



Modernising to face an unpredictable future

TRANSFORMING THE BRITISH ARMY, JULY 2012





Apache Attack Helicopter, Afghanistan

Transforming The British Army

Modernising to face an unpredictable future

Armey 2020 is the concept for transforming the British Army, enabling it to better meet the security challenges of the 2020s and beyond.

- It has been carried out by the Army, for the Army.
- It will provide a range of highly adaptable capabilities that can respond to meet the nation's security needs at home and overseas.
- It seeks, for the first time, to integrate fully Regulars and Reserves within a single force structure.
- It places adaptability and responsiveness at the core of its design.
- It incorporates lessons learnt from recent operations.

It will ensure that the British Army remains the most capable Army in its class.



The Need to Change

Army 2020 is the concept for transforming the British Army for the 2020s and beyond in response to future strategic challenges.

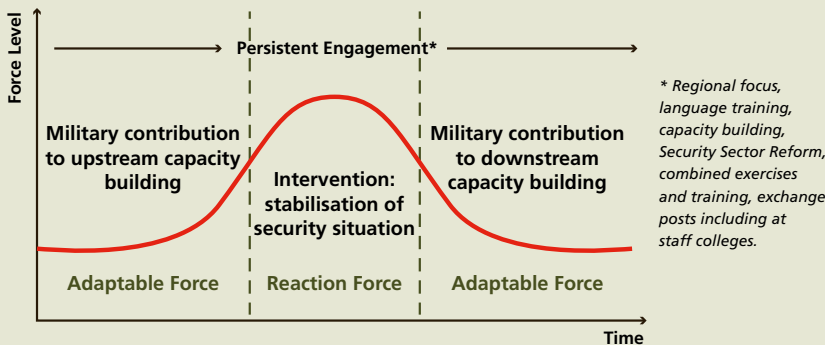
The 2010 Strategic Defence and Security Review set out the nation's Defence requirements to meet the security challenges of an increasingly uncertain future beyond the current operation in Afghanistan. For the Army, this requires a generational change in its vision, structure, composition and capability to ensure that it can meet the challenges of 2020 and beyond.

To implement this change, the Chief of the General Staff established a team to develop, from first principles, options for the future design, roles, structure and capabilities of the Army.

Figure 1: Force Development Deductions

- Separating the strategic from the tactical level - and resetting the brigade and divisional levels of command accordingly.
- Armoured infantry as the core capability on which manoeuvre is built with armour organized for intimate support.
- Institutionalizing the integration of 'soft effect' into manoeuvre.
- Resetting the precision / suppression balance of fires.
- Broadband connectivity to more points of presence.
- Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance integration / layering and the importance of understanding.
- Organizing for joint, inter-agency and multi-national integration.
- End to end approach to supply and distribution.

Figure 2: Persistent Engagement and use of the Adaptable and Reaction Forces



Designing Army 2020

Transforming to an Army that is adaptable and, wholly integrated. Designed to be highly flexible and ready to meet the security challenges of the 21st Century at home and overseas.

In designing Army 2020 there was the need to:

- Redefine the purpose of the Army to meet the direction set out in the Strategic Defence and Security Review; the Army must be capable of:
 - A contingent capability for deterrence and defence.
 - Overseas engagement and capacity building.
 - UK engagement and military aid to homeland resilience as a UK-based Army.
- Meet the direction set out in the Future Reserves 2020 Review that the Reserve element should be integrated within the Army structure with more clearly defined roles.
- Take account of systematic experimentation and those force development deductions set out in Figure 1, as well as lessons learnt from operations; both from the UK's and other nations' experiences.
- Be capable of competing decisively with the full spectrum of potential adversaries, as one of the most effective and capable armies in the world.

The change in emphasis to a more adaptable and flexible Army, capable of undertaking a broader range of military tasks has required a significant change to the current structure of the Army which has most recently been optimized for enduring operations in Afghanistan. The need to maintain an Army which is structured and trained for an enduring operation is shifting to that of one held at graduated readiness for use in extremis on contingent operations, but persistently engaged at home with UK society and especially overseas, to deliver the full spectrum of upstream (conflict prevention) and downstream (post-conflict) engagement as illustrated in Figure 2.



The Army 2020 Structure

The Army 2020 construct represents a fundamental and imaginative break from the way in which the British Army is currently structured. This change is as significant as any seen over the last fifty years. The structure of Army 2020 is set out in Figure 3 and comprises two key elements:

- The Reaction Force.** This provides the high readiness force, which will undertake short notice contingency tasks and provide the conventional deterrence for Defence. Trained and equipped to undertake the full spectrum of intervention tasks, this force, based upon three Armoured Infantry brigades under a divisional headquarters with associated enablers and an Air Assault brigade, will provide the basis for any future enduring operation. Given the high readiness nature of this force, it will comprise predominantly Regular forces with approximately 10% coming from the Reserve force. The structure of the Army 2020 Armoured Infantry Brigade is set out in Figure 4.

Designed around an Adaptable Force capable of persistent engagement at home and overseas and a Reaction Force at readiness capable of warfighting to meet the next challenge.

Figure 3: The Army 2020 Structure

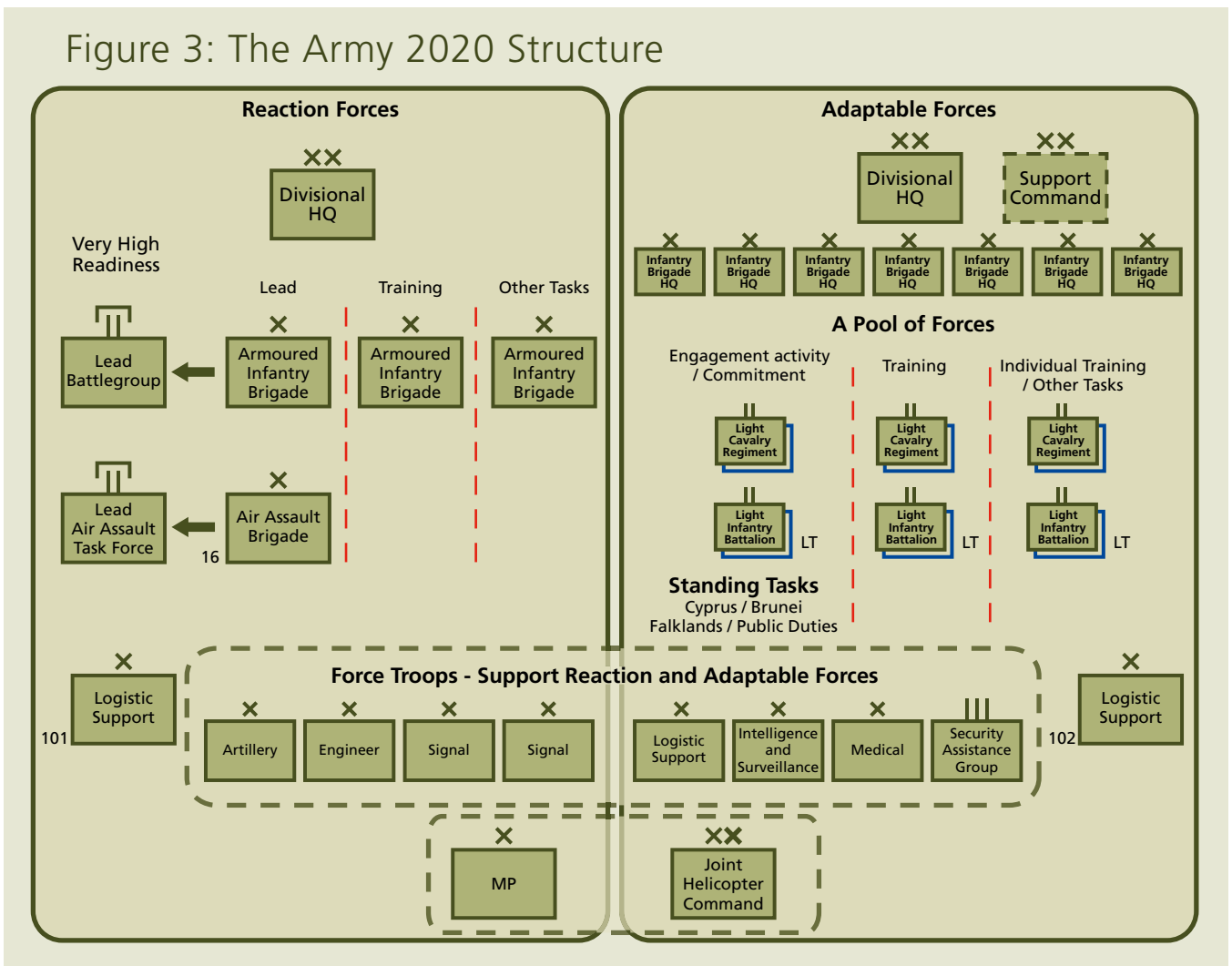
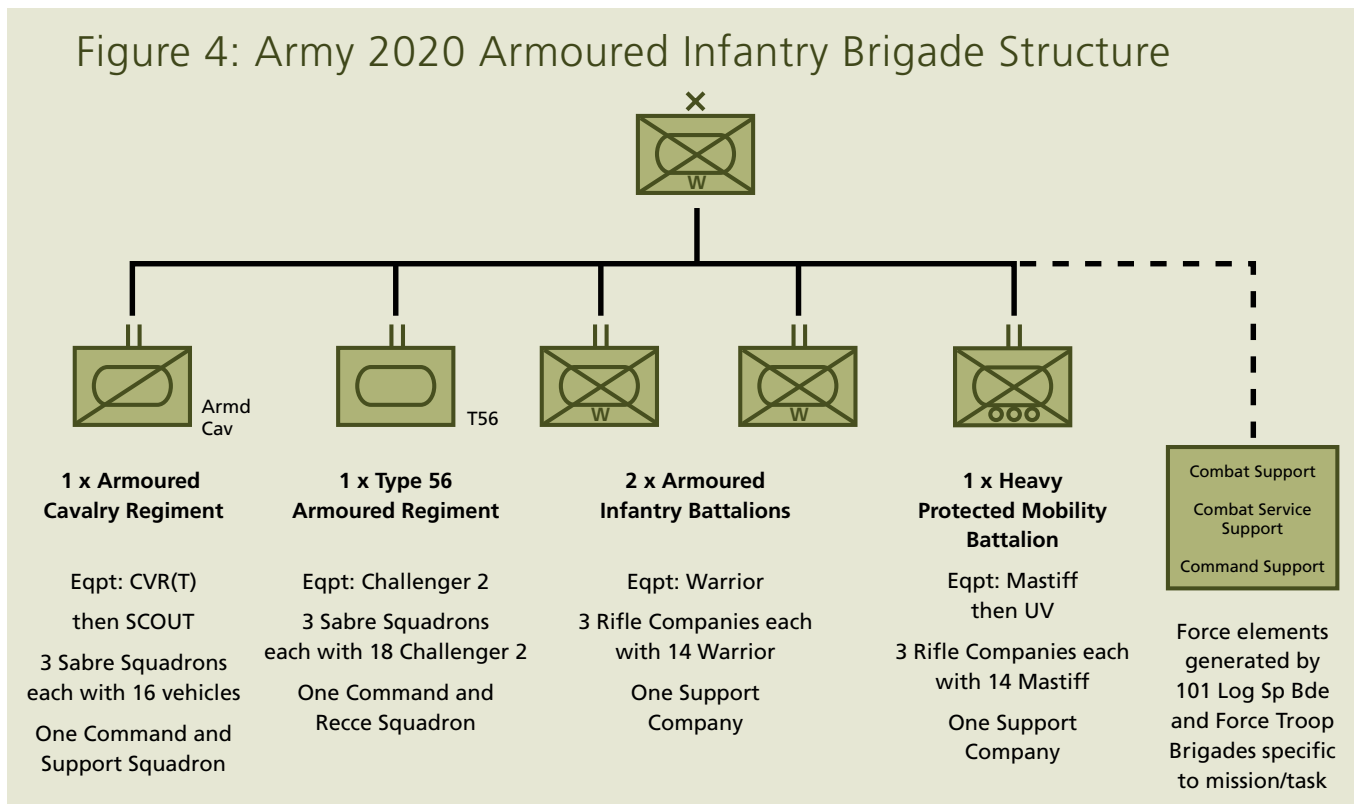


Figure 4: Army 2020 Armoured Infantry Brigade Structure



• **The Adaptable Force.** The Adaptable Force comprises a pool of Regular and Reserve forces organised during peacetime under seven regionally based Infantry Brigade headquarters for training and administrative purposes. For a given operation however, a force package will be selected from across the pool of forces, as set out in Figure 5, based on the balance of capabilities required for that specific task. The seven Infantry Brigade headquarters will come under command of an outward looking divisional headquarters and Headquarters Support Command which will provide command and control for homeland resilience and engagement with UK society. This force will deliver the force elements for the Army's Standing Commitments (Cyprus, Brunei, the Falkland Islands and Ceremonial Duties) and UN commitments. As an adaptable force, at a graduated level of readiness, it will also be capable of undertaking a variety of challenging tasks including:

- Overseas military capacity building - training and developing indigenous armies in order to strengthen nations and prevent future conflict.
- Military support to homeland resilience - including maintaining a contingent capability to deal with natural disasters, public service strikes and other tasks.

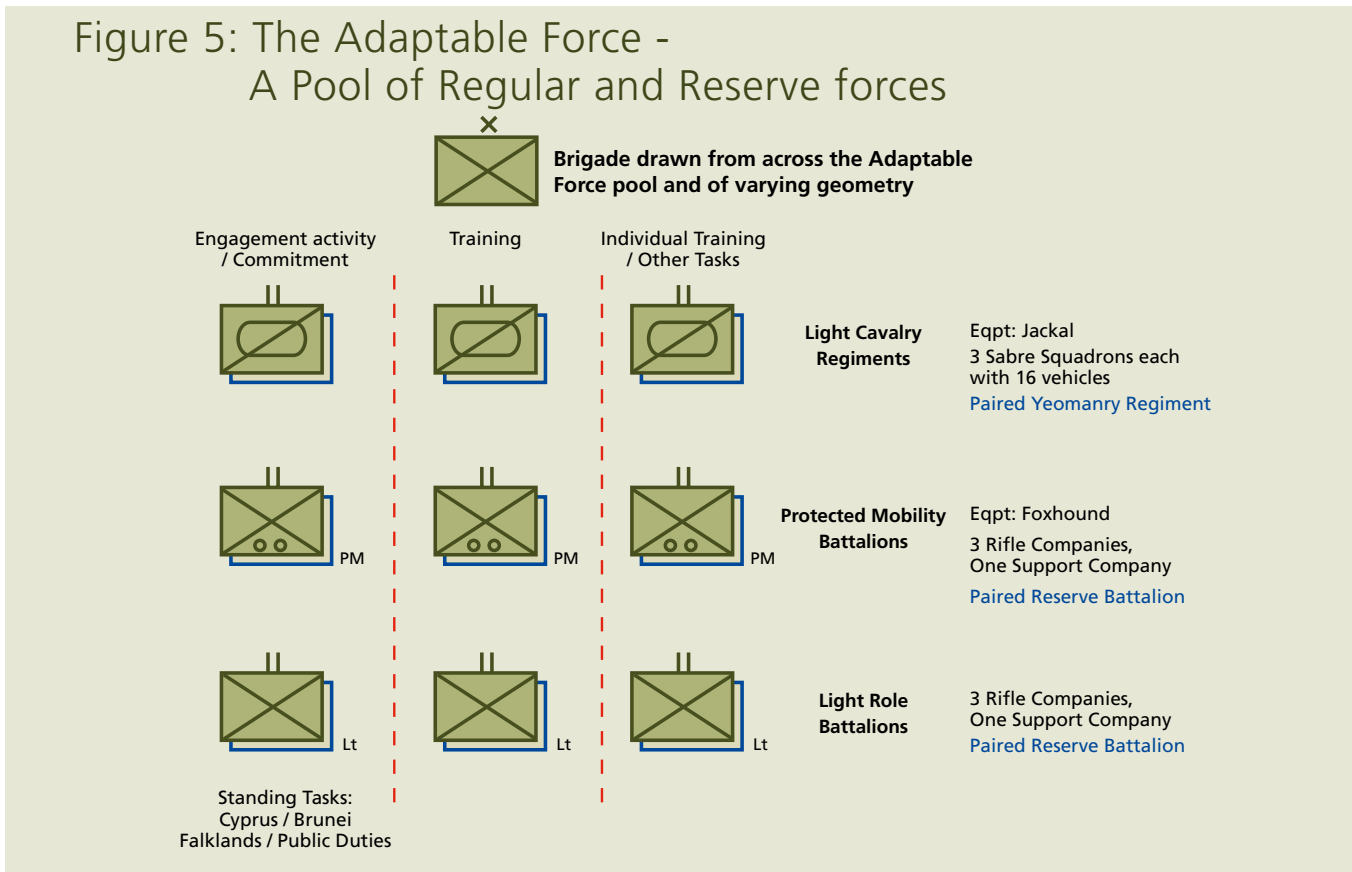
- Follow-on forces for future enduring operations requiring the Adaptable Forces to maintain institutional readiness at an appropriate level of training.

Integral to the Reaction and Adaptable Forces are the Force Troop Brigades which provide a wide range of Regular and Reserve capabilities including engineer, artillery and medical support from a centralised pool of resources, as well as a coordination and control function for key tasks such as overseas capacity building. Four of the Force Troop brigade headquarters will also have additional regional responsibilities in order to deliver military support to homeland resilience and engagement with UK society.

Support conflict prevention through a planned approach to engagement overseas, including developing the military capacity of partner nations.

These components represent an Army structure which is adaptable and resilient, able to generate appropriate forces with the necessary skills at the required levels of readiness, to undertake a broad range of tasks. Should the strategic situation require, it would also be capable of generating the required force structure to support an enduring stabilisation operation, at the same time maintaining a very high readiness force to deal with contingent operations at the level set by the Strategic Defence and Security Review.

Figure 5: The Adaptable Force - A Pool of Regular and Reserve forces



Structural Changes

The reduction in the size of the Regular Army announced in the Strategic Defence and Security Review has meant that adjustments have had to be made to the Army's structure to ensure that it maintains the right balance of capabilities to allow it to fulfil its role within a Joint and Multinational environment in the future. This rebalancing has resulted in the reduction of 23 units from across the Army. This will be achieved through either the merging or disbanding of Regular units. The decision on which units are to be affected by these changes has been driven by the following:

- No cap-badges are to be lost from across the Army, with the exception of the Royal Armoured Corps which has traditionally amalgamated Regiments.
- No more than one battalion is to be removed from any one regiment.
- Unit recruiting demographics over: the past decade, now and predicted recruiting demographics out to 2022.

The future Regimental structure of the Regular Army of 2020 is set out in Table 1, page 14. Army 2020 has delivered a future structure for the Reserves which will see a small reduction in the overall number of units. Details on which Reserve units will be merged will be announced in late 2012.



Overseas Training Exercise, Kenya

An Integrated Reserve

Critical to the delivery of Army 2020 is the full integration of the Reserves into the Army structure. Without integration, the reduced Regular force would be unable to complete all of the tasks set out in the Strategic Defence and Security Review. In future the Reserves will be used routinely, rather than in extremis, for roles such as overseas Defence engagement and United Nations commitments, in addition to providing troops for enduring stabilization operations. The Reserve contribution will range from the provision of individual augmentees and specialist teams to formed sub-units and units.

In order to achieve a truly integrated force and ensure that the Reserves have the required expertise to fulfil the tasks required of them, units will be routinely partnered with Regular units for training in peacetime. They will also form an integral element of that unit when it is required to deploy on operations. Importantly, this pairing will also allow closer links to be built with the local communities to aid recruiting and engagement with UK society.

Providing a committed and transformed Reserve, properly manned, trained and equipped; confidently able to take its place as part of the integrated Army in delivering military capability both at home and abroad.



Fuel strike training

Implementation

Army 2020 will provide challenges, opportunity, adventure and purpose for its people.

The delivery of Army 2020 will involve a long period of transformation as far reaching as the Army has undertaken in decades, whilst ensuring the delivery of success in Afghanistan and being increasingly prepared for the next challenge. Meanwhile, work is underway to implement the changes.

- **Manning.** Army 2020 will create an integrated Army of 112,000 personnel by 2020. In order to achieve this, the Army has already begun a programme of redundancies to reduce Regular Army manning levels. Two further tranches of redundancy will be required over the next five years to bring the Army's Regular strength down to around 82,000 by 2020. The Reserves are currently recruiting to increase their manning levels to a trained strength of 30,000 by 2018.
- **Army Reserves.** Army 2020 will deliver a committed and transformed Army Reserve, manned, trained and equipped as part of the Whole Force. There will broadly be no change to current levels of Reservist commitment to peacetime training, when the Nation is committed to an enduring operation. The contribution of the Army Reserve will be both predictable and programmed. To achieve this there will need to be a step change in the relationship between the Army, its Reservists and their employers. This will be the subject of an MOD consultation paper in the Autumn which will set out the detailed proposals. We will engage

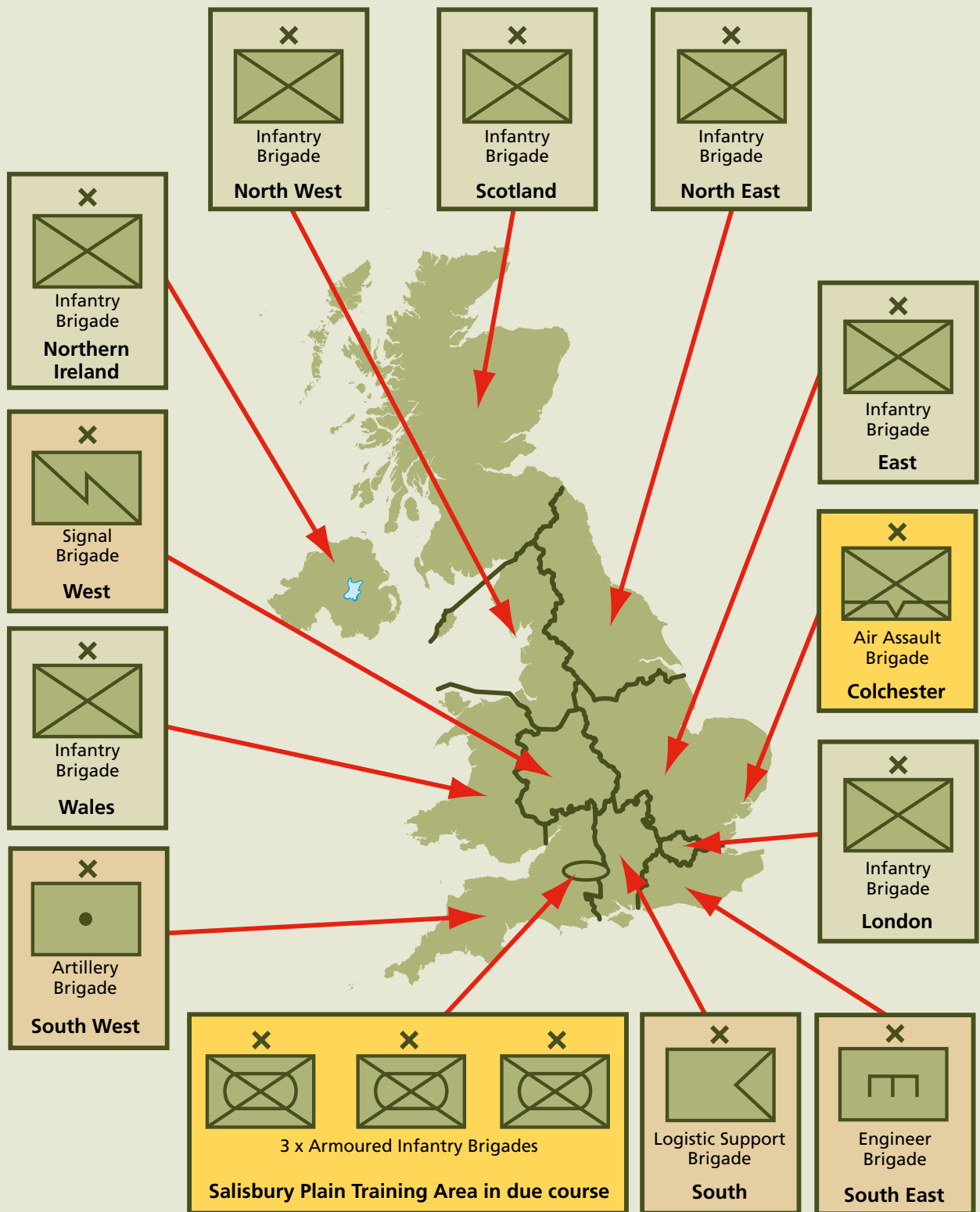


with the employers of reservists to explain our future requirements, better understand their needs and develop relationships which better meet the requirements of the Army, the employer and the reservist. Key areas for implementation include:

- Establishing a framework of strategic partnerships with private and public sector employers.
- A basing plan that is optimised geographically and matched to civilian employers.
- Appropriate legislation and liability to allow routine use of the Reserves.
- **Basing.** By 2020 the British Army will predominantly be UK-based. The proposed geographical laydown, illustrated in Figure 6, will seek to maximise training resources and the provision of logistic and administrative support. This will see the Reaction Forces centred on Salisbury Plain Training Area and the Adaptable Force brigades and those Force Troop brigade headquarters with regional responsibilities, being centred close to principle population centres across the UK. The final laydown will be determined by the Basing Optimisation Plan which is being developed by the Defence Infrastructure Organization, due to be announced at the end of 2012.



Figure 6: Proposed Army 2020 Basing Laydown



- Key**
- Reaction Force Brigade Headquarters
 - Adaptable Force Brigade Headquarters
 - Force & Logistic Troop Brigade Headquarters

- **Equipment.** Army 2020 depends upon a balanced, coherent and affordable equipment programme. The delivery of this is underway with the Warrior Capability Sustainment Programme confirmed and a commitment to an armoured vehicle programme that will see the delivery of Scout for the Armoured Cavalry Regiments and a family of Utility Vehicles across the Army. Work is underway to determine which Urgent Operational Requirement equipment procured for Afghanistan should be taken into the core programme. The confirmed investment in the helicopter fleet, in complex weapons, in modern communications and electronic countermeasures demonstrates a genuine commitment to provide the Army with the most up to date and effective equipment available.



Scout (replacement reconnaissance vehicle for the Armoured Cavalry)



Conclusion

Army 2020 is an imaginative and practical response to an extreme challenge: that of confronting an era of strategic uncertainty, exacerbated by economic austerity, with smaller land forces. It will provide a range of capabilities that can be adapted to the nation's security needs at home and overseas, re-setting the Army to meet the unexpected and deal with future contingencies.

The British Army will be a leaner and, more agile organisation that is valued by the Nation it serves, whilst remaining the most capable Army in its class. Importantly, it will continue to offer a hugely challenging and varied career which continues to attract the Nation's talent.



Overseas capacity building: Training and developing indigenous armies

Table 1: Army 2020 Regular Regimental Structure

Household Cavalry and Royal Armoured Corps

- Household Cavalry Regiment
- Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment
- 1st The Queen’s Dragoon Guards
- The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers & Greys)
- The Royal Dragoon Guards
- The Queen’s Royal Hussars (The Queen’s Own & Royal Irish)
- The King’s Royal Hussars
- The Light Dragoons
- The Royal Tank Regiment

- 9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales’s) } To amalgamate
- The Queen’s Royal Lancers }

Infantry

Regiments of Foot Guards

- Grenadier Guards
- Coldstream Guards
- Scots Guards
- Irish Guards
- Welsh Guards
- (3 x Public Duty Incremental Companies)

Regiments of Infantry

- The Royal Regiment of Scotland
(Four battalions)
(1 x Public Duty Incremental Company)

- The Princess of Wales’s Royal Regiment (Queen’s & Royal Hampshires)
(Two battalions)

- The Duke of Lancaster’s Regiment (King’s, Lancashire & Border)
(Two battalions)

- The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers
(One battalion)

- The Royal Anglian Regiment
(Two battalions)

- The Rifles
(Five battalions)

The Yorkshire Regiment (14/15th, 19th & 33rd/76th)
(Two battalions)

The Mercian Regiment
(Two battalions)

The Royal Welsh
(One battalion)

The Royal Irish Regiment (27th (Inniskilling) 83rd, 87th & The Ulster Defence Regiment)
(One battalion)

The Parachute Regiment - Three battalions¹

The Royal Gurkha Rifles - Two battalions

Army Air Corps

1 Regiment AAC
3 Regiment AAC
4 Regiment AAC
5 Regiment AAC

Royal Regiment of Artillery

1 st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery	19 th Regiment Royal Artillery
3 rd Regiment Royal Horse Artillery	26 th Regiment Royal Artillery
4 th Regiment Royal Artillery	29 th Commando Regiment Royal Artillery
5 th Regiment Royal Artillery	32 nd Regiment Royal Artillery
7 th Parachute Regiment Royal Horse Artillery	47 th Regiment Royal Artillery
12 th Regiment Royal Artillery	The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery
16 th Regiment Royal Artillery	

Corps of Royal Engineers

21 Engineer Regiment	42 Engineer Regiment (Geographic)
22 Engineer Regiment	101 (City of London) Engineer Regiment (EOD)
23 Engineer Regiment (Air Assault)	62 Works Group Royal Engineers
26 Engineer Regiment	63 Works Group Royal Engineers
32 Engineer Regiment	64 Works Group Royal Engineers
33 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal)	66 Works Group Royal Engineers
35 Engineer Regiment	Headquarters Works Group Royal Engineers (Airfields)
36 Engineer Regiment	59 Independent Commando Squadron Royal Engineers
39 Engineer Regiment	

¹ 1st Battalion provides the framework for the Special Forces Support Group

Royal Corps of Signals

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 st Signal Regiment | 16 th Signal Regiment |
| 2 nd Signal Regiment | 18 th Signal Regiment |
| 3 rd Signal Regiment | 21 st Signal Regiment |
| 10 th Signal Regiment | 22 nd Signal Regiment |
| 14 th Signal Regiment (Electronic Warfare) | 30 th Signal Regiment |
| 15 th Signal Regiment (Information Support) | 16 th Air Assault Brigade Headquarters & Signal Squadron |

The Royal Logistic Corps

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Close Support Logistic Regiment RLC | 11 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Regiment RLC |
| 2 Close Support Logistic Regiment RLC | 12 Close Support Logistic Regiment RLC |
| 6 Force Logistic Regiment RLC | 13 Air Assault Support Regiment RLC |
| 7 Theatre Logistic Regiment RLC | 17 Port and Maritime Regiment RLC |
| 9 Force Logistic Regiment RLC | 27 Theatre Logistic Regiment RLC |
| 10 The Queen's Own Gurkha Logistic Regiment | 29 Postal, Courier & Movement Regiment RLC |

Royal Army Medical Corps

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Armoured Medical Regiment | 16 Medical Regiment |
| 2 Armoured Medical Regiment | 22 Field Hospital |
| 3 Armoured Medical Regiment | 33 Field Hospital |
| 4 Medical Regiment | 34 Field Hospital |
| 5 Medical Regiment | 1 Military Working Dogs Regiment RAVC |

Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Close Support Battalion REME | 5 Force Support Battalion REME |
| 2 Armoured Close Support Battalion REME | 6 Armoured Close Support Battalion REME |
| 3 Close Support Battalion REME | 7 Air Assault Battalion REME |
| 4 Armoured Close Support Battalion REME | |

Royal Military Police

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Regiment Royal Military Police | Special Investigations Branch |
| 2 Regiment Royal Military Police | Special Operations Regiment |
| 3 Regiment Royal Military Police | Military Provost Service Regiment |

Intelligence Corps

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Military Intelligence Battalion | Land Information Centre |
| 2 Military Intelligence Battalion | Defence Humint Unit |
| 4 Military Intelligence Battalion | |

Special Forces

- 22nd Special Air Service Regiment
- Special Forces Support Group
- Special Reconnaissance Regiment





**“The British Army,
a professional force, resolving crises
abroad, serving the Nation at home,
Securing Britain in an uncertain world”**