

UK to give more multiple launch rocket systems and guided missiles to Ukraine

News story

Decision comes after the successful use of UK multiple-launch rocket systems by the Armed Forces of Ukraine, gifted earlier this year



Ukrainian troops training in the UK to use MLRS

The UK will send further multiple-launch rocket systems (MLRS) to Ukraine as part of an enduring commitment to help the country defend itself against Russia's illegal invasion, Defence Secretary Ben Wallace has announced.

Britain will also give a significant number of precision guided M31A1 missiles which can strike targets up to 80km away, enabling Ukraine to continue to defend itself against Russian heavy artillery.

The decision comes following the successful use of [multiple-launch rocket systems by the Armed Forces of Ukraine, gifted by the UK earlier this year](#).

Defence Secretary Ben Wallace MP said:

This latest tranche of military support will enable the Armed Forces of Ukraine to continue to defend against Russian aggression and the indiscriminate use of long-range artillery.

Our continued support sends a very clear message, Britain and the international community remain opposed to this illegal war and will stand shoulder-to-shoulder, providing defensive military aid to Ukraine to help them defend against Putin's invasion.

Ukrainian troops have been trained in the UK on how to use the launchers so that they can maximise the effectiveness of the systems. This is in addition to the UK's [commitment to train up to 10,000 Ukrainian soldiers in infantry](#)

[battlefield skills](#) over the coming months. Canada, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and the Netherlands have all announced they will be supporting the programme.

Building on this effort, the Defence Secretary will co-host the Copenhagen Conference for Northern European Defence Allies of Ukraine on Thursday 11 August, to discuss further, long-term support for Ukraine on training, equipment, and funding.

Recognising the relentless courage and determination of the Ukrainian people, the UK and its allies will begin to establish a plan of action to support Ukraine into 2023 and beyond for as long as necessary, as they continue to fight for their freedom and sovereignty.

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[PM appoints an Interim Chair of Senior Salaries Review Body](#)

News story

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has appointed Ms Pippa Lambert as the Interim Chair of the Senior Salaries Review Body.



Ms Pippa Lambert has been appointed as the Interim Chair to the Senior Salaries Review Body. The SSRB provides independent advice to the Prime Minister and senior ministers on the pay of many of the nation's top public servants. The appointment is for 12 months ending on 27 July 2023.

Pippa Lambert was Global Head of HR for the Deutsche Bank, with responsibility for the Bank's worldwide Human Resources organisation from 2013-2020. Previous roles include Director of Global Reward at the Royal Bank of Scotland from 2011-2013 and Global Head of Reward at Deutsche Bank from 2005-2011. She is currently a trustee for Breast Cancer Haven and a member of

the Aviva Board.

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[Following collaborative project, Commission clarifies bullying and harassment roles and responsibilities](#)

This follows a working group co-chaired by the regulator involving a range of charity sector and other representatives. Addressing bullying and harassment, which should never be accepted in the charity sector, benefits from collective recognition of the contributions required from individual charities, wider sector leadership, the regulator, government, and other experts. The group focused on the discussion and clarification of those respective roles and responsibilities and exploring ways those involved can take action to address bullying and harassment.

The role of trustees

Trustees must recognise that there is simply no place for bullying and harassment within, or by, charities. Trustees have a central role to play to ensure their charity has clear policies, and that allegations are handled appropriately and in line with employment and other laws. Those concerned about bullying or harassment are encouraged to take their concerns directly to the charity or its trustees whenever this is appropriate, and trustees are responsible for ensuring they have processes in place to hear those concerns and address the matter.

The Commission's [safeguarding guidance](#) sets out that charities with employees should have welfare, discipline and whistleblowing policies for staff, including clear policies and procedures on bullying and harassment.

Under the Commission's serious incident reporting arrangements, charities should [report the most serious actual or alleged incidents of](#) bullying or harassment promptly for the regulator to assess. Workers and volunteers can also [make reports](#) to the Commission.

Intervention by the Commission

As a risk-based regulator focused on charity governance, the Commission prioritises involvement to address the highest risk of harm, for example where there are concerns that trustees have not addressed reported bullying or harassment that is widespread and systemic within a charity, or there are concerns about governance issues or potential mismanagement.

The Commission has a range of possible responses to such cases, from providing regulatory advice to trustees to the opening of a statutory inquiry. Its focus is on the proper governance of the charity, and it seeks to ensure that the charity's trustees are responding to the incidents appropriately, including taking necessary steps to prevent further wrongdoing and harm.

It is not the Commission's role to resolve individual employment issues. Employment matters should generally be raised with the charity through their [grievance procedures](#), followed by action in the [employment tribunals](#) if necessary. Investigating alleged criminal offences is the responsibility of law enforcement agencies and reports relating to any threat to an individual's safety should be shared with the police in the first instance, before notifying the Commission in due course – as the Commission is not a prosecuting authority.

The working group is continuing to meet and exploring further strands of work relating to charity leadership, what constitutes or contributes to bullying behaviour, as well as increasing visibility of existing resources.

Paul Latham, Director of Policy at the Charity Commission, said:

There is no place for bullying and harassment in society, and there is certainly no place for it in the charitable sector. In a sector grounded on kindness and generosity, this kind of culture is unacceptable.

I am grateful for the leadership shown by our sector group on this issue and am pleased that we have been working so collaboratively to better communicate the Commission's role and underline the role played by individual charities and the wider sector.

We are clear that we expect charities to take action to prevent and deal with incidents, but that we will intervene where there are concerns that trustees are not complying with their responsibilities, including in relation to safeguarding, to protect charities and the wider charitable sector.

Jane Ide OBE, Chief Executive at ACEVO, said:

Bullying and harassment is unacceptable in any part of our sector and at any level of it. It is essential that we work collaboratively to establish a zero tolerance approach to bullying and harassment and to ensure that everyone working in civil society, whether paid staff or volunteer, feels safe and respected in their work.

We welcome the focus from the Charity Commission on its role as our regulator in this context. The clarification provided today on serious incident reporting and the role the Commission will – and

will not – play in those circumstances is a helpful step.

This is just one part of our sector’s response to the issue though. We look forward to working alongside the Commission and our colleagues across civil society to continue to inform, educate and support our sector in creating a safe and inclusive culture for all.

Notes to Editors

1. The Commission’s [reporting arrangements](#) require trustees to promptly report serious incidents to the regulator. In an accompanying [examples table](#), it cites ‘an internal investigation has established that there is a widespread culture of bullying within the charity’ as something that should be reported to it, whereas an isolated incident lower down the organisation, which has been dealt with by minor disciplinary action, does not typically require reporting.
2. The Commission continues to encourage charity workers and volunteers to [report issues that could seriously harm](#): the people a charity helps, the charity’s staff or volunteers, services the charity provides, the charity’s assets and the charity’s reputation.
3. The Commission began working with sector representatives to clarify its regulatory role following a recommendation in a report published by ACEVO and the Centre for Mental Health in 2019: [In Plain Sight](#). The report contains a range of recommendations for charity leaders on how to address risks of bullying and harassment.
4. Attendees at the working group were the Charity Commission, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, ACAS, ACEVO, Protect, The Diana Award, the Centre for Mental Health, NCV0, WCVA, UNISON and the Association of Chairs.
5. The Charity Commission is the independent, non-ministerial government department that registers and regulates charities in England and Wales. Its purpose is to ensure charity can thrive and inspire trust so that people can improve lives and strengthen society.

[Government seeks to further improve diversity of energy supply by boosting biomass](#)

The government has today (11 August 2022) launched a [consultation on how to support the development of biomass energy generation with associated carbon captured](#) in the UK over the next decade.

Known as BECCS (Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage), this technology

generates energy from biomass, sustainable plant material, while storing the carbon released in the process through carbon capture, usage and storage (CCUS) technology. This uniquely offers the potential to produce home-grown energy with 'negative emissions' – removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, as the CO₂ absorbed during the growth of the biomass can then be permanently removed from the atmosphere using carbon capture technologies.

The consultation launched today seeks views on how the government can help attract private investment to accelerate the development of this nascent industry, to help boost Britain's energy security, while also supporting new job opportunities across the country including industrial clusters developing carbon capture networks.

Business Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng said:

The government is fully behind biomass energy to provide more power in Britain, for Britain.

The more clean power we generate within the UK, the less exposed we'll all be to volatile gas markets that are pushing up bills.

Today's plans could create an entirely new industry in our country, using sustainable biomass in a way that absorbs harmful carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

With these reforms, we will boost domestically-produced, cheaper and cleaner sources of energy to power Britain into the future.

The consultation launched today follows [£37 million government funding awarded](#) earlier this month to innovative biomass projects across the UK.

Biomass refers to sustainably derived plant material that can be used as fuel to produce energy for heating and powering homes and businesses. Backed by the independent Climate Change Committee, biomass will form an important part of the UK's future renewable energy mix, which will be vital for ensuring the UK's energy security and reducing reliance on expensive fossil fuels. Biomass generates enough renewable energy to power 4 million homes

The consultation launched today follows a commitment set out in the [Net Zero Strategy](#) to support the role of Greenhouse Gas Removal technology, including the ambition to remove 5 million tonnes of greenhouse gases per year from the atmosphere by 2030. It also builds on the Expression of Interest for greenhouse gas removal projects launched earlier this year as part of the government's carbon capture and storage programme.

Power BECCS provides a significant opportunity to deliver negative emissions that will be crucial to offset emissions from some of the most difficult to decarbonise sectors, such as agriculture and aviation industries. It can also bolster energy security and support the delivery of a fully decarbonised power system by 2035.

The consultation, which will run until October, will seek views on our early proposals including the main design elements of the business model and actions the government can take to enable deployment of this technology at scale, including steps to encourage the development of this industry, and address any possible barriers to investment.

[ADR UK and Ministry of Justice Data First Evaluation Fellowship](#)

News story

Funding opportunity from the ADR UK and Ministry of Justice Data First Evaluation Fellowship, co-funded by the Evaluation Accelerator Fund



Apply for funding to explore the feasibility of using administrative data to evaluate policy and practice interventions in the justice system.

You must be based at a UK research organisation eligible for ESRC funding.

You will need to establish whether different policies and practices within the justice system are effective in delivering the intended outcomes of reducing reoffending, protecting the public and delivering swift access to justice.

Your project could focus on either of the following:

- criminal justice
- family law
- civil law
- court reform.

The full economic cost of your project can be up to £177,500. ESRC will fund 80% of the full economic cost.

For further information, please refer to the UK Research Institute website [here](#).

This funding opportunity is linked to one of our Evaluation Accelerator Fund (EAF) projects, led by the MoJ and ESRC. For further information on the EAF and other funded projects, please refer to our guidance page [here](#).

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