

200 UK troops deploy to support flood relief



Two hundred UK Armed Forces personnel have deployed this morning to South Yorkshire to support flood relief efforts. Crown copyright.

The troops, drawn from the UK Standby Battalions based at Catterick (Light Dragoons) and Cottesmore (2 Royal Anglian), will assist civilian authorities on the ground by bolstering flood defences in the Doncaster and River Don area.

If necessary, soldiers will also provide help warning and informing residents, and support with potential evacuation efforts from high risk or flooded areas.

Following this morning's deployment a further 200 personnel will be put on immediate readiness later today, and Defence and the Armed Forces will continue to stay in close communication with other authorities to assess the requirement for further personnel if needed.

The deployment of troops follows support provided at the weekend by the Royal Air Force, when RAF Chinooks were called in to assist a pumping station near Doncaster following heavy rainfall.

The aircraft dropped 40 tonnes of aggregate at specific points to ensure flood defences could continue to work properly.

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