

## [News story: UK trains over 5000 Ukrainian Armed Forces](#)

The Defence Secretary made the announcement following a meeting between him and his Ukrainian counterpart, Stepan Poltorak in London earlier today.

This comes as the UK prepares to refine Operation Orbital's training model. Through increasing the focus on Train-the-Trainer as well as mentoring and advising, we expect this change to increase the operation's impact on the Ukrainian Armed Forces' training sustainability over the coming year.

British personnel have been in the country since 2015 on Operation Orbital, training the Ukrainian Armed Forces in a number of defensive skills such as the identification of mines and IEDs, medical care and logistics. Last year, Sir Michael confirmed that the training mission will continue until at least early 2018.

Defence Secretary Michael Fallon said:

We have now trained over 5,000 Ukrainian service personnel, sending a clear message that we are committed to supporting the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

As the UK is stepping up across the world, we are standing side by side with our Ukrainian friends.

During the meeting, the Defence Ministers also discussed how the UK can support defence and security reform in the Ukraine.

Mr Poltorak is in the UK to discuss his country's progress in implementing reforms and the way forward to 2020 at the Ukraine Reform Conference in Lancaster House, along with other senior Ukrainian ministers. The major international conference will see the UK government and international partners reinforce their support for reform in the country.

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## [News story: Civil news: extension date set for 2014 Standard Civil Contract](#)

Mental health and community care work are covered by contract extension which takes effect on 31 July 2017.

We are planning to put the contract extension for the 2014 Standard Civil Contract announced in May 2017 in to effect by 31 July.

Supporting contract schedules will also be issued to cover the period from 1 August through to 31 March 2018 at the same time.

## **Timings**

The new contract and schedules will be uploaded and available to view by 31 July 2017. Work completed in July can be reported from 1 August 2017.

A new schedule reference should be used for any claims for matters that start on or after 1 August 2017.

As a result of loading the new schedules it is possible that when you report the work completed in June 2017 you will see two periods for entry in your submissions list.

This means it is important that you report your work for the correct period. Otherwise, the information may be recorded inaccurately.

If an agreed amendment to increase your new matter starts has not been included, you should contact your contract manager.

## **Further information**

[Standard Civil Contract 2014](#)

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## **[News story: Fine of £2,367.40 imposed for fisheries offences](#)**

On 23 June 2017 Robert Nye, master of the Scottish registered fishing vessel Rebecca KY982 pleaded guilty to an offence under the Fisheries Act 1981 at North Tyneside Magistrates' Court.

The court heard that on 25 October 2017 the vessel was offloading its catch at North Shields when it was inspected by MMO Officers. During the inspection 47% of the contents of the 7 boxes of nephrops inspected were found to contain catch below the minimum conservation reference size. A Fixed Administrative Penalty was issued to the master and owner at the time but this was not paid within the required 28 days.

The vessel master, Robert Nye, was fined £375 with an additional £479.40 representing the value of the illegal catch, £910.50 costs and a victim surcharge of £37.50.

The court also heard how the vessel's owner Russel Ritchie, who was not on board the vessel at the time of the offence, was on 9 June 2017 fined £125, with £410 costs and a victim surcharge of £30.

A spokesman for the MMO said:

"Regulations governing the minimum sizes for landings of fish are in place to protect juvenile fish in order that there is a sustainable fishery for this and future generations of fishermen. The MMO will take appropriate and proportionate enforcement action including pursuing and bringing prosecutions to court to protect the long term viability of the marine environment for future generations."

In this case the owner and master were initially given the opportunity by the MMO to pay a £500 Fixed Administrative Penalty (FAP) in lieu of prosecution. The failure to make the payment within the required 28 days has resulted in them being prosecuted. The court considered the offences to be serious and collectively imposed financial penalties of over four times the amount of the FAP at a total cost of £2,367.40. This demonstrates both the consequences of not adhering to fisheries regulations and the importance of paying penalties within the required timescales."

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## **News story: Minister of State for Asia & the Pacific summons DPRK ambassador**

Following the meeting, Minister of State for Asia and the Pacific Mark Field MP said:

I summoned North Korea’s Ambassador today to stress in the strongest terms the UK’s condemnation of their latest missile launch.

The actions of the DPRK are a direct violation of multiple Security Council resolutions and are a threat to regional and international security. The UK will discuss the international community’s response at today’s emergency meeting of the UN Security Council.

I call on the North Korean regime to change course and focus on the welfare of its people, instead of the illegal pursuit of its nuclear and ballistic missile programmes.