

# **It is deeply concerning that the size of the Army has fallen yet again on this Government's watch – Nia Griffith**

“It is deeply concerning that the size of the Army has fallen yet again on this Government's watch.

“Since Michael Fallon became Defence Secretary in 2014, the number of fully trained soldiers has fallen by over 7,000. That trend is simply not sustainable and it has very real consequences for the UK's defence capabilities.

“We know that satisfaction with pay and service life are some of the biggest reasons why servicemen and women are leaving the Armed Forces in their droves.

“If the government was serious about tackling this crisis in recruitment and retention, they would agree to lift the public sector pay cap to give our Armed Forces the pay that they deserve.”