



## Defence Committee

Chairman, Rt Hon Dr Julian Lewis MP

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Harriett Baldwin MP  
Minister for Defence Procurement  
Ministry of Defence  
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*Dear Harriett,*

### Mechanised Infantry Vehicle

I am writing in response to your answers to my written questions 109205 and 109206, tabled on 23 October 2017, on armoured fighting vehicles and the potential procurement of the Mechanised Infantry Vehicle (MIV). These asked for clarification whether British companies would be able to bid to supply the future MIV and what assessments had been made of the potential economic impact, for taxpayers and for the UK's armoured fighting vehicle industry, of any decision to acquire such vehicles without competition.

Having read your answers, and in the light of correspondence I have received from General Dynamics, I would welcome further information on the following points:

- Whether competition "within the supply chain", referred to in your answer to question 109205, means that open procurement is not being sought for the main contract and will instead be applied to the supply chain of the prime contractor;
- If this is the case, how the Department will ensure both value for money and local value;
- Whether an assessment has been made of the impact on long-term investment in the UK's armoured fighting vehicle industry, in the event that the MIV is procured from overseas, without open competition and whether any assessment has been made of the broader impact of single source procurement from overseas companies on investment in the UK's defence industry?
- Whether the Department would welcome bids for the prime contract for the MIV from UK manufacturers; and whether the Department accepts that there is a UK industrial capability to build these platforms?

Finally we are aware of rumours that Boxer may be the sole-source MIV option being considered by the Department. Can you confirm that: a) Boxer has previously been rejected by the British Army on two occasions (2003 and 2008); and b) Boxer would, if chosen by the Department, be acquired via OCCAR and would therefore be outside the oversight of the Single Source Regulations Office?

*Yours ever,  
Julian*