News story

Defence Secretary announces £40m Cyber Security Operations Centre

From:

Ministry of Defence and The Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP First published:

1 April 2016

The Defence Secretary announced the new centre on a visit to MOD Corsham.



Crown Copyright.

In a move to further strengthen the UK's cyber defences, the Defence Secretary Michael Fallon has announced that over £40 million will be spent on a new Cyber Security Operations Centre (CSOC). The preferred location for the centre will be at MOD Corsham.

The CSOC will be a dedicated facility staffed by experts that utilises state-of-the-art defensive cyber capabilities to protect the MOD's cyberspace from malicious actors. It will enhance our ability to secure Defence networks and systems against cyber threats and bring together our defensive cyber activity which will enable us to continue to operate safely and securely.

As the Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) in November outlined, the government will invest £1.9 billion over the next five years in protecting the UK from cyber attacks and developing our sovereign capabilities in cyber space. The £40 million investment in the CSOC is part of the wider government plan and it will transform the MOD's operational cyber security capabilities.

Defence Secretary Michael Fallon said:

Britain is a world leader in cyber security but with growing threats this new Operations Centre will ensure that our Armed Forces continue to operate securely. Our increasing defence budget means that we can stay ahead of our adversaries in cyberspace while also investing in conventional capabilities.

The CSOC will work closely with the National Cyber Security Centre to facilitate the sharing of MOD cyber security challenges and contribute to wider national cyber security. This will act to further strengthen our defences and enable the most efficient working.