

Press release: Department for International Trade Director of Communications Appointment

From:

First published:

25 January 2017

Toby Orr is appointed as new Director of Communications for DIT.

As part of the department's ongoing drive to build capability across all corporate areas, Toby Orr has been appointed as the Director of Communications at the Department for International Trade. This follows an external open competition for the role.

Toby Orr brings with him extensive experience of delivering communications strategies and programmes across the world. He joins the department from Portland, where he established the company's international team and led numerous high-profile global campaigns. He will take up the role in April 2017.

International Trade Secretary Dr Liam Fox said:

Toby brings a wealth of experience in developing and implementing communication strategies in a global environment. As Director of Communications, he and his team will deliver a key corporate function for the Department for International Trade, communicating the department's priorities to our target audiences at home and abroad.

Toby Orr said:

It is an honour to be joining the department at such an important time, working to devise and deliver an ambitious communications strategy to advance the UK's trade agenda and promote Global Britain. I look forward to working closely with colleagues across the department and Whitehall on this exciting mandate.

[Press release: Minister for the Middle East statement on settlement units in the West bank](#)

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Part of:

Minister for the Middle East Tobias Ellwood statement on the Israeli Government's announcement to build 2,500 settlement units in the West Bank.

Foreign Office minister, Tobias Ellwood, said:

The British Government reiterates its support for a two-state solution leading to a secure Israel that is safe from terrorism, and a contiguous, viable and sovereign Palestinian state. We have consistently been clear that settlements are illegal under international law, are not conducive to peace and their construction must stop. We condemn the increased pace of settlement activity.

Further information

[News story: Welsh Secretary visits DECA, the North Wales home of the global F-35 hub as UK's Industrial Strategy Announced](#)

As the UK Government launched its new industrial strategy, Alun Cairns took the opportunity to highlight the major contribution defence industry makes to the economy in Wales, as well as across the whole of the UK.

In November 2016, the UK was chosen to become the global repair hub for F-35 avionic and aircraft components, securing thousands of highly skilled jobs and millions in investment, with the potential to unlock more than £2bn of

future F-35 support revenue over the lifetime of the programme. Mr Cairns viewed the future F-35 facilities and met senior figures from DECA, apprentices, local small businesses, and Joint Venture partners BAE Systems and Northrup Grumman.

Alun Cairns, Secretary of State for Wales, said:

The decision to house the F-35 global repair hub in North Wales is testament to Wales' international reputation for technology and manufacturing. DECA Sealand and companies like Airbus show that this part of Wales is now a leader in aviation technology. The fact Wales is producing the next generation of army fighting vehicles in Merthyr shows we offer a highly skilled workforce and locations that work for business.

The industrial strategy is a plan for everyone; every sector and business in Wales has a stake in it. By pulling together we can build a Welsh economy that works for everyone supported by well-paid jobs for our young people.

Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon, said:

Britain's selection as a global maintenance and repair hub for F35s is a vote of confidence in our high-tech defence industry, generating billions of pounds for the UK and creating thousands of jobs.

But we want to do more through the industrial strategy to build on our strengths and get every part of the country, including Wales and North West England, firing on all cylinders.

Backed by our rising defence budget, a £4.7bn increase in R&D funding and Defence's £800m Innovation Initiative, we are determined to make the UK one of the most competitive places in the world to innovate, build business and help deliver security.

The government's Industrial Strategy will seek to make fresh choices about how the UK shapes its economy and presents an opportunity to deliver a bold, long term Industrial Strategy that builds on strengths and prepares for the years ahead.

With over 3,000 aircraft expected to be in service with 12 nations, the F-35 represents a truly international programme and supply chain, including in the UK, with British companies providing approximately 15% by value of every F-35 to be built.

The government will develop this strategy further with industry and ensure the UK remains one of the best places in the world to innovate and do business. Following a period of consultation, the government intends to

publish an Industrial Strategy white paper in 2017 that will set out the plan for full and long term delivery.

Notice: Downstream of Town Bridge, Peterborough to the Dog in a Doublet

When: 4 February 2017 between 9am and 3.30pm

What's happening: There is a rowing event taking place on the river Nene at the locations and times stated.

Notice: Doddington Lock and Islip Lock

When: 1 February 2017 between 10am and 2pm.

What's happening: There will be a power outage at the locks during the period stated.