

by the end of this parliament and operating from Scotland. The SDSR must also fully consider the advantages of a defence policy without weapons of mass destruction and wasting £100bn renewing Trident. We will continue in our principled opposition to nuclear weapons and believe that the UK should abandon plans to renew the Trident nuclear missile system. In addition, the MoD should also publish in full current and projected annual costs of the Trident system and its proposed successor programme, including nuclear weapons through-life costs.

#### **THE CONVENTIONAL DEFENCE FOOTPRINT**

UK policy has seen reductions in conventional footprint in Scotland, leading to a significant underspend, meaning fewer jobs and less defence related spending to benefit local economies. Existing conventional bases in Scotland should be retained and all conventional re-basing activities should be completed by the end of this parliament. There should be no further erosion of the Scottish regiments and it remains our ambition to see the traditional regiments restored.

#### **DEFENCE SPENDING**

We support greater transparency in UK defence spending, with a full breakdown of spending by nation and region in the UK, including all procurement and SME expenditure and a full breakdown of component costs of all major projects by location.

With taxpayers in Scotland contributing billions of pounds more than the MOD currently spends in Scotland we believe that a far larger proportion of the defence procurement budget should be spent in Scotland. There should be a strategy developed by the MOD to ensure more small and medium sized

enterprises in Scotland are part of the manufacturing support chain for major defence projects.

The Type 26 frigates must be built in Scotland and the Aircraft Carriers refitted at Rosyth.

#### **LOOKING AFTER OUR SERVICE PERSONNEL**

The duty of care to our service personnel, veterans and their families must be a key priority. The MoD should provide much better support to next of kin and bereaved families in the event of a loss of a serving relative.

As a matter of safety, we believe a collision warning system should be installed on Tornado and Typhoon aircraft as quickly as possible.

We also support giving Armed Forces representative bodies a statutory footing.

#### **New powers to protect our communities**

There is no doubt that Fixed Odds Betting Terminals cause harm and hardship in communities across Scotland. That's why the Scottish Government needs legislative powers to control the growth and impact of these machines, and we believe the UK government should devolve these powers in full. The problem of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals is linked to the proliferation of betting shops in some communities and so we will continue to argue for Scotland to have full responsibility for the regulation of gambling.

We will also seek new powers so we can effectively regulate payday lenders in Scotland's communities, building on the recommendations of the Smith Commission and going beyond proposals set out so far by the current UK government.