From: Air Chief Marshal Sir Harvey Smyth KCB OBE DFC ADC MA RAF

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Dear Member of the Royal Air Force Strategic Reserve,

The world has changed significantly in recent years. The Strategic Defence Review highlighted the increasingly important role that the UK's Strategic Reserve will play in strengthening our nation's security, resilience and readiness.

I am writing to you because even though your Regular Service has ended, your connection with the RAF has not. As a former Regular member of the RAF, you are part of the Strategic Reserve, and like many former Service personnel, you retain a legal liability for call-out or recall in certain exceptional circumstances. I recognise that for some, this may come as a surprise. You may have left the RAF many years ago. Your career, family circumstances and day-to-day life may have moved on considerably since then. However, any decision to call out or recall members of the Strategic Reserve would be set against a very high bar.

That is precisely why we are reconnecting with you now and I am keen to ensure you understand what being part of the Strategic Reserve means for you. We want to better understand your existing skills, experience and expertise so that we can reinvigorate our relationship with our Strategic Reservists.

Over the coming months, you may be invited to update your details or complete a questionnaire to help us better understand your current circumstances, skills and interests.

Quite simply, I would like us to stay connected. We will do more to keep you informed about what being a member of the Strategic Reserve means and the opportunities available to you. In return, I ask that you keep your contact details current, understand

your reserve liability, and consider getting involved where an opportunity suits your skills and circumstances.

Should you have any questions about this letter or your status within the Strategic Reserve, please don't hesitate to contact my team via **Air-People-CM-StratRes-Comms@mod.gov.uk**.

Finally, thank you for your service. The contribution you made to the RAF and to our nation remains deeply appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Harv Smyth
Air Chief Marshal
Chief of the Air Staff