

# Joint Statement on Defence Cooperation between the United Kingdom and New Zealand

1. The close relationship between the defence institutions of the United Kingdom and New Zealand is broad, deep, and enduring, based on a shared history and a commitment to global peace and stability. We have common values and interests in our defence policies, and common approaches to defence and security issues.
2. Our long-term intent is to continue, promote and strengthen bilateral defence cooperation. We want to enhance the practical defence and security cooperation activities that already exist between us. A deepening relationship provides mutual benefits. It contributes to improved international relations, strengthens our overall bilateral relationship, and enhances peace, stability, cooperation, and development.
3. To facilitate bilateral defence cooperation, we will:
  - a. identify a clear set of priorities for bilateral defence engagement;
  - b. conduct regular high-level defence visits and exchanges;
  - c. hold an annual defence policy dialogue between the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence, the New Zealand Ministry of Defence and the New Zealand Defence Force that will guide and inform associated Navy-to-Navy, Army-to-Army, and Air Force-to-Air Force talks.
4. We intend to continue to work together in the following areas:
  - a. Exchange views to enhance mutual understanding of common defence issues.
  - b. Share information on defence policy and reform to enhance organisational performance.
  - c. Share information and ideas to identify future defence cooperation opportunities.
  - d. Cooperate on capability development to maximise opportunities to foster interoperability and seek value for money.
  - e. Cooperate on training and exercising.
  - f. Cooperate to enhance security and stability, especially in the Asia-Pacific region.
  - g. Continue to invest in the exchange of personnel to build capability, understanding, and interoperability.

For the Government of New Zealand

Gerry Brownlee  
Minister of Defence

For the Government of the United Kingdom

Michael Fallon MP  
Secretary of State for Defence