

GLOSSARY

1SL/CNS: First Sea Lord and Chief of the Naval Staff. Professional head of the Navy. Member of the Defence Management Board, the Admiralty Board and the Chiefs of Staff Committee and Chair of the Navy Board. Currently held by an officer of the rank of Admiral.

2nd PUS: 2nd Permanent Under Secretary. The Deputy to the Permanent Under Secretary. Member of the Defence Council and Defence Management Board, the Admiralty, Army and Air Force Boards and their executive committees, the Acquisition Policy Board, the Investment Approvals Board, the Defence Audit Committee, official chair of the Defence Environment and Safety Board, and joint head, with the Vice Chief of the Defence Staff, of the Central Top Level Budget organisation.

2SL/CNH: Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command.

The Royal Navy's Principal Personnel Officer, of the rank of Vice Admiral, and a member of the Admiralty and Navy Boards. Also known as the Chief of Naval Personnel. He has responsibility for maintaining operational capability by providing correctly trained manpower through recruitment into the Royal Navy and Royal Marines and individual training. He is also Commander in Chief Naval Home Command responsible for all non DLO Naval real estate.

ABRO. A Trading Fund Agency of the MoD formally known as Army Base Repair Organisation. ABRO provides engineering support (including complex repair and servicing, re-manufacture and assembly) and fleet management services to the MoD, the defence industry and other commercial businesses for land based equipment ranging from radios to main battle tanks.

ACPP: Africa Conflict Prevention Pool. The arrangements jointly run by the MoD, FCO and DfID to deliver the Government's conflict prevention objectives in Africa. The ACPP has an annual budget of £60M.

Activity levels. The proportion of regular military personnel deployed on operations and other military tasks.

Admiralty Board. The Admiralty Board is chaired by the Secretary of State for Defence and delegated by the Defence Council to administer the activities and personnel of the Royal Navy.

AFB: Air Force Board. The Air Force Board is chaired by the Secretary of State for Defence and delegated by the Defence Council to administer the activities and personnel of the Royal Air Force.

AFBSC: Air Force Board Standing Committee. The AFBSC conducts the day-to-day business of managing the Royal Air Force on behalf of the Air Force Board. It brings together, under the Chief of the Air Staff (CAS), the RAF operational and personnel commanders, and supports the CAS in his executive role, his management and operational advisory roles, and as the professional head of the RAF.

AFCS: Armed Forces Compensation Scheme. A scheme, introduced from 6 April 2005, for members and ex-members of the Regular Armed Forces (including Gurkhas) and Reserve Forces, to pay compensation for injuries, illnesses or deaths which are caused by service on or after 6 April 2005. In the event of a Service person's death caused by service, benefits are payable to eligible dependants.

AFPS: Armed Forces Pension Scheme. The non-contributory defined benefits pension scheme covering all members of the Armed Forces.

AG: Adjutant General.

a) The Army's Principal Personnel Officer, of the rank of Lieutenant General, and a member of the Army Board and the Executive Committee of the Army Board. He has responsibility for providing trained army officers and other ranks through recruitment into the Army and individual training. He also provides education services to children of all members of the Services on long-term foreign postings.

b) The Top Level Budget (TLB) organisation managed by the Adjutant General.

ALI: Adult Learning Inspectorate. The ALI is a statutory non-departmental public body that inspects and reports on the quality of education and training for adults and young people funded by public money.

AME: Annually Managed Expenditure. Spending included in Total Managed Expenditure that does not fall within Departmental Expenditure Limits (DELs), such as nuclear provisions and War Pension Benefits. Expenditure in AME is generally less predictable and/or controllable than expenditure within DELs.

AMP: Air Member for Personnel. The RAF's principal personnel officer, of the rank of Air Marshal, a member of the Air Force Board and Air Force Board Standing Committee, and head of the RAF Personnel and Training Command. He is responsible for providing trained RAF officers and other ranks through recruitment into the RAF and individual training.

Anti-surface weapons. Weapons designed to attack targets on the surface of the land or sea.

APB: Acquisition Policy Board. The MoD's top level board, chaired by the Minister for Defence Procurement or, in his absence, the PUS. It oversees the development of defence acquisition policy and processes and defence industrial policy, and reviewing and monitoring the coherence of acquisition performance targets.

Apprentices. New entrants to the Armed Forces undertaking training in particular skilled trades.

Appropriations-in-aid. Receipts used to offset expenditure. They generally arise from the provision of repayment services, the sale of surplus goods or of equipment purchased on behalf of the Defence Sales Organisation.

Army Board. The Army Board is chaired by the Secretary of State for Defence and delegated by the Defence Council to administer the activities and personnel of the Army.

Army Reserve See **Regular Reserves.**

ASLC: Accruing Superannuation Liability Charge. An estimate of the cost of providing future superannuation protection for all personnel currently in pensionable employment.

Assessment Centre. The formal process used by the MoD to assess suitability of civil servants for promotion into junior management (Band D) and middle management (Band B) grades.

Assets. Can be either financial or non-financial. Financial assets include monetary gold, bank deposits, IMF Special Drawing Rights, loans granted bonds, shares, accounts receivable, and the value of the government's stake in public corporations. Non-financial assets consist of fixed capital (such as buildings and vehicles); stock, land and valuables.

ASTA: Aircrew Synthetic Training Aids. A Full Mission simulator that replicates all aspects of a real flying mission, allowing pilots to match the aircraft and its weapons against interactive attacks, whilst experiencing the pressures and demands of high speed jet flight. A Cockpit Trainer, a lower level device, is primarily used to introduce the pilot to the cockpit environment and procedures.

ASTOR: Airborne Stand-Off Radar. A new capability which will provide a long range all weather theatre surveillance and target acquisition system capable of detecting moving, fixed and static targets. Has an In-Service Date of September 2005 and full Operational Capability is to be achieved by 2008.

AWE: Atomic Weapons Establishment. One of the largest high technology research, design development and production facilities in the UK. Its primary task is to produce and maintain the warheads for the UK's independent nuclear deterrent.

BAES: British Aerospace Systems. An international company engaged in the development, delivery and support of advanced defence and aerospace systems in the air, on land, at sea and in space. It designs, manufactures and supports military aircraft, surface ships, submarines, fighting vehicles, radar, avionics, communications and guided weapons systems.

Balance Sheet. A financial statement showing the assets, liabilities, and net worth of a business on a specified date.

Band B. A grade in the civilian rank structure immediately below the Senior Civil Service.

Battalion. An Army fighting unit, usually comprising around 650 personnel, commanded by a Lieutenant Colonel. See Regiment.

Berlin Plus arrangements. Arrangements negotiated between the European Union and NATO to allow for the EU to have access to NATO's assets and capabilities so that NATO can support the EU, so that there's full transparency between the two organisations and so that we cooperate with the most efficient, the most effective mechanisms possible so that resources are used in the most efficient way.

BOWMAN. A tri-Service tactical communications and information system.

BNFL: British Nuclear Fuel plc. An international nuclear energy business, involved in fuel manufacture, reactor design and services, as well as decommissioning and environmental services; cleaning up the legacy of the Cold War.

Brigade. An Army Brigade is a collection of units that have been formally grouped together for a specific purpose, commanded by a Brigadier. A fighting Brigade will contain a mix of Infantry, Cavalry, Tank and Artillery units together with supporting specialist capabilities. The composition of a Brigade will differ depending on its responsibility but usually contains about 5,000 soldiers.

BTEC. Vocational qualifications to prepare students for employment or for progression to higher education, often taken as an alternative to A-levels.

BVRAAM: Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile. The next generation air-to-air weapon, also known as Meteor, which will provide Typhoon with the capacity to combat projected air-to-air threats throughout the life of the aircraft and contribute to the superiority requirements of UK and NATO operations.

Capability Reviews. A Cabinet Office initiative, launched in early 2006, aimed at improving the capability of the Civil Service to meet today's delivery challenges and be ready for tomorrow's. The Reviews will help departments to identify where they need to improve and what support they need to do so. The reports on these reviews will be published, with clear assessments of current performance and key actions to be taken to improve. Capability Reviews supersede Performance Partnership Agreements.

CAS: Chief of the Air Staff. Professional head of the Royal Air Force, member of the Defence Council and Defence Management Board, the Air Force Board and the Chiefs of Staff Committee, and Chair of the Air Force Board Standing Committee. Currently held by an officer of the rank of Air Chief Marshal.

CBRN: Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear materials. Unconventional materials potentially capable of use in weapons of wide area impact, often collectively known as Weapons of Mass Destruction.

CBW: Chemical and Biological Warfare. The use of chemical and biological weapons in conflict. Possession and use of Chemical and Biological Warfare is illegal under the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention.

CDL: Chief of Defence Logistics. Head of the Defence Logistics Organisation TLB. Member of the Defence Council and Defence Management Board, Acquisition Policy Board and Investment Approvals Board.

CDP: Chief of Defence Procurement. Head of the Defence Procurement Agency TLB and member of the Defence Council and Defence Management Board, Acquisition Policy Board and Investment Approvals Board.

CDS: Chief of Defence Staff. The professional head of the UK Armed Forces and principal military adviser to the Secretary of State for Defence and the Government. Member of the Defence Council and Defence Management Board, and Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee.

CFE: Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe. A treaty which established comprehensive limits on conventional military equipment in Europe (from the Atlantic to the Urals) mandated the destruction of excess weaponry and provided for verification and inspection.

CFER: Consolidated Fund Extra Receipt. Receipts realised in excess of amounts authorised as Appropriations in Aid of the supply Estimates, or of kinds which HM Treasury does not allow Departments to use in aid of expenditure. Such receipts are surrendered to the Consolidated Fund as Extra Receipts.

CGS: Chief of the General Staff. Professional head of the Army, member of the Defence Council and Defence Management Board, the Army Board and the Chiefs of Staff Committee, and Chair of the Executive Committee of the Army Board. Currently held by an officer of the rank of General.

CJO: Chief of Joint Operations.

a) the senior joint military operational commander, of the rank of Vice Admiral, Lieutenant General or Air Marshal, responsible for running all military operations other than those so large that a more senior officer is required, or those undertaken predominantly by one Service such that it makes sense for the operation to be commanded by the operational TLB led by that Service (CINCFLEET, Land Command, or Strike Command). Military assets are assigned to CJO only for the duration of the operation.

b) the Top Level Budget organisation managed by the CJO, including the Permanent Joint Headquarters, the Sovereign Base Areas in Cyprus and British forces in Gibraltar and the Falkland Islands.

CINCFLEET: Commander-in-Chief Fleet.

The Royal Navy's principal operational commander, of the rank of Admiral, and a member of the Admiralty and Navy Boards.

CINCLAND: Commander-in-Chief Land.

a) The Army's principal operational commander, of the rank of General, and a member of the Army Board and Executive Committee of the Army Board.

b) Top Level Budget Organisation managed by CINCLAND responsible for the delivery of trained expeditionary armed forces to CJO at agreed readiness states.

CINCSTRIKE: Commander-in-Chief Strike.

a) The Royal Air Force's principal operational commander, of the rank of Air Chief Marshal, and a member of the Air Force Board and Air Force Board Standing Committee.

b) Top Level Budget Organisation managed by CINCSTRIKE responsible for the delivery of trained expeditionary air power to CJO at agreed readiness levels.

CIS: Communication and Information Systems.

Civil Contingencies Act. The Act, and accompanying non-legislative measures, will deliver a single framework for civil protection in the United Kingdom capable of meeting the challenges of the twenty-first century. The Act is separated into two substantive parts: local arrangements for civil protection and emergency powers. It became an Act of Parliament on 18 November 2004.

CMS: Common Military Skills. Core military skills in which recruits are trained in the first stages of their training.

COBRA: Counter-Battery Radar. A 3-D phased radar system designed to locate enemy artillery at very long ranges.

Commission. The legal authority of an Officer's appointment to the Armed Forces. Precise terms vary according to Service and specialisation within each Service.

Conflict Prevention. Early warning, crisis management, conflict resolution, peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peace-building activity and an associated strengthening of international and regional systems and capacity.

Corps:

a) An organised collection of Regiments or groupings of soldiers that share a common area of specialist expertise to ensure common practice and that common interests can be catered for efficiently.

b) An Army fighting unit comprising two or more divisions with associated specialist supporting units, commanded by a Lieutenant General.

COS: Chiefs of Staff Committee. The Chiefs of Staff Committee is chaired by the Chief of the Defence Staff. It is the main forum in which the collective military advice of the Chiefs of Staff is obtained on operational issues. The PUS attends the COS Committee.

Cost of Capital Charge. An annual non-cash charge applied to each department's budget. It is 6% of the net assets of the department and is used to make departments aware of the full cost of holding assets.

CSA:

a) **Chief Scientific Adviser.** The Ministry of Defence's senior expert scientific advisor, recruited externally, Head of Science Innovation and Technology TLB, member of the Defence Council and Defence Management Board and Chair of the Investment Approvals Board.

b) **Customer Supplier Agreement.** An agreement, usually between TLBs, detailing in terms of quality, quantity and timeliness the outputs required from the supplier to enable the customer to meet its defence outputs.

CSP: Civil Service Pension scheme.

CTLB: Central TLB. The Central Top Level Budget organisation has responsibility for the MoD Head Office, covering Defence policy as well as Departmental policy on the equipment programme, resources, finance, personnel and security, as well as a range of non-Head Office functions. The Central TLB provides a diverse range of corporate services for the MoD as a whole. These include pay, estate management, bill payment, consultancy services, accountancy, some training, statistical analysis, central IT systems, public relations, defence exports and policing. The Central TLB's remit also encompasses the management of Service housing and the provision of medical services.

CTP: Career Transition Partnership. A partnering arrangement between Right Management Consultants and the Ministry of Defence to successfully deliver enhanced resettlement services to all ranks from the Armed Forces.

Current expenditure on goods and services is the sum of expenditure on pay, and related staff costs, plus spending on goods and services. It is net of receipts from sales. It excludes capital expenditure, but includes expenditure on equipment that can only be used for military purposes since that is counted as current expenditure. It differs from final consumption in that capital consumption is not included.

Current prices. Prices prevailing at the time.

CVR(T): Combat Vehicle Reconnaissance (Tracked). A light tank used for reconnaissance.

DAC: Defence Audit Committee. The Defence Audit Committee is a subcommittee of the Defence Management Board, chaired by an independent non-executive member of the DMB. It reviews and constructively challenges the adequacy of internal controls, risk management and assurance processes within the Ministry of Defence. In particular it reviews the Department's assurance arrangements and Statement on Internal Control contained within the Departmental Resource Accounts (the DRAC) annually and reports on these to the Accounting Officer.

DARA: Defence Aviation Repair Agency. In 1999, DARA brought together the RAF Maintenance Group Defence Agency (MGDA) and the Naval Aircraft Repair Organisation (NARO). It is the largest Government owned aerospace repair facility within Europe, delivering one-stop-shop aerospace support to the MoD, overseas governments and Industry. DARA became a Trading Agency of the MoD in April 2001.

DASA: Defence Analytical Services Agency. DASA was created in July 1992 and provides National Statistics on Defence and other corporate information, forecasting and planning and consultancy, advice and research services to the MOD.

DBA: Defence Bills Agency. Primarily responsible for paying bills submitted to the Ministry of Defence by defence contractors.

DCSA: Defence Communication Services Agency. Provides telecommunications and related services to the MoD and is part of the DLO. Not to be confused with the DSCA.

DE: Defence Estates. Manages and maintains the MoD's estates in the UK and abroad. Previously part of the Central TLB, but from 1 April 2005 a Top Level Budget Organisation in its own right.

Defence Aim. The Defence Aim is set out in the MoD's Public Service Agreement. It is to deliver security for the people of the United Kingdom and the Overseas Territories by defending them, including against terrorism, and act as a force for good by strengthening international peace and security.

Defence Balanced Scorecard. The Defence Balanced Scorecard is a framework that helps the DMB to translate strategy into operational objectives that drive both behaviour and performance. This strategy is articulated in the Departmental Plan, which sets out the department's top level strategic objectives, including our Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets. The Defence Balanced Scorecard tells the DMB how well Defence is doing in terms of the objectives that underpin the plan. Ultimately this assessment tests the DMB whether Defence is 'succeeding' and gives them an insight into the department's ability to achieve the Defence vision.

Defence Budget. Under Cash Accounting, the amount of money planned to be spent during a financial year. Under Resource Accounting and Budgeting (RAB), the sum of resources planned to be consumed during a financial year. See Resource budgeting.

Defence Council. The Defence Council is the senior Departmental committee. Chaired by the Secretary of State it provides the formal legal basis for the conduct of Defence in the UK through a range of powers vested in it by statute and Letters Patent.

Defence Estate. The Defence estate comprises over 4,000 built and rural sites in the UK covering some 240,000 hectares. It includes 21 major Armed Forces training areas, 39 minor training areas, 289 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), 48 special protection areas, over 650 statutorily protected buildings and almost 1,300 scheduled monuments.

Defence Mission. The objectives of the Ministry of Defence are to provide the capabilities needed: to ensure the security and defence of the United Kingdom and Overseas Territories, including against terrorism; to support the Government's foreign policy objectives particularly in promoting international peace and security.

Defence Technology Centre: DTC. Centres of excellence for conducting innovative, cutting edge research for enhanced UK Defence capability. They are exemplars for research collaboration between Government, UK Defence, Small-Medium Sized Enterprises, and Universities.

Defence Vision. The Defence Vision set out by the Defence Management Board, is: *Defending the UK and its interests; Strengthening international peace and stability; A Force for good in the world. We achieve this aim by working together on our core task to produce battle-winning people and equipment that are: Fit for the challenge of today; Ready for the tasks of tomorrow; Capable of building for the future.*

DEFRA: Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. DEFRA is the Government Department responsible for all aspects of the environment, rural matters, farming and food production.

DEL: Departmental Expenditure Limit. DELs are firm plans for three years for a specific part of a department's expenditure. In general the DEL will cover all running costs and all programme expenditure except, in certain cases, spending is included in departmental AME because it cannot be reasonably be subject to close control over a three year period. DELs are divided into current and capital budgets.

Depreciation. Also termed capital consumption. The measure of the wearing out, consumption or other loss of value of a fixed asset whether arising from use, passage of time or obsolescence through technological and market changes.

DERA: Defence Evaluation and Research Agency. On 2 July 2001 DERA was split into two parts: QinetiQ, and the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl).

DESB: Defence Environment and Safety Board. Chaired by the Under Secretary of State or, in his absence, the 2nd PUS, provides direction, sets objectives, monitors, reviews and reports on performance with regard to the environment and safety in defence.

Devolved Administrations. The devolved administrations of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have responsibility for certain defined areas of domestic Government in their parts of the UK.

DFAU: Defence Fraud Analysis Unit. A dedicated unit within the Defence Internal Audit organisation to evaluate suspected irregularities, support police authorities, promote risk awareness, record reported fraud and theft, liaise with the Treasury and provide advice on procedures and policy.

DfES: Department for Education and Skills. Government Department responsible for setting education and skills policy in England.

DfID: Department for International Development. Government Department responsible for the UK's development aid and work to get rid of extreme poverty.

DH: Department of Health. Government Department responsible for setting health and social care policy in England, and sets standards and drives Modernisation across all areas of the NHS, social care and public health.

DIA: Defence Internal Audit. The MoD's principal Internal Auditing body, whose primary role is the provision of independent and objective advice on the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of systems and controls at all levels of the Department. It reports directly to the Defence Audit Committee.

DII: Defence Information Infrastructure. A fully networked and managed information system being acquired to support Defence worldwide, underpinning much of the defence Change Programme.

Direct Entry Officers. Army officers (previously called Mainstream officers) who either come direct from civilian life or from the ranks of the Army, commissioned on completion of the 11 month Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS) Commissioning Course. They will normally be under the age of 29 on entry to RMAS.

DIS:

a) Defence Industrial Strategy. Announced on 15 December 2005, the Defence Industrial Strategy is aimed at ensuring that our Armed Forces are provided with the equipment that they require, on time, and at best value for money. It aims to identify the sustainable industrial base required to retain within the UK those industrial capabilities (including infrastructure, skills, intellectual property and capacity).

b) Defence Intelligence Staff. Organisation that provides timely, all-source intelligence assessments to: guide Departmental decision making on the formulation of Defence policy and the commitment and employment of the UK's military forces; inform decisions on the generation and maintenance of operational military capability, including through the Equipment Programme; and contribute to wider national intelligence collection and assessment

Division. An Army Division made up of two or more Brigades depending on the specific role it is to undertake and is configured in a similar fashion to a Brigade but on a larger scale, commanded by a Major General. 1 (UK) Division and 3 (UK) Division are fighting Divisions. 2, 4 and 5 Division are responsible for administrative support of specific geographical areas within the UK.

DLO: Defence Logistics Organisation. The Top Level Budget organisation formed on 1 April 1999 to bring together the logistics support organisations in the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force and Centre staff. It contains a number of specialist Defence Agencies.

DLTP: Defence Logistics Transformation Programme. A single coherent programme of work incorporating all logistic transformation activities across Defence to achieve improved operational effectiveness, efficiency and flexibility.

DMB: Defence Management Board. The Defence Management Board (DMB) is the highest, non-ministerial committee in the MoD. Chaired by PUS, it is essentially the main corporate board of the MoD, providing senior level leadership and strategic management of Defence. Its role is to deliver the Defence Aim set out in the Public Service Agreement. It comprises the ten non-ministerial members of the Defence Council together with the MoD Finance Director and two non-executive members. It is responsible for the role of Defence, providing strategic direction, vision and values; for Objectives and targets, establishing the key priorities and defence capabilities necessary to deliver the MoD's Departmental objectives; for Resource allocation and strategic balance of investment to match Defence priorities and objectives; and for Performance management, managing and driving corporate performance.

DMS: Defence Medical Services. Comprises the Defence Medical Services Department and the three single Service medical directorates.

DOC: Directorate of Operational Capability. DOC provides an independent source of evaluation and audit within the Armed Forces on a range of issues, including operational lessons learnt studies and appraising the care and welfare of Armed Forces initial training establishments.

DPA: Defence Procurement Agency. The DPA is the Top Level Budget Organisation responsible for the procurement of equipment to meet new requirements. It is also a Defence Agency. It is located mainly at Abbey Wood, Bristol.

DRDL: Devonport Royal Dockyards Ltd. A company which runs and owns the Devonport Royal Dockyards in Plymouth.

DSDA: Defence Storage and Distribution Agency. The Defence Agency that provides the Armed Forces with storage and distribution services.

DSL: Debut Services Ltd. A joint venture between Bovis Lend lease Ltd and Babcock Infrastructure Services to provide property maintenance and capital works projects across Defence.

DSTL: Defence Science and Technology Laboratory. An agency and trading fund of the MoD created from part of DERA on 2 July 2001. It provides specialist scientific and technical support to the MoD.

DTC: Defence Technology Centre. A formal collaborative arrangement between industry and academic experts in a particular technology, funded jointly by participants and the MoD, who work together to generate and enhance the technology vital to the delivery of future UK Defence capabilities.

DU: Depleted Uranium. Uranium is a natural element found in soil, water and mineral deposits. It is a heavy metal, nearly twice as dense as lead, is radioactive and chemically toxic. DU is a waste product, (what is left after the removal of some of the more radioactive parts of natural uranium for use in the nuclear industry) and being a very dense and hard metal is an ideal core for tank shells designed to pierce armoured vehicles.

DUOB: Depleted Uranium Oversight Board. An independent panel of scientists and veterans' representatives appointed to oversee the MoD's depleted uranium (DU) screening programme.

DWR: Deep Waste Repository. A facility for the storage of nuclear waste deep underground.

ECAB: Executive Committee of the Army Board. ECAB conducts the day-to-day business of managing the Army on behalf of the Army Board. It brings together, under the Chief of the General Staff, the Army operational and personnel commanders, and supports the CGS in his executive role, his management and operational advisory roles, and as the professional head of the Army.

Environment Agency. The environmental regulator for England and Wales.

ERW: Explosive Remnants of War. Unexploded ordnance (such as bombs, missiles and artillery shells), which may be primed, fused, armed or prepared for use, and may have been abandoned.

ESDP: European Security and Defence Policy. The European Union has agreed on the establishment of a European Security and Defence Policy to ensure it has the tools to undertake crisis management operations, where NATO as a whole is not engaged, in support of its Common Foreign and Security Policy.

Ethnic Minority. A group within a community which differs ethnically from the main population.

EU: European Union. The framework for economic and political co-operation between 25 European countries. It began as a post-war initiative between six countries pooling control over coal and steel to guarantee a more peaceful future for Europe. It now manages co-operation on issues as wide-ranging as the environment, transport and employment, and has increasing influence in defence and foreign policy.

EUFOR. The EU-led peacekeeping force responsible for security in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

FCO: Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The Government department responsible for UK foreign and security policy.

Finance Director. The MoD's senior finance officer, responsible for all aspects of the Department's financial performance and a member of the Defence Management Board.

Fleet. The Top Level Budget (TLB) organisation managed by Commander-in-Chief Fleet which was formed on 1 April 2006 from the CINC Fleet TLB and Chief of Naval Personnel TLB.

FOI: Freedom of Information. An Act giving a right of public access to recorded information held by public authorities subject to certain defined exemptions.

FRES: Future Rapid Effects System. A project to enhance the deployability of UK Land Forces by delivering a family of medium weight, network capable armoured vehicles, such as armoured personnel carriers, reconnaissance, command and control, and or ambulance vehicles. The project is currently in the Assessment Phase.

FE: Force Element. An Armed Force grouping used for the measurement of readiness. This may be an armoured brigade in the Army, an individual ship in the Royal Navy or an individual aircraft or squadron of aircraft in the Royal Air Force.

Full-Time Equivalent. A measure of the size of the workforce that takes account of the fact that some people work part-time.

Full-Time Reserve Service. Individuals on FTRS fill Service posts on a full-time basis while being a member of one of the reserve services, either as an ex-regular or as a volunteer. In the case of the Army and the Naval Service, these will be posts that would ordinarily have been filled by regular service personnel, in the case of the RAF, FTRS personnel also fill posts designated solely for them.

GDP: Gross Domestic Product. The sum of all output (or income or expenditure) in the economy, excluding net property income from abroad.

GOCNI: General Officer Commanding Northern Ireland.

a) The senior military officer in command of the Armed Forces in Northern Ireland, of the rank of Lieutenant General. He is responsible for military aid to the civil power and counter terrorist operations in Northern Ireland;

b) The joint-Service Top Level Budget organisation managed by GOCNI.

Gurkhas. Citizens of Nepal recruited and employed in the Army under the terms of the 1947 Tri-Partite Agreement. They remain Nepalese citizens but in all other respects are full members of HM Forces.

GWMB: Guided Weapons, Missiles and Bombs. Explodable munitions which incorporate guidance mechanisms.

HCDC: House of Commons Defence Select Committee. The Defence Committee is appointed to examine on behalf of the House of Commons the expenditure, administration and policy of the Ministry of Defence and any associated public bodies.

Headline Goal 2010. The aim, adopted by the European Union at the Helsinki European Council in December 1999, to be able to deploying 50-60,000 troops, capable of conducting the full range of crisis management tasks, within 60 days, sustainable for up to a year, with air and naval support as necessary, before the end of 2003.

Heavy Equipment Transporter. A 120 tonne tractor and trailer unit tank transporter, capable of carrying battle tanks and fighting vehicles straight to the front line at speeds of up to 50 mph on road or off road over harsh terrain.

HMG: Her Majesty's Government.

HNBS: Harrier Night Bombing System.

HOME: Head Office Modern Environment. The HOME programme was a comprehensive Modernisation package using the redevelopment of MoD's Main Building as a catalyst for organisational and cultural change to make the MoD Head Office a better, more streamlined, organisation in which to work and enable it to provide more effective support and leadership for UK Defence capability.

HQ: Headquarters.

HR: Human Resources. Civilian personnel management, organisation and arrangements.

HSE: Health and Safety Executive. The Health and Safety Executive is responsible for regulation of risks to health and safety arising from work activity in Britain.

Hydrographic Office. See **UK Hydrographic Office.**

IAB: Investment Approvals Board. The Investment Approvals Board (IAB) is responsible for central scrutiny of equipment requirements, major capital works and Information Technology projects. It makes recommendations to Ministers on the procurement of major defence equipment. The IAB is chaired by the Chief Scientific Adviser and includes the Vice Chief of the Defence Staff, 2nd Permanent Secretary, Chief of Defence Procurement and Chief of Defence Logistics.

ICT: Information and Communications Technology.

ICT FS: Information and Communications Technology Fundamental Skills.

Industrial staff. Civilian staff paid in certain pay bands often performing manual work.

Insensitive munitions. Munitions incorporating design features to reduce the risk of inadvertent reaction to specified stimuli, such as heat, shock and impact.

In-Service Date. The date on which equipment being procured is expected to be available and supportable in service in sufficient quantity to provide a valuable operational capability.

ISAF: International Security Assistance Force. The NATO controlled peacekeeping force providing security in Kabul since the fall of the Taleban in 2001. More than 30 countries contribute troops.

IS: Information Systems.

Intake. Those entering the Armed Forces or Civilian workforce.

IT: Information Technology.

JPA: Joint Personnel Administration. A modern commercial information system enabling provision of pay, pensions and administration services for military personnel, JPA is being introduced in the RAF in late 2005, the RN in Spring 2006 and the Army in late 2006.

JRRF: Joint Rapid Reaction Forces. A substantial pool of capabilities, composed of all readily available forces, from which tailored force packages of up to Brigade level or equivalent for operations on land, sea and air can be assembled and deployed quickly.

KFOR: NATO Kosovo Force. The International NATO led peacekeeping force whose main role is maintaining a secure civilian environment.

LAN: Local Area Network. Two or more connected computers in a room or building.

Land Command. See CINCLAND.

Locally Entered/Engaged Personnel. Civilian personnel working for one of the Armed Forces or directly for the Ministry of Defence who are recruited at overseas MoD locations normally for work at those locations. Also includes Gurkhas.

LS: Large Scale. Operational deployments of division size or equivalent for warfighting or other operations.

Main Gate. The main investment point for a procurement project, comprising In-depth review timed to coincide with the most critical point of the project – the point at which the “Assessment” phase ends and user requirements, system requirements, time and cost can be set with confidence.

MAMBA weapon locating radar. Mobile Artillery Monitoring Battlefield Radar, a radar system that can instantly track incoming mortars, shells and rockets and will help troops pinpoint the enemy’s position for rapid counter attacks.

MANPADS: Man Portable Air Defence Systems. Systems designed for military air defence use, and are surface to air missiles, usually shoulder launched and fired by an individual or more than one individual acting as crew.

MDP: Ministry of Defence Police. The non-regional, national police force headed by a Chief Constable, responsible for providing effective policing of the Defence Estate.

Memorandum of Understanding. A formal signed agreement between partners setting out how they will work together in a process to achieve agreed goals.

MIDIT: Means of Identifying and Developing Internal Talent. The MoD’s internal corporate development scheme for civilian personnel.

Military Aid to the Civil Authorities: MACA. The provision of military assistance: in time of emergency such as natural disasters and major emergencies; to provide more routine assistance for special projects or events of significant social value to the civil community in the creation and development of local community projects; of individual assistance by full-time attachment to social service or similar organisations; or for the maintenance of law, order and public safety using specialist capabilities or equipment, in situations beyond the capability of the Civil Power.

Military Tasks. The framework on which the MoD bases its detailed planning for the size, shape and capabilities of the Armed Forces, reflecting the broad types of tasks and operations in which they are likely to be involved.

MoD: Ministry of Defence.

MS: Medium Scale. Operational deployments of brigade size or equivalent for warfighting or other operations.

MND(SE): Multi National Division (South East)

NAAFI: Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes. Official trading organisation of HM Forces, providing retail and leisure services to the Services and their families.

NAO: National Audit Office. The independent organisation responsible for scrutinising public spending on behalf of Parliament, reporting to the Public Accounts Committee. It audits the accounts of all government departments and agencies as well as a wide range of other public bodies, and reports on the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which government bodies have used public money.

NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. A regional defence alliance formed in 1949 under the Washington Treaty. Its general aim is to “safeguard the freedom, common heritage and civilisation” of its members by promoting “stability and well-being in the North Atlantic area”. Members agree that an armed attack against one shall be considered an attack against them all, and that they will come to the aid of each other. Currently there are 26 member countries with the headquarters in Brussels.

Naval Manning Agency. Created on 1 July 1996 and dissolved as an agency 1 April 2004. Its mission was: to ensure that sufficient manpower is available on the trained strength and deployed effectively in peace, transition to war or war.

Naval Service. The Royal Navy (including QARNNS) and the Royal Marines together.

Navy Board. The Navy Board conducts the day-to-day business of managing the Royal Navy on behalf of the Admiralty Board. It brings together, under the Chief of the Naval Staff, the Royal Navy’s operational and personnel commanders, and supports the CNS in his executive role, his management and operational advisory roles, and as the professional head of the Royal Navy.

NCO: Non-commissioned officer. Ratings of Leading Hand and above in the Royal Navy, other ranks of lance corporal and above in the Army and other ranks of corporal and above in the Royal Marines and Royal Air Force.

NDA: Nuclear Decommissioning Authority. The body within the DTI responsible for nuclear clean-up issues.

NDPB: Non-Departmental Public Bodies. Public bodies carry out a wide range of functions on behalf of government. As part of the commitment to transparency and accountability, the Cabinet Office collects and publishes annually information about public bodies as a whole, to supplement information about individual bodies already contained in departmental annual reports.

NEC: Network Enabled Capability. A programme to enhance military capability through the exploitation of information. Implemented through the coherent and progressive development of Defence equipment, software, processes, structures and individual and collective training, NEC will enable the MoD to operate more effectively in the future strategic environment by more efficient sharing and exploitation of information within the UK Armed Forces and with our coalition partners.

NED: Non Executive Director. Non Executive Directors serve on various boards and audit committees within the Ministry of Defence, providing independent scrutiny and advice on defence business from their experience in Industry.

Net Cash Requirement. The amount of actual money that MoD requires from the government in order to fund its activities. The NCR takes account of the movements in working capital levels (debtors, creditors and stocks) but not non-cash costs.

NHS: National Health Service. Set up on 5th July 1948, the NHS provides healthcare for all citizens, based on need, not the ability to pay, and is funded by the tax payer and managed by the Department of Health, which has the responsibility to provide healthcare to the general public through the NHS.

Non-cash items in Annually Managed Expenditure include various notional transactions such as depreciation and cost of capital that appear in the operating cost statement under RAB and which are recorded in AME for the period of Spending Review 2000, rather than in DEL.

Non-industrial staff. All Civil servants who are not Industrial staff.

NPT: Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. An international treaty to limit the spread of nuclear weapons and the foundation of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation system.

NRA: Net Recoverable Amount.

NRF: NATO Response Force. Giving NATO a significant crisis response capability, the NRF is a powerful multi national military force with land, air, maritime and command elements, designed to stand alone for up to 30 days. It is not a permanent or standing force.

NRTA: Naval Recruiting and Training Agency. The Defence Agency within the 2SL Top Level Budget Organisation responsible for recruitment and training of Royal Navy and Royal Marines personnel.

NRV: Net Realisable Value. The estimated disposal sale value of an item of materiel not expected to be used or sold in the ordinary course of business. The estimated disposal sale value may be nil or scrap in appropriate circumstances, and will be net of any costs incidental to the sale, e.g. agent's fees, to the extent that these are identifiable to individual items or sales contracts and are deducted from the sales proceeds on a net receipt basis.

Nursing Services. Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service, Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, and Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service.

OCCAR: Organisation Conjoint de Cooperation en matiers d'ARmement. An Administrative Arrangement established on 12th November 1996 by the Defence Ministers of France, Germany, Italy and the UK. Its aim is to provide more effective and efficient arrangements for the management of certain existing and future collaborative armament programmes.

OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. The OECD comprises 30 countries sharing a commitment to democratic government and the market economy. Its work covers economic and social issues from macroeconomics, to trade, education, development and science and innovation.

Officer. A member of the Armed Forces holding the Queen's Commission. Includes ranks from Sub-Lt/2nd Lt/Pilot Officer up to Admiral of the Fleet/Field Marshal/Marshal of the Royal Air Force. Excludes NCO's.

Officer cadet. An entrant from civil life to the officer corps of the Armed Forces.

OGC: Office of Government Commerce. An independent Office of the Treasury which aims to work with the public sector as a catalyst to achieve efficiency, value for money in commercial activities and improved success in the delivery of programmes and projects.

Operating Cost Statement. The statement in departmental resource accounts that shows the current income and expenditure on an accrual basis. It is similar to the profit and loss statement on commercial accounts. This is the Public Sector's equivalent of a commercial organisation's Profit and Loss Account.

Operational TLBs. The TLBs directly responsible for the planning and management of military operations and the delivery of front-line capability. Operational personnel are those working in these TLBs plus some other small groups.

OPG: Office of HM Paymaster General. The Office of HM Paymaster General is part of HM Treasury. It is responsible for holding the working balances of Government Departments and other public bodies in accounts at the Bank of England and making them available to the National Loans Fund overnight to reduce the government's borrowing costs, and provides cash flow information to the Treasury.

OSCE: Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe. With 55 States drawn from Europe, Central Asia and America, the OSCE is the world's largest regional security organisation, bringing comprehensive and co-operative security to a region that stretches from Vancouver to Vladivostok. It offers a forum for political negotiations and decision-making in the fields of early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, and puts the political will of the participating States into practice through its unique network of field missions.

Other Ranks. Members of the Royal Marines, Army and Royal Air Force who are not officers. The equivalent group in the Royal Navy is known as "Ratings".

Outflow Those leaving the Armed Forces or Civil Service for any reason. Those who rejoin and then leave again will be counted twice if the time period includes both exit dates.

Outturn and estimated outturn describe expenditure actually incurred, or estimated on the basis of actual expenditure to date.

Part-time. Civil servants working fewer than 37 hours a week (36 hours in London), excluding meal breaks.

PCPF: Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund. The fund of the parliamentary pension scheme.

People Programme: A programme to enable MoD civilians to make the best contribution to the Defence capability. This will be achieved by: maximising our pool of talent and skills; matching people and their skills to the jobs that need to be done, now and in the future; and by raising our collective performance by improving management, training and development throughout the Department.

PPA: Performance Partnership Agreement. A central initiative to oversee Departmental management and co-ordinate Government Business. During 2005 they were replaced by other systems including Departmental Capability Reviews.

PPPA: People, Pay & Pensions Agency. The organisation providing civilian pay and personnel services, including the administration of pensions, the payment of salaries of MoD civilian staff and the payment of fees. Launched on 7 April 2006.

PCRU: Post Conflict Reconstruction Unit. An organisation set up to enhance the Government's ability to plan, develop and deliver effective and co-ordinated post conflict stabilisation activity. The organisation is interdepartmental

PFI: Private Finance Initiative. A system for providing capital assets for the provision of public services. Typically, the private sector designs, builds and maintains infrastructure and other capital assets and then operates those assets to sell services to the public sector. In most cases, the capital assets are accounted for on the balance sheet of the private sector operator.

PPP: Public Private Partnership. An initiative through which the private sector is involved in the delivery of public services by providing management and service delivery expertise and sometimes the provision of assets. Improved value for money is the essential prerequisite, with better quality of service provision a highly desirable addition. It is delivered through several mechanisms including Private Finance Initiative, Partnering, Wider Markets Initiative and Contractor Logistic Support.

PSA: Public Service Agreement. An agreement between HM Treasury and each Government Department setting out each department's aim, objectives and key outcome-based targets. They form an integral part of the spending plans set out in Spending Reviews. Progress against the PSA targets is assessed and reported via the Defence Balanced Scorecard.

PSI: Proliferation Security Initiative. The Proliferation Security Initiative is a global effort that aims to stop shipments of weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems, and related materials worldwide. It was announced by President Bush on May 31, 2003.

PSG: Professional Skills for Government. Professional Skills for Government is a key part of the Government's Delivery and Reform agenda. It is a major, long-term change programme designed to ensure that civil servants, wherever they work, have the right mix of skills and expertise to enable their Departments or agencies to deliver effective services.

PTC: RAF Personnel and Training Command. The Top Level Budget organisation managed by the RAF's Principal; Personnel Officer, the Air Member for Personnel. PTC provides trained personnel to Strike Command and other TLBs.

PUS: Permanent Under Secretary. PUS is the Government's principal Civilian advisor on Defence and has the primary responsibility for Policy, Finance, Management and Administration in the department. He is the MoD Accounting Officer reflecting his responsibility to the Secretary of State for the overall organisation, management and staffing of the department and financial procedures and other matters. He is personally accountable to Parliament for the expenditure of all public money voted for defence purposes and chairs the Defence Management Board.

PVR: Premature Voluntary Release. Those who leave the Armed Forces voluntarily before the end of their agreed engagement or commission period are said to leave on PVR or VR (Voluntary Release).

PRT: Provincial Reconstruction Team. A combination of international military and civilian personnel based in one of Afghanistan's provinces with the aim of extending the authority of the Afghan central government and helping to facilitate development and reconstruction by contributing to an improved security environment. PRTs also aim to support the reform of the Afghan security sector – disarmament and demobilisation of militias; building an accountable national army and national police force under government control; stamping out the drugs trade; and helping build a legal system.

QARNNS: Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service. The Royal Navy's internal nursing service.

QinetiQ. A defence technology and security company, formerly part of DERA, partially owned by the MoD.

Quick Impact Projects. Programmes aimed at kick-starting local economies and creating employment opportunities in immediate post-conflict environments. Projects are identified and implemented by local groups with international assistance. Examples include the reconstruction and refurbishment of schools in Iraq.

RAB. Resource Accounting and Budgeting.

RAF: The Royal Air Force.

Rank. Grade within the Military structure.

Ratings. Junior military personnel in the Royal Navy.

Real terms figures are amounts adjusted for the effect of general price inflation relative to a base year, as measured by the GDP market price deflator.

Regiment. A formed unit of personnel sharing a common identity and area of expertise, carrying the spirit of the people who have gone before.

Regular Reserves. Former members of the UK regular forces who have a liability for service with the Reserve forces. Includes the Royal Fleet Reserve, Army Reserve and Royal Air Force Reserve as well as other individuals liable to recall.

RES: Race Equality Scheme. The MoD Race Equality Scheme sets out how the Department is fulfilling its obligations under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000.

Resource Accounting. The accounting system that will henceforth be used to record expenditure in the departmental accounts instead of cash accounting. It applies generally accepted accounting practice (GAAP) used in private industry and other Government departments to departmental transactions. Spending is measured on an accruals basis.

Resource Budget. The sum of a department's resource Departmental Expenditure Limit and resource Annually Managed Expenditure. It is the budget for current expenditure on an accruals basis.

Resource budgeting. The budgeting regime adopted for the spending plans set in the 2000 Spending Review. It is derived from resource accounting rules, but there are several differences in treatment between resource accounts and resource budgets.

RFA: Royal Fleet Auxiliary Service. The civilian manned fleet, owned by the Ministry of Defence. Its main task is to supply warships of the Royal Navy at sea with fuel, food, stores and ammunition which they need to remain operational while away from base. It also provides aviation support for the Royal Navy, together with amphibious support and secure sea transport for Army units and their equipment. Its employees are full-time civil servants, but who come under the Naval Discipline Act when deployed to sea under naval command.

RfR: Request for Resources. An accruals-based measure of current expenditure which forms part of a Resource Estimate. It represents the basic unit of Parliamentary control.

RM: Royal Marines. Sea-going soldiers who are part of the Naval Service.

RMR: Royal Marines Reserve. The volunteer reserve service of the Royal Marines. See **Volunteer Reserves**.

RN: Royal Navy. The sea-going defence forces of the UK, including ships, submarines, Naval aircraft and their personnel, and Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service, but excluding the Royal Marines and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Service (RFA).

RNAS: Royal Naval Air Station. An air base operated by the Fleet Air Arm.

RNR: Royal Naval Reserve. The volunteer reserve service of the Royal Navy. See **Volunteer Reserves**.

RO-RO Shipping. Ships designed to allow cargo, such as vehicles, to be loaded by being rolled instead of lifted, often with a drive-through concept with bow and stern doors. It is commonly used in the in the ferry trades to transport cars and goods vehicles, but also used to transport military vehicles.

RPC: Regional Prime Contracts. Five regionally-based contracts for the provision of construction and maintenance services on the Defence Estate across Great Britain, where stand-alone arrangements are not appropriate. The objective of Regional Prime Contracting is to achieve better long-term value for money through improved Supply Chain Management, incentivised payment mechanisms, continuous improvement, economies of scale, and partnering.

RRUs: Regional Rehabilitation Units.

SALW: Small Arms and Light Weapons. Personal weapons, such as pistols, rifles and light machine guns.

SC: Supply Chain.

SCS: Senior Civil Service. The senior management of the Civil Service.

SDR: Strategic Defence Review. The Defence Review conducted in 1997-98 which reassessed Britain's security interests and Defence needs and set out objectives designed to enhance the Armed Forces.

SEC: Service Executive Committees. The three committees that conduct the day-to-day business of managing the Services on behalf of the Admiralty, Army and Air Force Boards. They bring together, under the Chief of Staff, the Service's operational and personnel commanders, to support the Chief of Staff in his executive role, his management and operational advisory roles, and as the professional head of his Service. See Navy Board, The Executive Committee of the Army Board; and The Air Force Board Standing Committee.

Senior Non-commissioned officer. Senior members of the Ratings/Other Ranks, including Warrant Officer (all classes), Charge Chief Petty Officer, Chief Petty Officer, Colour sergeant, Staff Sergeant, Flight Sergeant/Chief Technician, Petty Officer, Sergeant.

SFA: Service Family Accommodation. Housing for service personnel with families.

SFOR: NATO Stabilisation Force. The International NATO led peacekeeping force, responsible for security in the Balkans, before handing over to EUFOR in December 2004.

SIC: Statement of Internal Control. The formal statement in the resource Accounts by the Accounting Officer, that effective systems are in place for managing the organisation.

SIT: Science Innovation and Technology. The Top Level Budget organisation managed by the Chief Scientific Advisor providing science and technology advice and solutions.

SLAM: Single Living Accommodation Modernisation. A project to raise the standard of single living accommodation for service personnel by delivering over 30,000 new or refurbished bed-spaces from 2003-2013.

Smart Acquisition. Smart Acquisition is a policy which aims to acquire Defence capability faster, cheaper, better and more effectively integrated. The objectives of Smart Acquisition are to deliver and sustain defence capabilities within the performance, time and cost parameters approved at the time the major investment decisions are taken; to acquire defence capabilities progressively, at lower risk; to optimise trade-offs between military effectiveness, time and whole life cost are maximised; and to cut the time for (key) new technologies to be introduced into the frontline, where needed to secure military advantage and industrial competitiveness.

SNM: Special Nuclear Materials. Plutonium, uranium-233, or uranium enriched in the isotopes uranium-233 or uranium-235.

Sovereign Base Areas. The UK Overseas Territory in Cyprus, which is the joint responsibility of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Ministry of Defence.

SS: Small Scale. Operational deployment of battalion size or equivalent.

SSR: Security Sector Reform. This aims to help developing and transitional countries manage their security functions in a democratically accountable, efficient and effective way by initiating and supporting reform and providing appropriate education and training.

SSRB: Senior Salaries Review Body. The independent body advising the Government on Senior Civil Service pay.

SSSI: Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Protected sites of particular environmental and scientific importance, including wetlands, rivers, heathlands, meadows, beaches, moorland and peat bog. The Defence Estate contains 289 SSSIs.

STC: Strike Command. The RAF's operational Top Level Budget organisation, providing aircraft and trained aircrews to CJO.

SCAPE: Superannuation Contributions Adjusted for Past Experience.

TLB: Top Level Budget. The major organisational grouping of the MoD. There are three types: "Operational", "Military Support" and "HQ and other support".

TNA: The National Archives is responsible for looking after the records of central government and the courts of law, and making sure everyone can look at them.

Trading Fund. Trading Funds were introduced by the Government under the Trading Funds Act 1973 as a 'means of financing trading operations of a government department which, hitherto, have been carried out on Vote'. They are self-accounting units that have greater freedom, than other government departments, in managing their own financial and management activities. They are also free to negotiate their own terms and conditions with their staff and for this reason their grading structures do not always match that of the rest of the Ministry, and this is reflected in some of the tables. MoD Trading Funds are ABRO, DARA, DSTL, the Meteorological Office, and the UK Hydrographic Office.

UAV: Unmanned Aerial Vehicle.

UKAEA: United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority. A non-departmental public body, responsible to the Department of Trade and Industry. Its primary task today is managing the decommissioning of its nuclear reactors and other radioactive facilities used for the UK's nuclear research and development programme in a safe and environmentally responsible manner and to restore its sites for conventional use.

UKHO: UK Hydrographic Office. A trading fund agency of the MoD responsible for surveying the seas around the UK and elsewhere to aid navigation.

UOR: Urgent Operational Requirement. Additional capability requirements for specific operations met using a streamlined version of the Department's normal procurement procedures. This provides speedy and flexible procurement of capabilities.

UNFICYP. The United Nations Mission in Cyprus

VAT: Value Added Tax.

VAW: Veterans Awareness Week. A week to raise the profile of veterans. The first took place in July 2005.

VCDS: Vice Chief of the Defence Staff. The deputy to the Chief of the Defence Staff. Joint head of the Central Top Level Budget organisation with the 2nd PUS, and a member of the Defence Council, Defence Management Board, Chiefs of Staff Committee and Investment Approvals Board.

Veterans Agency. Formerly the War Pensions Agency. Responsible for veterans' affairs, including war and service pensions, service records, military graves, medals and welfare issues.

VFM: Value for Money.

Voluntary Release. See **Premature Voluntary Release.**

Volunteer Reserves and Auxiliary Forces. Civilian volunteers who undertake to give a certain amount of their time to train in support of the Regular Forces. Includes the Royal Naval Reserve, the Royal Marines Reserve, Territorial Army and the Royal Auxiliary Air Force. Does not include Royal Fleet Auxiliary Service (RFA). Some Volunteer Reservists undertake (paid) Full-Time Reserve Service.

VOP: Variation of Price. A contractual provision providing for variation in contract prices if inflation over the period of the contract falls outside defined bands.

Vote. An individual Supply Estimate by Parliament. Replaced by Requests for Resources since the introduction of Resource Budgeting in 2001, except for Votes A setting maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained by the Armed Forces.

WAN: Wide Area Network. A computer network covering a large geographic area, such as the internet or a network of bank cash dispensers.

War Pensions Agency. See **Veterans Agency.**

WEAG: Western European Armaments Group. A group of European countries established in 1993 with the objective of more efficient use of resources through, inter alia, increased harmonization of requirements; the opening up of national defence markets to cross-border competition; to strengthen the European defence technological and industrial base; and cooperation in research and development. The group closed in May 2005 with many of its activities now undertaken by the European Defence Agency.

WPB: War Pensions benefits. A non-contributory financial benefit paid to people who have been disabled as a result of conflict, or to dependants of those killed in conflict.