<u>Scottish Conservatives welcome pledge</u> <u>to exempt military personnel from</u> <u>Sturgeon's high income tax bills</u>

- <u>Home</u>
- <u>Posts</u>
- All News
- Scottish Conservatives welcome pledge to exempt military personnel from Sturgeon's high income tax bills

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The Scottish Conservatives have welcomed a pledge that military personnel will never be penalised for serving in Scotland.

The Prime Minister has said today that under a majority Conservative Government measures to exempt military personnel from higher income tax rates in Scotland would be made permanent.

The move would save military personnel up to £2,200 per year.

It was welcomed by Douglas Ross, Scottish Conservative candidate in Moray, home to RAF Lossiemouth and Kinloss Barracks.

He said: "This is great news for the men and women serving in our Armed Forces across Scotland.

"Scottish Conservative MPs campaigned hard on this and succeeded in ensuring military personnel escaped the SNP's high income tax rates for the past two years.

"I'm delighted by this pledge to make that permanent.

He added; "The Scottish Conservatives understand how important the UK's strong military presence is to Scotland and so many of our communities.

"Yet there is growing concern in this election over the future of our military bases under a possible Jeremy Corbyn government propped up by Nicola Sturgeon in exchange for a second independence referendum.

"The Scottish Conservatives are saying no to a second independence referendum - and we are giving a warm welcome to the UK's Armed Forces in Scotland."