

Changes to Call-Out Powers



- The Reserve Forces Act 1996 (RFA 96) contained separate powers to make a call-out depending on the circumstance:
 - **S52 – imminent national danger**
 - **S54 – war and warlike operations**
 - **S56 (1) – operations for the protection of life or Property**
 - **S56 (1A) – Urgent work of national importance**
- The Defence Reform Act 2014 replaces the two call-out powers under Section 56 with a new, broader power to make a call-out order.
- This new, broader power allows a call-out order to be made to use Reserves for any purpose for which regular forces may be used.
- A further change has also been made so that Reserves called out under the new,

broader power can serve for up to 12 months.

- Reservists will not be mobilised solely for training, professional/personal development activities, or to provide training support.



Why the Change?

- The Armed Forces have been redesigned to make best use of the resources available, harness better the talent of the country and provide the Government with the options it needs to address the scale and range of future national security challenges.
- Since 2003 over 25,000 Reservists have been mobilised including for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. However, they have not been able to be mobilised for the full range of operations and tasks that Regular Forces can.

- These new powers give Reservists the opportunity to take part in the full range of operations at home and abroad; enabling their unit and the overall Reserve Force to play a wider role under the Whole Force Concept.
- Defence recognises that when fulfilling these roles Reservists must be provided with the protections that mobilisation affords e.g. employment protection and the ability to claim the Reservist and/or Employers Award.
- Under the Future Reserves 2020 Programme the Government has also committed an additional £1.8 Billion over 10 years in order to deliver the appropriately equipped, resourced and motivated forces needed to guarantee the nation's security.

Next Steps

- The wider call-out powers take effect from 1 October 2014.
- The broader call-out liability will automatically apply to those who become members of the volunteer Reserve Forces on or after 1 October 2014.
- Those who became a member of the volunteer Reserves before 1 October 2014 will have to elect to have the new call-out powers apply to them.

- Serving Reservists who choose not to do this will continue to be subject to their current mobilisation powers, meaning that they could still be called out under the call-out powers in Section 56(1) and 56(1A) of the Reserve Forces Act 1996.
- Serving Reservists will be provided shortly with a brief detailing the changes made by the Defence Reform Act 2014 and a form to sign and return to the Unit Admin Office.
- The Defence Reform Act 2014 is bringing in other changes related to Reserves e.g. renaming the Territorial Army the Army Reserve. Further briefing material will be provided to Reservists and their employers ahead of the legislation commencement date of 1 October 2014.

The Navy, Army and Air Force are all actively recruiting Reservists. Employers, potential Reservists and society as a whole can all play a part in supporting the Reserve Forces, by joining, employing or championing Reserve service. To find out more about how to apply, visit www.gov.uk/joining-the-reserve-forces



Members of the Volunteer Reserves who enlisted prior to 1 October 2014 can be compelled to accept the new term of service when:

- Leaving the Reserve and re-joining
- Extending service in their Reserve Force.¹
- Commissioning

¹ Agreement to serve beyond the normal retirement age or re-engagement beyond the initial Term of Service e.g. at the 12 year point for the Army Reserve soldiers and 5 year point for RNR ratings.



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