

Summary of the Defence Review 2021

This is how the Integrated Defence Review affected the SCOTS

Many of you will have already heard the substantial changes to the Army announced by The Secretary of State for Defence. The document is too large to send by electronic means, so it covers the implications for the SCOTS only as it stands.

1 SCOTS will become 1 Battalion Army Rangers Regiment (1 Rangers) in the Army Special Ops Brigade (HQ in Aldershot) as of 1 Dec 2021 and will be based in Belfast. They will no longer be SCOTS (RSB). It will be for the SCOTS, WELSH and IRISH to man this Unit certainly for the time being and the Colours and Silver belonging to 1 SCOTS / RS / KOSB will remain with 1 Rangers for a while until the Special Ops Brigade are well bedded in and have their own Colours / property.

2 SCOTS will be a Light Role Battalion based in Edinburgh (re-role by Jan 2024) and be part of 4 Light Brigade whose HQ is in Catterick.

3 SCOTS will be a Security Force Assistance unit in 11 Security Force Assistance Brigade (HQ in Aldershot) and they will re-role by 2025. (Smaller establishment). They will remain at Fort George until 2029 and are then due to move to Leuchars in Fife.

4 SCOTS will be a Light Mechanised Battalion in 7 Light Mechanised Brigade (HQ in Cottesmore) and they will re-role by 2023. They will rotate between Catterick (2021 – 25) and Cyprus (2025 – 27). They will rotate with 1 YORKS on a regular basis.

5 SCOTS remains in Edinburgh under Command of 51 Infantry Brigade (HQ in Redford Cavalry Barracks).

6 SCOTS remains as a Reserve Infantry Battalion with its HQ in Glasgow as part of 19 Brigade whose HQ is in York. The Battalion will re-role by May 2023.

7 SCOTS remains as a Reserve Infantry Battalion with its HQ in Perth as part of 19 Brigade whose HQ is in York. The Battalion will re-role by Mar 2023.

The Royal Regiment of Scotland is still a force to be reckoned with, with its bulk stationed in Scotland. Some units will reduce in size, but we are left with units in many different and exciting roles; Light Mechanised, Light Role and Security Force Assistance. Our Reserve battalions will continue to support our Regular units and Civil authorities as appropriate.

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