

# Press release: New guidance on the movement of horses and other equines in a no deal scenario

The Government has today issued guidance for owners of horses, ponies and other equines on the preparations they need to make in the event of a 'no deal' Brexit.

Leaving the EU with a deal remains the Government's top priority. This has not changed. We are continuing with our 'no deal' preparations to ensure the country is prepared for every eventuality.

The guidance will help owners to navigate the new processes for moving horses and other equine animals from the UK to EU member states. This will also apply to those owners who currently move their animals between the UK, Ireland and France under the Tripartite Agreement (TPA) – an agreement relied on by many in the horseracing industry and the competition sector.

If the UK leaves the EU on 29 March without a deal:

- equines travelling from the UK to the EU may need to undergo additional blood tests, which will need to be carried out within 30 days or less of travelling to satisfy EU regulations
- owners will need to consult with a vet at least six weeks before they are planning to travel
- all equines will need an Export Health Certificate in order to travel to EU states, instead of current documents, and will need to enter the EU via a Border Inspection Post (BIP)
- some equines will also need a Government issued travel ID document, as well as their existing equine passport

The UK has already committed to allowing continued movement on all equine animals from EU member states to support the industries that rely on these animals and ahead of major horseracing events, such as the Grand National Festival at Aintree.

The government is continuing to negotiate with the European Commission on securing listed status for the UK, which would enable the continued movement of equines to EU member states.

The guidance published today is designed to give the owners of horses and other equine animals as much time to prepare for these new processes and factor in any extra travel time they may require when travelling to and from the EU.

Animal Welfare Minister David Rutley said:

Delivering a negotiated deal with the EU remains the Government's

top priority, but it is our job to responsibly ensure we are prepared for all scenarios, including no deal.

This guidance will help businesses and owners prepare for life after 29 March if we do leave without a deal. However, it is in the interest of the EU to reciprocate our commitment on the movement of horses. This will ensure horseracing and competition events across the continent can continue to be attended by all of Europe's top equine talent.

Julian Richmond Watson, Chairman of the Thoroughbred Breeders Association, said:

The British thoroughbred racing and breeding industry welcomes publication of this important guidance and will be communicating it to our participants to help them prepare for all potential Brexit negotiation outcomes.

We fully support the Government's welcome and pragmatic position to allow continued equine movement under current systems from EU member states to the UK in a no deal scenario.

Nick Fellows, Chief Executive of the British Equestrian Federation (BEF), said:

The BEF has worked closely with government and leading figures in equestrian sport to make sure that all horse owners have as much information as possible for when the UK leaves the European Union. It's important to prepare for all eventualities and we'd urge all horse owners to take notice of the material provided by Defra.

If the UK is not provided with listed status by the European Commission, no movements of equines from the UK to the EU will be possible after we leave the EU until listed status is secured.

Businesses that may be affected should [read the latest guidance on equine movements](#).

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## **[Press release: Ex-mental health worker has sentence increased](#)**

A mental health crisis worker who sexually abused a teenage girl in his care

has today had his sentence increased after the Solicitor General, Robert Buckland QC MP, referred it for being too low.

Givemore Tonderai Gezi, 40, met the victim through his role as a team leader with the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services crisis team. The two kept in contact after their first meeting, with Gezi falsely telling her that he was single, and lying about his age.

Over the next few weeks, Gezi engaged in repeated sexual activity with the victim. They had sex for the first time within a few days of the victim's 16th birthday, and continued to have unprotected sex after this. Gezi's offending was eventually discovered by his wife, who reported him to the police.

Gezi was originally sentenced in December 2018 to 7 years and 8 months in prison at Exeter Crown Court. Today, the Court of Appeal has increased this to 10 years.

Commenting on the increase, the Solicitor General said:

Gezi lied to and manipulated a young, vulnerable victim into an inappropriate sexual relationship. It is only right that he should spend longer in prison given the heinous abuse of trust he committed

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## [News story: Countering Drones: finding and neutralising small UAS threats](#)



Swarm of Quadcopters Drones In The Air Over City, drones digitally modified

# Background

The introduction of Unmanned Air Systems (UAS), often referred to as drones, has been one of the most significant technological advances of recent years and represents a shift in capability of potential adversaries. The threat from UAS has evolved rapidly and we are seeing the use of hostile improvised UAS threats in overseas theatres of operation. There is a similar problem in the UK with the malicious or accidental use of drones becoming a security challenge at events, affecting critical infrastructure and public establishments; including prisons and major UK airports.

Small commercially available UAS have already delivered direct impact effects and have allowed those hostile to UK interests to deploy cheap, pervasive, low observable surveillance capability. This threat often bypasses traditional air defence and ground security measures.

The UAS threat to UK national security is a cross-Government issue. There are many different UAS threats, each of which may require a different mitigation approach. The challenge will deepen with the predicted future advancement in UAS capability and as the civilian and military airspace becomes more crowded.

## The Competition

This Defence and Security Accelerator (DASA) call aims to address the increasing UAS threat to the defence and security of UK both at home and abroad.

### What are we looking for?

We are aiming to harness recent technology advances in a range of areas such as sensing technologies, autonomy, Artificial Intelligence and non-lethal effectors to improve the ability of the UK defence and security community to counter an adversary's use of UAS. This needs to be achieved whilst preventing or minimising collateral damage.

### We would like to focus on two key areas:

- Next generation counter-UAS (C-UAS)
- The future threats from UAS such as swarms, autonomy and congested air space

### The solutions could include complete systems or components that deliver or enable:

- automated and networked sensing systems over wide and complex areas
- cost effective sensors
- Plug and play (e.g. SAPIENT) compliant integration (more detail will be provided in the full competition document)
- methods of robustly defeating or denying current and next generation drones in a range of scenarios and environments

- significant and rapid improvements to extant systems for deployment
- autonomous decision making
- signal processing to improve discrimination and identification
- networked approaches which may use existing sensing systems such as CCTV etc.
- ability to identify and track the UAS operator
- airborne, mobile or expendable solutions

### **What we are not looking for**

- manpower intensive detect, track and identification solutions
- standard barrage jamming
- highly bespoke, closed or crude integration
- low potential for cost efficiency

The competition is envisaged to have a number of phases; Phase 1 of this competition is intended to demonstrate proof of concepts that can be further developed and integrated during later phases. Successful projects in this first phase may be encouraged to work with other suppliers in future phases in order to integrate solutions into a deployable system, and it is hoped successful projects will be able to be demonstrated at key showcasing events in 2020.

### **Competition key information**

The total funding for this competition is expected to be at least £2M, split over multiple phases. The total funding for Phase 1 is expected to be at least £800K.

This DASA competition is currently planned to open in April 2019 when the full document will be released on our website. Proposals must be submitted to the [DASA submission service](#), for which you will have to register.

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## **[News story: UK and Oman sign historic Joint Defence Agreement](#)**

Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson has travelled to Oman to sign the agreement, alongside their Minister Responsible for Defence Affairs, Badr Bin Saud Bin Harib Al Busaidi.

Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson said:

It is a pleasure to sign this agreement, bringing us even closer to one of our most important partners. This is an historic landmark moment between our two nations and is a significant reinforcement

of our mutual security.

Gulf security is our security, and it is crucial that we expand our horizons and become a truly global Britain after we leave the European Union.

The JDA follows the culmination of Exercise Saif Sareea 3, which was held in Oman during October and November 2018. It was the largest exercise by the UK's military since Saif Sareea 2, 17 years previously, with 5,500 troops travelling to Oman to display their land, air and sea capabilities. The JDA provides a launch pad to deepen defence co-operation, with both nations working together to develop capabilities and promote regional stability.

The UK and Oman have a long-standing and historic relationship, dating back more than 200 years. More recently, the British Joint Logistics Support Base in Duqm opened last year and the Defence Secretary announced during his visit to Saif Sareea 3 that a new joint military training area will be established in the country this year. The UK is committed to the development of Duqm Port and this is part of the UK's defence commitment to the region to ensure that our operations are agile. Additionally the new Omani-British Joint Training Area will ensure the UK is building a world-class military force alongside Omani counterparts, building on our joint learning from Saif Sareea 3.

The Agreement will ensure that these facilities are available for use long into the future, allowing the UK to maintain a presence in the Region. This includes a new Naval Support Facility in Bahrain and our ongoing cooperation at Al Udeid in Qatar.

It also builds on the Prime Minister's commitment to the Freedom of Navigation, economic stability and security in the Gulf.

The Ministry of Defence is committed to spending £3 billion across the Gulf over the next 10 years.

His Excellency Sayyid Bader bin Saud bin Harib Al-Busaidi, the Omani Minister Responsible for Defence Affairs said:

This agreement culminates the efforts of both countries' leaderships to enhance the existing bilateral cooperation and the strategic partnership between them. It is a milestone in the history of both nations.

The signing of this agreement today reaffirms the importance of optimizing the joint military efforts to ensure the security and stability of both friendly countries and pave the way for more cooperation in the field of defence and joint exercises in pursuance of the agreement objectives.

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## [News story: National Museums Liverpool Board Appointments](#)

### **Sarah Dean**

Sarah is Head of Tax and Investments at the Grosvenor Estate Family Office, where she leads provision of effective tax, investments and governance services. Sarah is also responsible for leading examination of organisational risk at the Grosvenor Estate, and Chairs the Family Office Risk Committee. Educated in Wirral, Sarah studied for her degree at Manchester University Business School. Joining PwC in 1999, Sarah qualified as a Chartered Tax Advisor and gained a breadth of experience in advising clients in individual, corporate and international taxation, primarily in the consumer and industrial products sector. Sarah is an alumnus of the Institute of Management Development (IMD) in Switzerland and an Affiliate member of the Society of Trust & Estate Practitioners (STEP). Involved in volunteering, in various capacities, for over fifteen years, Sarah is presently Chair of Governors at a Chester primary school. Sarah lives in rural North Wales with her husband and three children.

### **David Fleming**

David Fleming is the Chief Technology Officer at Mitigo, a cyber security company based in the North West. He spent the majority of the past decade at the heart of the digital transformation of UK Banking. As Head of Digital Banking at the Lloyds Banking Group he grew their digital customer base to over 10 million active users whilst defining the transformation roadmap for Lloyds, Halifax and Bank of Scotland brands. He was also accountable for the re-launch of the TSB digital bank, when it was floated out of the group 2012. In 2014 David moved to be part of the turnaround team at the Co-operative Bank as Digital Director and Transformation & Strategy Director. He lives in Cheshire with wife Sarah and their 3 children.

### **Max Steinberg**

Max was appointed Chief Executive of Liverpool Vision in July 2010. On joining Liverpool Vision, Max oversaw Liverpool's award winning six-month participation in the World EXPO Shanghai 2010, a six-month global event based around the theme of 'better city, better life' which culminated in the Liverpool Gala Day on 16 October 2010. Max has overseen the enhancement of Liverpool Vision's business growth service, expansion of Liverpool Vision's work in key international markets and the creation of Marketing Liverpool. Max was instrumental in securing the first International Festival for Business 2014 which was held in Liverpool and had overall responsibility for the organisation and delivery of the Festival. He was Chair of the Festival

and Executive Steering Group in 2014 and 2016 and is now chairing the 2018 Festival. Max began his career at Liverpool City Council in 1975 before moving to the Housing Corporation where he spent 25 years working in all aspects of housing, before becoming Chief Executive of Elevate East Lancashire in 2003. In 2009 he became Chief Executive of Regenerate Pennine Lancashire Ltd.

Max was on the Board of Liverpool John Moores University European Institute of Urban Affairs from 1992 and was its chairman until 2013. He is Chair of the Riverside Housing Group and was a non-executive director of Kensington Regeneration from 2003-2006. Max was appointed Chairman of the Roy Castle Foundation in August 2015 and has recently become a Board Member of the following: The Advisory Board for International Business and Diplomatic Exchange (IBDE), the Great Exhibition in the North and Shakespeare in the North. He was awarded a Senior Fellowship at Liverpool Hope University. In 2011 Max was awarded the OBE in 1997 for services to Housing and Regeneration on Merseyside and was awarded the CBE for services to Business and the Community in the June 2013 Birthday Honours List.

These roles are not remunerated. These appointments have been made in accordance with the [Cabinet Office's Governance Code on Public Appointments](#). The process is regulated by the Commissioner for Public Appointments. The Government's Governance Code requires that any significant political activity undertaken by an appointee in the last five years is declared. This is defined as including holding office, public speaking, making a recordable donation or candidature for election. Sarah Dean, David Fleming and Max Steinberg have made no such declarations.