Limited

AJA0018 Fischer Panda UK Limited AJA0019 bcb international ltd

AJA0021 Pearson Engineering Limited

AJA0022 Patrick Benham-Crosswell

AJA0023 NP Aerospace Ltd

AJA0024 Fastenal Europe Ltd

AJA0025 Maher Ltd

AJA0026 Transcal Engineering

AJA0030 Lockheed Martin UK

AJA0032 CTA International

AJA0034 Henry Jackson Society

AJA0035 Jag Patel

AJA0038 Francis Tusa

Letter, dated 15 July 2021, from the Minister for Defence Procurement to the Chair in relation to the Ajax programme

Armed Forces and veterans mental health: follow-up

Letter, dated 13 July 2021, from the Minister for Defence People and Veterans to the Chair regarding provisions of mental health care for the Armed Forces and Veterans

Protecting those who protect us: Women in the Armed Forces from Recruitment to Civilian Life

WAF0080 Ministry of Defence

Space Defence

SPDF0017 BAE Systems plc

SPDF0018 Council on Geostrategy

SPDF0019 AWE

SPDF0020 RAND Europe

SPDF0021 Ministry of Defence

The Navy: purpose and procurement

NAV0036 Dr Alessio Patalano

NAV0037 Dr Sidharth Kaushal

NAV0038 Robert Clark, Henry Jackson Society

2. Ajax: recent developments

The Committee considered this matter.

Carew Wilks, Vice President and General Manager and Scott Milne, Executive Programme Director, General Dynamics Land Systems–UK, Jeremy Quin MP, Minister for Defence Procurement, David Williams CB, Permanent Secretary, Lieutenant General Ralph Wooddisse CBE MC, Commander Field Army and Major General Timothy Hodgetts CBE, Surgeon General, Ministry of Defence, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 7 September 2021 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 7 September 2021

Physical meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Sarah Atherton

Richard Drax

Mark Francois

Emma Lewell-Buck

John Spellar

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Ajax: recent developments

AJA0039 General Dynamics

Space Defence

SPDF0004 Harlette Capital

SPDF0022 L3Harris Technologies

The Navy: purpose and procurement

NAV0039 BAE Systems

NAV0040 Babcock

Ministerial Correspondence

Letter, dated 14 July 2021, from MinDPV in relation to Lariam

Letter, dated 21 July 2021, from MinDPV on Delivering the Strategy for our Veterans: 2022-24 Action Plan

Letter, dated 27 July 2021, from the Permanent Undersecretary for Defence on Main Estimates

Letter, dated 28 July 2021, from the Defence Secretary on Sheffield Forgemasters International Limited (SFIL)

Letter, dated 28 July 2021, from MinLords in relation to the awarding of LSGCM medals

Letter, dated 3 August 2021, from the Defence Secretary on Advent International's acquisition of Cobham

Letter, dated 25 August 2021, from MinDP on Armoured Fighting Vehicles

2. Future programme

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Resolved, That the Committee visit DSEI at the ExCeL, Docklands, London on Thursday 14 September 2021.

Resolved, That the Chair have leave to attend the Warsaw Security Forum from 5-6 October 2021 in a representative capacity.

3. Space Defence

The Committee considered this matter.

Nick Shave, Chair and Nik Smith, Vice-Chair, Security and Defence Committee, UKspace; Anita Bernie, Strategy and Execution Lead, KISPE Space Systems Ltd and Richard Franklin, Managing Director, Airbus Defence and Space, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 21 September 2021 at 08.45am.

Tuesday 21 September 2021

Hybrid meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair
Sarah Atherton
Martin Docherty-Hughes
Richard Drax
Mark Francois
Emma Lewell-Buck
John Spellar
Derek Twigg

1. Russia and Ukraine border tensions

Draft Special Report (Russia and Ukraine border tensions: Government Response to the Committee's First Report of Session 2021-22), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the First Report from the Committee of Session 2021-22 was appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the Third Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

2. Ajax: recent developments

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Ajax: recent developments

AJA0040 Ministry of Defence

3. The Navy: Purpose and Procurement

The Committee considered this matter.

Christopher Pyne, Former Australian Minister of Defence and Professor Tetsuo Kotani, Senior Fellow at The Japan Institute of International Affairs, and Professor at Meikai University, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 26 October 2021 at 1.00pm.

Tuesday 26 October 2021

Physical meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair
Sarah Atherton
Martin Docherty-Hughes
Richard Drax
Mark Francois
Kevan Jones
Emma Lewell-Buck
Gavin Robinson
Derek Twigg

1. Withdrawal from Afghanistan

The Committee considered this matter.

Rt Hon Ben Wallace MP, Secretary of State for Defence, gave oral evidence.

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Withdrawal from Afghanistan

AFG0001 - Trina Lawrie

AFG0006 - Professor Felicity Gerry QC; Ms Azadah Raz Mohammad; Ms Anna McNeil; Ms Karin Frode

AFG0007 - Reprieve

AFG0009 - Laure-Helene Piron; Sarah Hearn; Andrew Kidd; Harry Leverment

AFG0010 - Professor Brad Blitz; Dr Neelam Raina AFG0011 - Mr James Tudor-White

AFG0012 - Adam Smith International

AFG0013 - Ministry of Defence

AFG0014 - Amnesty International UK

AFG0015 - The Sulha Alliance

2. Space Defence

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Space Defence

SPDF0023 - Airbus Defence and Space

3. The Navy: Purpose and Procurement

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

The Navy: Purpose and Procurement

NAV0042 - Jonathan D. Caverley

4. US, UK, and NATO

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

US, UK, and NATO

UNA0001 - Jag Patel

UNA0002 - Cambridge Middle East and North Africa Forum

UNA0003 - James London

UNA0004 - Mr Robbie S. Turner; Mr Craig Harrison; Mr Robert Gaving; Dr Hannah R. Marston

UNA0005 - Brett Thomas

UNA0006 - Lockheed Martin UK

UNA0007 - Airwars

UNA0009 - Rethinking Security

UNA0010 - Mr James Charles David Claret Tudor-White

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 2 November 2021 at 2.30pm.

Tuesday 2 November 2021

Physical meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair
Sarah Atherton
Mark Francois
Kevan Jones
Gavin Robinson
John Spellar

1. The Navy: purpose and procurement

The Committee considered this matter.

Jeremy Quin MP, Minister for Defence Procurement, Admiral Tony Radakin, First Sea Lord and Vice Admiral Chris Gardner, Director General, Ships Domain, DE&S, Ministry of Defence, gave oral evidence.

2. For publication by the Committee

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

The Navy: purpose and procurement

NAV0043 - Admiral Sir Philip Jones, First Sea Lord (2016-2019)

US, UK and NATO

UNA0011 - Ministry of Defence

Correspondence

Letter from Minister for Defence Procurement regarding the appointment of David Marsh as dedicated SRO for the Armoured Cavalry

Letter from Minister for Defence Procurement providing a copy of the requested Appendix to Sir John Parker's Review

Letter from General Electric relating to GE Steam Power

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 9 November 2021 at 1.30pm.

Tuesday 9 November 2021

Physical meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Sarah Atherton

Richard Drax

Mark Francois

Derek Twigg

1. US, UK and NATO

The Committee considered this matter.

2. The Navy: purpose and procurement

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Future Programme

Resolved, That the Committee visit the Army Foundation College in Harrogate on Thursday 18 November, in connection with its inquiry into Women in the Armed Forces.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Rolls Royce Defence in Bristol on Thursday 25 November, to gain insight into jet engine technologies.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Serco, RAF Oakhanger in Hampshire on Thursday 9 December 2021, in connection with its inquiry into Space Defence.

Resolved, That the Committee visit General Dynamics in Merthyr Tydfil on Wednesday 2 and Thursday 3 February 2022, in connection with its inquiry into AJAX Armoured Fighting Vehicles.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Rosyth and Govan shipyards on Wednesday 2 and Thursday 3 March 2022, in connection with its inquiry into Navy procurement.

4. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Defending Global Britain in a competitive age

DGB0001 - Ministry of Defence

Protecting those who protect us: Women in the Armed Forces from recruitment to civilian life

Correspondence with the Secretary of State relating to the delayed Government response to the Committee's report: Protecting those who protect us: Women in the Armed Forces from recruitment to civilian life.

5. The work of the Chief of Defence Staff

The Committee considered this matter.

General Sir Nick Carter, Chief of Defence Staff, Ministry of Defence, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 16 November 2021 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 16 November 2021

Hybrid meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair
Stuart Anderson
Sarah Atherton
Richard Drax
Mark Francois
Kevan Jones
Emma Lewell-Buck
John Spellar
Derek Twigg

1. Protecting those who protect us: Women in the Armed Forces from recruitment to civilian life

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Correspondence with the Secretary of State relating to the delayed Government response to the Committee's report: Protecting those who protect us: Women in the Armed Forces from recruitment to civilian life.

2. Future programme

Resolved, That the Chair have leave to visit Munich from 5-7 December to attend the Munich Strategy Retreat in a representative capacity.

Resolved, to postpone the visit to Rolls Royce Defence in Bristol, scheduled for 25 November due to Members' unavailability.

3. Withdrawal from Afghanistan

The Committee considered this matter.

Dr Jack Watling, Research Fellow for Land Warfare at Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), Brigadier (ret.) Ben Barry, Senior Fellow for Land Warfare at International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), Dr Sara de Jong and Peter Gordon-Finlayson, Representatives at The Sulha Alliance, and Professor Brad Blitz and Dr Neelam Raina, Representatives at Afghan Solidarity Coalition, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 23 November 2021 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 23 November 2021

Hybrid meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Sarah Atherton

Richard Drax

Emma Lewell-Buck

John Spellar

Derek Twigg

1. Protecting those who protect us: Women in the Armed Forces from recruitment to civilian life

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Correspondence with the Secretary of State relating to the delayed Government response to the Committee's report: Protecting those who protect us: Women in the Armed Forces from recruitment to civilian life.

2. The Navy: purpose and procurement

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

NAV0044 - Admiral Tony Radakin, First Sea Lord, Ministry of Defence

3. Withdrawal from Afghanistan

The Committee considered this matter.

General David Petraeus (ret.), Commander of US and NATO forces in Afghanistan (2010-11), Jeff Harrison, Interim CEO, Combat Stress and Sarah Jones, Head of Psychological Wellbeing, Help for Heroes, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 30 November 2021 at 1:45pm.

Tuesday 30 November 2021

Physical meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Sarah Atherton

Martin Docherty-Hughes

Richard Drax

Mark Francois

John Spellar

Derek Twigg

1. Protecting those who protect us: Women in the Armed Forces from recruitment to civilian life

Draft Special Report (Protecting those who protect us: Women in the Armed Forces from recruitment to civilian life: Government Response to the Committee's Second Report of Session 2021-22), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

Ordered, That the Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Resolved, That the Report be agreed to.

Resolved, That the Government's Response to the Second Report of Session 2021-22 be appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the Fourth Special Report to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House

Ordered, That embargoed copies of the Report be made available, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 134

2. Space Defence

Resolved, That the Chair of the Science and Technology Committee be invited to participate in the Committee's oral evidence session on 14 December on Space Defence, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 137A(1)(e).

3. The Navy: purpose and procurement

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

NAV0045 The Ministry of Defence

4. Defending Global Britain in a competitive age

The Committee considered this matter.

Sir Stephen Lovegrove, National Security Adviser, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 7 December 2021 at 1:45pm.

Tuesday 7 December 2021

Physical meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Sarah Atherton

Martin Docherty-Hughes

Richard Drax

Mark Francois

Kevan Jones

John Spellar

1. "We're going to need a bigger Navy"

Draft Report ("We're going to need a bigger Navy"), proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

Ordered, That the draft Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraphs 1 to 202 read and agreed to.

Summary agreed to.

A Paper was appended to the Report as Appendix 1.

Resolved, That the Report be the Third Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That embargoed copies of the Report be made available (Standing Order No. 134).

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 14 December 2021 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 14 December 2021

Hybrid meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Emma Lewell-Buck

John Spellar

Derek Twigg

1. Withdrawal from Afghanistan

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

AFG0016 - Afghan Solidarity Coalition

2. Space Defence

The Committee considered this matter.

Major Tim Peake CMG, British ESA Astronaut and Justin T. Johnson, Senior Vice President at Meta Aerospace, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 11 January 2022 at 2.45pm.

Tuesday 11 January 2022

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Richard Drax

Dave Doogan

Mark Francois

Kevan Jones

Emma Lewell-Buck

Gavin Robinson

John Spellar

Derek Twigg

1. Declaration of interests

Dave Doogan declared his interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992 (see Appendix).

2. Withdrawal from Afghanistan

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Correspondence with the Defence Secretary, dated 20 December 2021, regarding the National Shipbuilding Strategy (NSbS) Refresh.

4. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the visit to NATO HQ, Brussels on 17-19 January 2022 be postponed.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the tilt to the Indo-Pacific and RAF and aviation procurement.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 18 January 2022 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 18 January 2022

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Sarah Atherton

Dave Doogan

Richard Drax

Mark Francois

Kevan Jones

Emma Lewell-Buck

Gavin Robinson

John Spellar

Derek Twigg

1. Withdrawal from Afghanistan

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Defence in the Indo-Pacific

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Correspondence with the National Security Adviser, dated 11 January 2022, regarding the Integrated Review, Defence Command Paper and the Defence and Security Industrial Strategy.

4. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the Russia-Ukraine Crisis.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the role of the military in countering migrant crossings (Op Isotrope).

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 25 January 2022 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 25 January 2022

Hybrid meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Sarah Atherton

Dave Doogan

Richard Drax

Kevan Jones

Emma Lewell-Buck

Gavin Robinson

John Spellar

Derek Twigg

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Correspondence, dated 19 January 2022, from the Minister for Defence People and Veterans relating to the Veterans Strategy Action Plan (2022-2024)

2. Future Programme

Resolved, That the Committee visit BAE's and Babcock's shipyards in Govan and Rosyth, Scotland on 2-3 March 2022, in connection with its inquiry into "We're going to need a bigger Navy".

Resolved, That the Committee visit NATO HQ in Brussels from 22-23 March 2022, in connection with its inquiry into US, UK and NATO.

3. Russia-Ukraine crisis

The Committee considered this matter.

James Sherr OBE, Senior Fellow, Estonian Foreign Policy Institute at International Centre for Defence and Security (ICDS) and Associate Fellow, Russia and Eurasia Programme at Chatham House and Olga Tokariuk, Non-resident Fellow at Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA), gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 26 January 2022 at 9.15am.

Tuesday 26 January 2022

Hybrid meeting

Members present

John Spellar, in the Chair

Sarah Atherton

Dave Doogan

Richard Drax

Emma Lewell-Buck

Gavin Robinson

Derek Twigg

Resolved, That, at this day's sitting, Mr John Spellar take the Chair of the Committee.

1. The role of the military in countering migrant crossings (Operation Isotrope)

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

ISO0001 - Dr Basil Germond

ISO0002 - Ms Angie Hesham Abdo Ahmed

ISO0003 - Drone Wars UK

ISO0004 - Chris Cope

ISO0005 - James Cowan

ISO0006 - Dr Scott Edwards and Professor Tim Edmunds, University of Bristol and SafeSeas

ISO0007 - Mr James London

ISO0008 - Channel Rescue

ISO0009- Harland & Wolff

ISO0010 - Admiral Sir George Zambellas

Vice Admiral Sir Charles Montgomery and Commander Tom Sharpe, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 1 February 2022 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 1 February 2022

Hybrid meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Sarah Atherton

Dave Doogan

Richard Drax

Mark Francois

Emma Lewell-Buck

Gavin Robinson

John Spellar

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Correspondence dated 27 January 2022, from the Minister for Procurement relating to Annington Property Limited - Settlement of Site Rent Review and Exploration of Enfranchisement.

3. Armed Forces Covenant Report 2021

The Committee considered this matter.

Lt General Sir Nick Pope, Chair, Cobseo; Charles Byrne, Director General, Royal British Legion; Collette Musgrave, Chief Executive, Army Families Federation; Sarah Clewes, Interim CEO, Naval Families Federation and Maria Lyle, Director, RAF Families Federation, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 8 February 2022 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 8 February 2022

Hybrid meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Dave Doogan

Richard Drax

Mark Francois

Gavin Robinson

John Spellar

1. The role of the military in countering migrant crossings (Operation Isotrope)

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

2. Future Programme

Resolved, That the Chair visit the Munich Security Conference on 18-20 February 2022 in a representative capacity.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Rolls Royce on 24 February 2022, General Dynamics on 16 March 2022 and the Indo-Pacific on 26 March-2 April 2022

3. Russia-Ukraine crisis

The Committee considered this matter.

Samuel Cranny-Evans, Research Analyst, Military Sciences, RUSI and Robert Lee, Fellow, Eurasia Program, Foreign Policy Research Institute, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 22 February 2022 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 22 February 2022

Physical meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Sarah Atherton

Dave Doogan

Richard Drax

Mark Francois

Emma Lewell-Buck

Gavin Robinson

John Spellar

1. "We're going to need a bigger Navy"

Draft Special Report ("We're going to need a bigger Navy": Government Response to the Committee's Third Report of Session 2021-22), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Third Report from the Committee was appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the Fifth Special Report to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

2. The role of the military in countering migrant crossings (Operation Isotrope)

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Defending Global Britain in a competitive age

The Committee considered this matter.

4. The treatment of contracted staff for the MOD's ancillary services

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Letter dated 14th February from Chair to Secretary of State for Defence regarding GE Steam power announcement of MoU contract with EDF

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 1 March 2022 at 1.30pm.

Tuesday 1 March 2022

Hybrid meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair

Dave Doogan

Richard Drax

Mark Francois
Kevan Jones
Emma Lewell-Buck
Gavin Robinson
John Spellar

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

MoD Supplementary Estimate 2021-22 Memorandum
Armed Forces Pension & Compensation Schemes 2021-22 Memorandum
Letter, dated 23 February 2022 from General Electric in relation to the proposed sale of GE Steam Power to EDF

2. Future programme

Resolved, That the visit to the Indo-Pacific on 27 March - 1 April 2022 be postponed.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Europe on 27 March - 1 April 2022 in relation to its inquiry into US, UK and NATO. The Committee proposes splitting into 2 groups with group 1 visiting Germany and Poland, and Group 2 visiting Estonia and Finland or Latvia.

3. US, UK and NATO

The Committee considered this matter.

Dr Jamie Shea, President at Centre for War Studies at the University of Southern Denmark, Associate Fellow at Chatham House Defence Committee and James J. Townsend Jr., Senior Fellow at Center for a New American Security (CNAS), President at Atlantic Treaty Association (ATA), gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 8 March 2022 at 1.30pm.

Tuesday 8 March 2022

Physical meeting

Members present

John Spellar, in the Chair

Stuart Anderson

Sarah Atherton

Dave Doogan

Richard Drax

Mark Francois

Kevan Jones

Emma Lewell-Buck

Derek Twigg

4. Operation Isotrope: the use of the military to counter migrant crossings

Draft Report (Operation Isotrope: the use of the military to counter migrant crossings), proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

Ordered, That the draft Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraphs 1 to 82 read and agreed to.

Summary agreed to.

Resolved, That the Report be the Fourth Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That John Spellar make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That embargoed copies of the Report be made available (Standing Order No. 134).

5. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Letter dated 14th February from HCDC Chair to Secretary of State for Defence in relation to the sale of General Electric's site in Rugby

6. Space Defence

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

SPDF0024 Space Forge Ltd
SPDF0025 Skyrora Limited and Northern Space & Security Ltd
SPDF0026 Lockheed Martin UK
SPDF0027 Reaction Engines
SPDF0028 Airbus

James Heappey MP, Minister for the Armed Forces, George Freeman MP, Minister for Science, Research and Innovation, Air Vice-Marshal Harvey Smyth, Director Space, Ministry of Defence and Rebecca Evernden, Director for Space, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 15 March 2022 at 2.00pm.

Tuesday 15 March 2022

Hybrid meeting

Members present

Tobias Ellwood, in the Chair
Stuart Anderson
Sarah Atherton
Dave Doogan
Richard Drax
Mark Francois
Kevan Jones
Emma Lewell-Buck
Gavin Robinson
John Spellar
Derek Twigg

1. Aviation Procurement

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into Aviation Procurement.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

The Treatment of Contracted Staff for The MoD's Ancillary Service
TCS0009 Capita

UK Defence and the Indo-Pacific

INP0001 Dr. Zeno Leoni

INP0002 Dr Jie Sheng Li

INP0003 Dr. Yee-Kuang Heng; Dr. Chiyuki Aoi

INP0004 Mr Brett Thomas

INP0005 Professor Greg Kennedy

INP0006 Air Vice-Marshal Andrew Roberts

INP0007 ADS Group Ltd

INP0008 Lockheed Martin UK

INP0009 Reaction Engines

INP0010 Dr Scott Edwards; Dr Asmiati Malik; Dr Robert Yates

INP0011 Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)

INP0012 Dr. Walter C. Ladwig III

INP0013 Babcock International

INP0014 Mr James Rogers; Mr Patrick Patrick Triglavcanin

INP0015 Ministry of Defence

INP0016 Dr Anisa Heritage

Correspondence

Letter, dated 28 February, from Minister for Defence Procurement to Chair providing update on the F-35B Lightning Programme

3. Future Programme

Resolved, That the Committee visit Berlin and Warsaw on 28-31 March 2022 and the Committee visit Estonia and Finland from 9-13 May 2022 in relation to its inquiry into US, UK and NATO.

4. US, UK and NATO

Lord Robertson, former Secretary General of NATO, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 19 April 2022 at 2.00pm.

Appendix: Declarations of interest by members of the Committee

Doogan, Dave (Angus)

The Register of Members' Financial Interests (as at 4 January 2022)

1. Employment and earnings

Payments from Savanta ComRes, 3 Melville Street, Edinburgh EH3 7PE, for surveys:

11 May 2020, received £75. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 12 January 2021)

20 May 2020, received £75. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 12 January 2021)

9 June 2020, received £75. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 12 January 2021)

5 August 2020, received £75. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 12 January 2021)

9 September 2020, received £75. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 12 January 2021)

28 October 2020, received £75. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 12 January 2021)

7 December 2020, received £75. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 12 January 2021)

7 January 2021, received £75. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 26 July 2021)

5 March 2021, received £75. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 26 July 2021)

6 April 2021, received £75. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 26 July 2021)

5 May 2021, received £75. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 26 July 2021)

25 June 2021, received £75. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 26 July 2021)

Payments from YouGov, 50 Featherstone St, London EC1Y 8RT, for surveys:

21 April 2020, received £100. Hours: 1 hr 20 mins. (Registered 12 January 2021)

21 April 2020, received a further £100. Hours: 1 hr 20 mins. (Registered 12 January 2021)

9 July 2020, received £70. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 12 January 2021)

31 July 2020, received £100. Hours: 1 hr 20 mins. (Registered 12 January 2021)

11 September 2020, received £100. Hours: 1 hr 20 mins. (Registered 12 January 2021)

28 October 2020, received £100. Hours: 1 hr 20 mins. (Registered 12 January 2021)

11 December 2020, received £60. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 12 January 2021)

21 December 2020, received £60. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 12 January 2021)

21 December 2020, received £100. Hours: 1 hr 20 mins. (Registered 12 January 2021)

9 February 2021, received £100. Hours: 1 hr 20 mins. (Registered 26 July 2021)

19 April 2021, received £60. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 26 July 2021)

30 April 2021, received £100. Hours: 1 hr 20 mins. (Registered 26 July 2021)

30 April 2021, received £140. Hours: 1 hr 45 mins. (Registered 26 July 2021)

27 May 2021, received £120. Hours: 1 hr 30 mins. (Registered 26 July 2021)

22 June 2021, received £110. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 26 July 2021)

24 June 2021, received £40. Hours: 45 mins. (Registered 26 July 2021)

Payments from Ipsos MORI, 3 Thomas More Square, London E1W 1YW, for surveys:

9 September 2020, received £250. Hours: 2 hrs. (Registered 12 January 2021)

18 December 2020, received £200. Hours: 2 hrs. (Registered 12 January 2021)

8. Miscellaneous

Councillor, Perth and Kinross Council. From January 2020, I receive no allowances for this role. (Registered 07 January 2020)

11 January 2022: Additional declarations:

Member of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and Armed Forces Parliamentary Scheme.