

The Secretary of State for Defence (Des Browne): I explained to Parliament on 1 April 2008 (Official Report, columns 628 - 630) that, in the light of the operations launched by the Government of Iraq in Basra on 25 March, we would maintain our force levels in southern Iraq at around 4,000 while we worked with the Iraqis and our coalition partners to review the implications for our own plans.

The TELIC 12 force package will see the lead formation, currently 4 Mechanised Brigade, replaced by 7 Armoured Brigade, which will provide the majority of the units serving in Iraq. 7 Armoured Brigade will take over the command of UK forces in early June. The forces deploying include soldiers from the following units:

7(th) Armoured Brigade Headquarters and Signal Squadron (207)

3(rd) Regiment Royal Horse Artillery

The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys)

9/12(th) Lancers (Prince of Wales's)

32(nd) Engineer Regiment

1(st) Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers

2(nd) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment

The Highlanders, 4(th) Battalion The Royal Regiment Of Scotland

2 Logistic Support Regiment, The Royal Logistic Corps

3 Close Support Medical Regiment

2 Close Support Battalion, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

111 Provost Company, 1(st) Regiment Royal Military Police

Elements of 5(th) Regiment Royal Artillery

Elements of 16(th) Regiment Royal Artillery

Elements of 32(nd) Regiment Royal Artillery

Elements of 47(th) Regiment Royal Artillery

Elements of 170 (Infrastructure Support) Engineer Group

Elements of 33 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal)

Elements of 2(nd) Signal Regiment, Royal Corps of Signals

Elements of 10(th) Signal Regiment, Royal Corps of Signals

Elements of 14(th) Signal Regiment (Electronic Warfare), Royal Corps of Signals

Elements of 21(st) Signal Regiment (Air Support), Royal Corps of Signals

Elements of 24 Postal Courier and Movement Regiment The Royal Logistic Corps

Elements of 9 Supply Regiment The Royal Logistic Corps

Elements of 11 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Regiment The Royal Logistic Corps

Elements of 17 Port and Maritime Regiment The Royal Logistic Corps

Elements of 27 Transport Regiment The Royal Logistic Corps

Elements of 29 Postal Courier and Movement Regiment The Royal Logistic Corps

Elements of 104 Military Working Dog Support Unit

Elements of 1 Military Intelligence Brigade

Elements of 1 Regiment Army Air Corps

Elements of 28 Squadron, Royal Air Force

Elements of 78 Squadron, Royal Air Force

Elements of Tactical Supply Wing, Royal Air Force

Elements of Joint Helicopter Support Unit, Royal Air Force

Elements of Joint Medical Command

Members of the reserve forces will continue to deploy to Iraq as part of this force package, and we expect to issue around 290 call-out notices in order to fill some 220 posts during the TELIC 12 roulement period.