

[Ann Phillips appointed as Charity Commission Legal Board Member](#)

News story

The Secretary of State has appointed Ann Phillips for a 3 year term commencing 1 September 2022.



Ann Phillips is a solicitor with over 30 years' experience advising on charity law and practice.

She is a Consultant with Stone King LLP. Before becoming a Consultant in 2020, she was a Partner of Stone King LLP for nearly 20 years and chaired the firm for 6 years, from 2014 to 2020.

Ann was Chair of the Charity Law Association from 2011 to 2014 and prior to that served on the Association's Executive Committee for several years, contributing to its work on developments in charity law and related matters.

She has held a number of charity trusteeships and other voluntary roles.

Remuneration and Governance Code

Charity Commission board members are offered remuneration of £350 per day for approximately 24 days per year. This appointment has been made in accordance with the Cabinet Office's [Governance Code on Public Appointments](#). The appointments process is regulated by the Commissioner for Public Appointments. Under the Code, any significant political activity undertaken by an appointee in the last five years must be declared. This is defined as including holding office, public speaking, making a recordable donation, or candidature for election. Ann Phillips has declared no significant political activity.

Published 24 August 2022

Armed Forces Minister meets UK troops in Estonia

News story

James Heappey spoke with soldiers from the Royal Welsh and 2nd Battalion, the Rifles and met Estonia's newly appointed Defence Minister Hanno Pevkur



Armed Forces Minister James Heappey with Estonian Defence Minister Hanno Pevkur

Armed Forces Minister James Heappey has met UK soldiers protecting NATO's borders during a visit to Estonia, including his old battalion, 2 Rifles.

The minister travelled to Tapa, where more than 1,600 British personnel are based, watching troops train and speaking with servicemen and women.

He also met with Estonia's newly appointed Defence Minister Hanno Pevkur to discuss our joint work to support Ukraine and uphold European security.

Armed Forces Minister James Heappey said:

Every day our friends here in Estonia live with the threat of a belligerent Russia on the other side of their border.

Bilaterally and through NATO, the UK will stand firm with Estonia and I'm proud of the way our troops here stand ready to fight whenever, wherever they are needed.

More than 800 troops from 1st Battalion, the Royal Welsh currently lead a NATO enhanced Forward Presence (eFP) battlegroup in Estonia. The UK also has a second battlegroup of over 800 from 2nd Battalion, the Rifles in the country after deploying them in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

[Defence Secretary Ben Wallace announced in June](#) that the lethality of these deployments would be enhanced with advanced capabilities including helicopters and artillery systems, as part of an increased UK contribution to NATO. Meanwhile, the UK's existing HQ in Tallinn will be expanded. Led by a Brigadier, it will support the rapid deployment of high readiness forces at the brigade level.

The UK will also support Estonia with training and logistics, the development of its first divisional-level HQ, as well as developing new ways of fighting through their joint hosting of the [Defence Innovation Accelerator for the North Atlantic](#) European HQ, and supporting innovative dual use start-ups through the NATO Innovation Fund.

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[Scottish Secretary Alister Jack comments on 2021-22 GERS figures](#)

News story

The Government Expenditure & Revenue Scotland figures show the difference between total revenue and total public sector expenditure in Scotland.



Commenting on the Scottish Government's [Government Expenditure & Revenue Scotland figures](#), Scottish Secretary Alister Jack said:

Today's Scottish Government figures show how people and their families benefit massively from being part of a strong, resilient UK.

Scotland's deficit – the shortfall between taxes raised here, including oil, and public spending – stands at £23.7bn. But as part of the UK, we can rely on the Treasury to step up to support us in plugging the gap.

At a time of unprecedented challenges, sharing resources around the UK has never been more important.

As we continue to recover from the pandemic and confront global pressures on prices and the cost of living, it is clear we need a shared and a relentless focus on boosting the economy.

- Total expenditure for the benefit of Scotland fell from £98,439 million in 2020-21, to £97,502 million in 2021-22.
- The decline in spending reflects a reduction in spending associated with coronavirus support schemes.
- Although spending as a share of GDP has fallen from the peaks seen during 2020-21, it remains above 50% of GDP, and around 5 percentage points higher than prior to the pandemic.
- On top of receiving additional Barnett consequentials for the Scottish Government for 2021-22, these figures account for Scotland having benefited from at least an additional £3.7 billion in reserved spending, down from £9.4 billion in 2020-21.
- The figures from the Scottish Government show that Scotland's notional deficit fell from £35,774 billion in 2020-21 to £23,727 billion in

2021-22. This is more than Scotland's entire health, education, economic development, tourism and culture budget for the year, which was a cumulative £23.4 billion in 2021-22.

- Public expenditure per person in Scotland in 2021-22 was £1,963 higher than the UK average. This was an increase from £1,530 in 2020-21.
- Revenue per person in Scotland remained below the UK average. In 2021-22, including an illustrative geographical share of North Sea revenue, revenue per person was £221 lower than the UK average. In 2020-21 when revenue per head was £395 lower than the UK average. This shows the higher variability when North Sea revenues are included.
- The 'Union dividend' per person in Scotland (the combined value of higher spending and lower revenue) was £2,184 in 2021-22. This was an increase from £1,924 in 2020-21 (revised).
- Although spending on the pandemic fell in 2021-22, this has mostly been offset by increases in the cost of servicing public sector debt.

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