

Giant sand sculpture urges holidaymakers to stay safe on MOD training grounds

Ahead of the busy summer holiday season, the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), part of the Ministry of Defence (MOD), is urging holidaymakers and locals to take extra care and check military firing and training times when accessing MOD sites shared with the public. This includes a number of popular coastal locations.

Depicting an oversized military vehicle, the sand drawing was brought to life on Saunton Sands beach in Devon, an area steeped in military history and adjacent to the Braunton Burrows Training Estate.

A member of Sand In Your Eye works to create the giant Chinook (Crown Copyright).

The artwork launches the next phase of the Respect the Range campaign, a public safety initiative to warn visitors about the very real risks they face when entering shared land used by the MOD for training. Risks include:

- live firing
- unexploded ordnance
- fast-moving military vehicles

Accessing military training estate areas when it is not safe to do so, not only places visitors in harm's way, but can also put service personnel at risk and interrupt vital training exercises designed to prepare the Armed Forces' to deploy in real-life situations.

The MOD wants to raise awareness of the risks to the general public, especially any holidaymakers or day-trippers heading to coastal hotspots this summer.

The Sand In Your Eye Team set to work at Saunton Sands beach in Devon (Crown Copyright).

There are a large number of MOD training locations across the UK, but Respect the Range highlights the following key sites with shared public access that could pose significant risk to locals and tourists: Lulworth, Holbeach, Donna Nook, Barry Buddon, Lydd & Hythe, Salisbury Plain and Aldershot.

To protect themselves and stay safe while using military land, the MOD is encouraging visitors to:

- check training times before traveling
- stick to public access routes
- observe safety information including red flags, fences, signs and by-laws while on military land
- don't touch any ordnance they come across, and report it

Brigadier Jonathan Bartholomew, DIO's Head of Overseas Region and the Defence Training Estate, said:

With the summer holidays now upon us, it's an important time for us to raise public awareness about MOD training estate locations and how the public can stay safe when visiting them. Whilst last year's Respect the Range campaign targeted the countryside of Salisbury Plain and Aldershot, this year we are focusing on protecting tourists and visitors on our coastline.

These beauty spots are shared land, where families, tourists and locals spend time. But it's also where our Armed Forces practise live-fire training, so it can go from tranquil to treacherous by the hour, 24 hours a day.

The MOD supports public access to much of the military estate and encourages visitors to explore the beauty of Britain's beaches, but this should be done in accordance with military guidance and with caution. We ask that the public do not cross into areas that are prohibited, stick to public paths and always check live firing times. This will help protect yourself, your loved ones and military personnel. It's key that we work together to share these spaces with respect and consideration.

Respect the Range highlights the dual use of each location by using memorable photography and design, and targeting the most popular types of land usage in the hotspots. This phase of the campaign builds on last year's pilot, which focused on MOD's landlocked locations, by bringing in coastal locations too. The dangers differ but are equally as dangerous between the distinct terrains, and it is important that the public are aware of these in order to stay safe.

Please note that Braunton Burrows Training Estate is not an area used for live firing exercises.

For more information on how to access military estate safely, visit:
www.gov.uk/guidance/safe-access

Recruitment vacancy for an Efficacy Assessor

News story

Details of a vacancy in our Efficacy Team



This exciting and interesting job puts you at the heart of authorising veterinary medicines in the UK.

You will be a veterinary assessor within the Efficacy Team, which is part of the VMD's Authorisations Division.

You will assess efficacy and target species safety data submitted in support of applications for the authorisation of pharmaceutical products.

You will also provide advice from a veterinary perspective both within the VMD and to external stakeholders including veterinary surgeons and members of the public.

Job Title

Efficacy Assessor

Grade

SS0

Salary & Pension

£38,751 – £43,847 per annum with Pension Scheme

Annual Leave entitlement

Commencing at 25 days

Role

You will be responsible for the assessment of efficacy and target species safety data for applications for:

- new marketing authorisations for pharmaceutical veterinary medicinal products
- variations to existing marketing authorisations
- veterinary aspects of animal test certificates to conduct clinical field trials

This work will contribute to assuring the quality, safety and efficacy of pharmaceutical veterinary medicinal products to assist the VMD in protecting animal health, public health and the environment.

How to apply

You must make your application via [Civil Service Jobs -Efficacy Assessor 221630](#)

where you will find a full job description including salary details.

Closing Date – 1 September 2022

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[UK Minister visits Japan ahead of Osaka Expo 2025](#)

- Minister Adams spoke to senior Japanese politicians and leading British businesses about the opportunities presented by Expo 2025.
- He is the first UK Minister to pay a bilateral visit to Osaka since 2017.
- Japanese investment in the UK totalled £102.3 billion in 2020, directly supporting 150,000 jobs.

Cabinet Office Minister Nigel Adams visited Tokyo and Osaka last week to confirm the UK's commitment to the Osaka Kansai Expo 2025, a major international conference which will highlight British businesses on the global stage.

The Minister met senior Japanese politicians, as well as a range of influential representatives of Japanese and UK businesses and organisations, to discuss partnership opportunities at the Expo and the potential to strengthen the ever-growing relationship between Japan and the UK.

The World Expo is an international event for nations across the world to showcase products, expertise and sources of national pride. In November 2018, the General Assembly of the Bureau International des Expositions (BIE) decided that the World Expo 2025 will take place in Osaka, Kansai, Japan.

Minister Adams met with Minister for World Expo 2025, Kenji Wakamiya, and executives from the Japan Association for 2025 World Exposition, using the visit to reiterate the UK's participation and next steps for both countries to help make the event a success.

Cabinet Office Minister Nigel Adams said:

It has been great to visit Osaka, see the site for the 2025 Expo and learn more about the historic ties between Japan and the UK.

Expo 2025 will be a fantastic opportunity to showcase the best of British innovation and culture and further enhance our deepening partnership with Japan.

My conversations with stakeholders this week have underlined the deep interest and shared values between the UK and Japan and the scope for us to work more closely together in the coming years on key global challenges in life sciences, sustainability and digital technology.

Minister Adams also spoke to business leaders from UK companies and the British Chamber of Commerce in Japan about the scope for businesses in both the UK and Japan to work together on the exhibition. During his visit the Minister spoke to Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement on Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) negotiators to underline the UK's commitment to free trade and joining this world-leading plurilateral trade grouping.

During his trip Minister Adams also spoke to representatives at AstraZeneca's Tokyo branch about bolstering the UK's leadership in global healthcare manufacturing and their strong presence across Japan.

Notes for Editors

The Osaka Kansai Expo 2025 will run from 13 April to 13 October 2025 in Osaka, Japan. The overall theme is "Designing future society for our lives", with sub-themes of saving lives, empowering lives and connecting lives. This will be the biggest international event this decade with around 140 countries and regions already committed to participating. The Prime Minister confirmed UK participation to then Japanese Prime Minister Suga in June 2021, a message reiterated to PM Kishida during his visit to the UK in May this year.

Total trade in goods and services between the UK and Japan was £23.1bn at the end of 2021, with trade largely evenly balanced between both countries (UK exports to Japan £11.5bn, UK imports £11.6bn).

Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement on Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)

is a trade agreement between 11 countries (Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam), covering 500 million people.

CPTPP countries accounted for £110 billion-worth of UK trade in 2019 and its rules remove tariffs on 95% of goods traded between members. UK accession could cut tariffs in vital UK industries like food and drink and the automotive sector, as well as creating new opportunities in areas like digital, data, and across services. Joining CPTPP will deepen our access to fast-growing markets and projected major economies of the future, including Mexico, Malaysia and Vietnam.

AstraZeneca is a global, science-led biopharmaceutical company that focuses on the discovery, development and commercialisation of prescription medicines in Oncology, Rare Diseases, and BioPharmaceuticals, including Cardiovascular, Renal & Metabolism, and Respiratory & Immunology. Based in Cambridge, UK, AstraZeneca operates in over 100 countries. In Japan, AstraZeneca's primary focus is on Oncology, Cardiovascular, Renal & Metabolism, and Respiratory & Immunology fields.

[New acting traffic commissioner for the west Midlands appointed](#)

News story

Secretary of State for Transport Grant Shapps has appointed an acting traffic commissioner for England and Wales.



Miles Dorrington will be taking on the role as acting traffic commissioner, under paragraph 5A of Schedule 2 to the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981, following the decision by Nick Denton to retire from the role.

Where the office of any traffic commissioner becomes vacant, the Secretary of State may appoint a person to act as a traffic commissioner for England and

Wales pending the appointment of a new traffic commissioner.

The Senior Traffic Commissioner, Richard Turfitt, has deployed Miles Dorrington as traffic commissioner for the west Midlands from 22 August 2022. This temporary appointment will terminate once a new traffic commissioner takes up the post on a permanent basis.

The role of the traffic commissioners

Traffic commissioners are responsible for the [licensing and regulation of bus, coach and goods vehicle operators, and registration of local bus services](#).

Where appropriate, they can call operators to a public inquiry to examine concerns about vehicle and driver safety.

They also deal with professional drivers at conduct hearings.

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Leicestershire anglers fined for illegal fishing trips

Two men from Leicestershire have been found guilty of fishing illegally on separate occasions this year.

A court heard that on 24 March 2022, Kieran Wood from Leicester had been fishing on the River Soar in Leicester in the close season and without a licence.

Coarse fishing is prohibited in some of England's waterways from 15 March to 15 June (inclusive) each year to protect vulnerable fish stocks while they are spawning.

In a separate case Thomas Roberts from Shepshed was found guilty of fishing without a licence at Butterley Reservoir, Derbyshire in February this year.

Both cases were brought to Northampton Magistrates' Court by the Environment Agency on 1 August 2022.

Kieran Wood, 32, was proved guilty in absence and ordered to pay a total penalty of £619. The penalty includes a fine of £440 (£220 for each offence), costs of £135 and a victim surcharge of £44.

Thomas Roberts, 24, pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay a total penalty of £289. The penalty includes a fine of £120, costs of £135 and a victim

surcharge of £34.

Michael Alcott, Fisheries Enforcement Officer at the Environment Agency, said:

Kieran Wood and Thomas Roberts have been rightly punished for the illegal fishing they undertook in Leicester and Butterley Reservoir respectively.

Illegal fishing undermines the Environment Agency's efforts to protect fish stocks and make fishing sustainable. Money raised from fishing licence sales is used to protect and improve fish stocks and fisheries, benefitting anglers and, for those caught cheating the system, we will always prosecute.

These cases show how seriously the courts take these offences and we hope the high penalties will act as a deterrent to any angler who is thinking of breaking the laws and byelaws we have in place across England.

Anyone can report illegal fishing activities to the Environment Agency incident hotline 24/7 on 0800 807060.