

It's welcome news that this gang have been prosecuted and sentenced – Reynolds

Jonathan

Reynolds MP, Labour's Shadow City Minister, responding to reports that city financiers have been jailed over £245m loans scam, said:

"It's welcome news that this gang have been prosecuted and sentenced. All those tempted to game the system and commit fraud against the public should know from the sentences passed that they'll pay the price.

"Lack of faith in the financial sector is bad for the public and bad for the sector itself. The Government needs to do more to reassure people that the bad practices have ended. For a start, Philip Hammond should reinstate the commission on culture in banking cancelled by his predecessor."

News story: Royal Marines Future "Secure" in Scotland

Sir Michael's announcement came as he watched a battle demonstration at Arbroath as 45 Commando begin training to play a lead role in NATO's Very High Readiness Group from 2018. This will see them working and training with allies, and place them at the forefront of an international emergency should any arise.

Defence Secretary, Sir Michael Fallon said:

Our Royal Marines are at the heart of Britain's global role as we do more to support our NATO allies. Their future in Scotland is secure, with those based at Arbroath deployed on ships all around the world as well as working with our European partners to tackle illegal immigration in the Mediterranean, which helps save lives and keep our United Kingdom safer and more secure.

On the visit, Sir Michael Fallon awarded two Royal Navy ranks serving with 45 Commando their Long Service and Good Conduct Medals (LSGC). Petty Officer

(Chef) Ian Dixon and Petty Officer (Medical Assistant) Jamie Jackson received their medals in recognition of having maintained perfect military records for 15 years. The men are originally from Lancashire and Derbyshire.

Earlier this month 45 Commando led 400 of their fellow commandos from the Royal Marines' three main fighting units into the snow and sub-zero temperatures of the Scottish Highlands as they honed winter warfare skills ahead of deploying to northern Norway. In Scandinavia, the Marines can expect temperatures as low as -30°C , much colder than the -12°C experiences on the slopes of the Highlands.

The other Royal Marine presence in Scotland is 43 Commando who are based at Her Majesty's Naval Base (HMNB) Clyde where they protect the UK's independent nuclear deterrent. Both units are part of the Royal Navy's elite amphibious infantry who are ready to deploy at short notice both at home and overseas.

45 Commando

- In addition to 650 commandos, 45 Commando employs 30 MOD civilians.
- The unit moved to Arbroath and RM Condor in 1971 after spending much of the 1950s and 60s deployed.
- Their 1982 Falklands Campaign saw major action with the capture of Two Sisters Mountain, which shaped modern Commando, mountain and cold weather warfare.
- The Unit deployed to Iraq in 2003 on Operation TELIC 1, and to Afghanistan on various Operation HERRICK deployments in 2006, 2008, 2011 in Sangin, Nad Ali and Helmand Province.

Defence Budget

- The UK is investing £178bn in a decade long equipment programme.
- The UK Defence budget has a "double lock" which ensures that it will rise every year by at least 0.5% annually, above inflation and always exceed 2% of GDP.

UK

- The UK Government is firmly committed to the future of Defence in Scotland and its continued vital role in Defence.
- Scotland is home to military bases that provide essential capabilities

for the Defence of the UK as a whole.

- By 2020, Scotland will be home to all of the Royal Navy's submarines, one of the Army's engagement and resilience Infantry Brigades, one of three RAF fast jet main operating bases and new P8 Poseidon Maritime Patrol Aircraft.

[News story: Royal Marines Future "Secure" in Scotland](#)

From:

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The Defence Secretary said today that the future of the Royal Marines in Scotland is secure.

Sir Michael's announcement came as he watched a battle demonstration at Arbroath as 45 Commando begin training to play a lead role in NATO's Very High Readiness Group from 2018. This will see them working and training with allies, and place them at the forefront of an international emergency should any arise.

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[Andy McDonald welcomes the resolution of the train drivers' dispute with Southern Rail](#)

Andy

McDonald MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Transport, welcoming the resolution of the train drivers' dispute with Southern Rail, said:

"This is great news. At long last an agreement has been reached. While the full details are yet to emerge, it is essential that any safety concerns have been comprehensively addressed and resolved.

"Sadly, trust between Southern management and the workforce has reached an all-time low, but hopefully this agreement marks the beginning of a more inclusive way of conducting industrial relations in the future.

"Southern's long suffering passengers will be delighted at this news, but equally they need to see the appalling standards of service, which they have endured for far too long, greatly improve, and do so quickly."

[It's hugely concerning to see increase in number of children killed or injured in road collisions – Daniel Zeichner](#)

Statistics released today by the Department for Transport show there has been an increase in the number of road users either killed or seriously injured. The number of killed or seriously

injured casualties (KSIs) increased by 6 per cent last year – to 25,160. By DfT's own admission, this change is statistically significant.

Between July and September

2016, the change was even more pronounced – KSI casualties increased by 8 per cent when compared to the same period in 2015.

All road user groups saw an increase

in the number of people killed or seriously injured: car occupants, pedestrians, motorcyclists and pedal cyclists. There were also 2,070 children killed or seriously injured in the year ending September 2016 – an increase of

8 per cent.

Daniel

Zeichner MP, Labour's Shadow Transport Minister, responding to statistics released today by the Department of Transport, said:

"These statistics are worrying. We

want everyone to feel safe on the roads, whether they are walking, in a car, on

a bike, on a bus, or using a motorcycle. It's hugely concerning to see the increase in the number of children killed or injured in road collisions.

"Funding cuts to the police by

this Tory Government have seen resources being diverted from road policing which inhibits the effective enforcement of penalties for dangerous drivers. If we are to make our roads safer, it's crucial that road safety targets are reinstated and that police forces have the resources they need."