



Ministry
of Defence

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In my letter of 22 January 2019, I undertook to provide further details of the outstanding fire safety Enforcement Notices for my Department. These are issued by fire safety inspectors on behalf of the Defence Fire Safety Regulator (DFSR) to ensure the Ministry of Defence remains in compliance with fire safety legislation and continues to fulfil its duty of care to its people.

Since my previous letter, progress has already been made against the Enforcement Notices I listed: two have been withdrawn and two more inspections are due by the end of this month to confirm the issues identified have been resolved. Defence monitors the status of its outstanding fire safety enforcement notices on a continual basis and I am routinely updated on their progress. Governance structures are in place to manage fire safety in Defence and a proactive programme has been put in place to promote awareness around best practice in fire safety and the available channels for reporting concerns up chains of command.

In order to provide you a detailed picture on the status of the Enforcement Notices, the full list of outstanding notices is listed in the annex below. I should make clear that Enforcement Notices are not issued where it is deemed there is a direct risk to life as this would be subject to a Prohibition Notice. This would prohibit either the activity or the use of a facility that was causing the risk. There are no current Prohibition Notices, and no further Enforcement Notices have been issued in the intervening period.

As I said in my last correspondence, the Department takes the findings of the DSA report extremely seriously. As such the safety of our people is of utmost priority. I hope you find this response to be useful, and that the Committee feels its questions on this matter have been answered satisfactorily. I will update you periodically as progress is made against these Enforcement Notices.

THE RT HON GAVIN WILLIAMSON CBE MP

The Rt Hon Dr Julian Lewis MP
Chair, House of Commons Defence Committee
House of Commons
London
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ANNEX A - SUMMARY OF ENFORCEMENT NOTICES¹ AS AT 21 FEB 19

Ser	Date issued	Business Area	Establishment	Situation
1	18 Aug 2015	Joint Forces Command	Ledra Palace Hotel, Nicosia, Cyprus	New accommodation construction nearing completion for mid-2019.
2	25 Aug 2015	Joint Forces Command	Kitchener Hall, Defence Academy, Shrivenham	New fire door installations. Expected completion date by 31 March.
3	21 Dec 2015	Army	Training Establishment, Norway	DFSR inspection due (19-21 March)
4	4 Aug 2016	Army	Wellington Barracks, London	Buildings survey of structural fire resistance ongoing. Expected completion date June 2019.
5	30 Nov 2016	Defence Infrastructure Organisation	Service Families Accommodation, London	Fire safety equipment, and secured compartmentalisation and escape routes to be updated; protocols for lighting and alarm system maintenance to be formulated.
6	9 Feb 2017	Army	Workshop, MOD Lyneham	Fire safety lighting and alarms systems to be updated. Expected completion date 31 March 2020.
7	31 May 2017	Joint Forces Command	Mount Pleasant Complex, Falkland Islands	Safety equipment provision and maintenance assessment ongoing. Completion date subject to outcome of assessment due to report in Jun 19
8	4 Jul 2017	Royal Navy	RM Instow.	Withdrawn 20 February 2019.
9	26 Jun 2018	Defence Infrastructure Organisation	Training Establishment, Norway	DFSR inspection due (19-22 March)
10	14 Aug 2018	DE&S	Bldg 59, Ashchurch	Fire safety doors and escape routes to be updated; protocols for lighting and alarm system maintenance to be formulated. Expected completion date October 2019.
11	17 Dec 2018	Army	Merville Barracks, Colchester	Withdrawn 17 January 2019.

¹ The term 'Improvement Notice' referenced in the previous correspondence has been superseded by the term 'Enforcement Notice'.