



John Healy MP  
Secretary of State for Defence  
By Email

25 February 2025

Dear John,

We are writing to set out the importance of any decisions about future defence spending being underpinned by core principles. In an ever more insecure world, made more unstable by the comments and actions of the US President, and with the ongoing need to stand up to Putin, it is vital that genuine long-term stability, safety and security is a priority. Alongside addressing the threats posed by the international political situation, the government must also address the significant and growing security threats relating to climate breakdown, food security and cyber security.

As such, we call on you to uphold the following principles:

- Uphold international law, the rule of law and the right to self-determination
- Tackle the biggest threats to long term human security, including climate chaos, food insecurity, and cyber-attacks on democracy
- Increase spending on diplomacy, peace-building and overseas aid, as key to security and defence policy
- Don't cut spending from other departmental budgets to increase defence spending
- Strengthen our ties with Europe
- Recognise that a global prohibition on nuclear weapons will make everyone safer
- Address the underlying causes of conflict and insecurity such as poverty, human rights abuses and resource scarcity
- Restore UK sovereignty by decoupling from reliance on the US
- Use economic levers such as sanctions on companies still operating in the UK and complicit in Russian fossil fuel exports

We look forward to your response and to working constructively with the government towards enduring safety and security.

Yours sincerely,

Ellie Chowns MP  
Adrian Ramsay MP  
Carla Denyer MP  
Sian Berry MP  
Baroness Jenny Jones  
Baroness Natalie Bennett