

Statement to Parliament: Armed Forces' Pay Review Body Appointments

The Secretary of State for Defence (Rt Hon. Gavin Williamson CBE MP): I am pleased to announce that the Prime Minister has invited Mr John Steele to continue to serve as Chair of the Armed Forces' Pay Review Body for a further two-month term of office, commencing on 1 March 2018. This allows Mr Steele to draw Pay Round 18 to a conclusion.

I would also like to take this opportunity to announce that the Prime Minister has appointed Mr Peter Maddison as the next Chair of the Armed Forces' Pay Review Body. His appointment will commence on 1 March 2018 and run until 28 February 2021.

Both the extension and the appointment have been conducted in accordance with the guidance of the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments.

News story: Foreign Secretary statement following the Kabul Process meeting

Foreign Secretary statement following the Kabul Process meeting – GOV.UK

The Kabul Process is the Afghan-owned, Afghan-led conference aiming to take forward a real intra-Afghan dialogue on peace.



Commenting on the second meeting of the Kabul Process, Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson said:

Yesterday, at the Kabul Process meeting, Afghanistan's National Unity Government made a significant and bold offer to the Taliban, laying out their plans for talks without preconditions. I commend the vision of President Ghani and Chief Executive Abdullah who laid out a clear but flexible proposal on talks – and a road to peace, prosperity and stability for Afghanistan. The United Kingdom, along with the region and the international community stand united in support of this determination to bring the violence to an end.

I strongly believe that the only solution to the conflict in Afghanistan is through a political settlement, led and owned by Afghans themselves. Yesterday's Kabul Process meeting was a landmark step on this important journey. It is now for the Taliban to take the opportunity offered and to step forward and contribute to an inclusive political process. I urge them to do so. Afghanistan's future must be decided through dialogue, not the gun.

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Thank you for your feedback