



Ministry
of Defence

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
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THE RT HON TOBIAS ELLWOOD MP
PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE AND MINISTER
FOR DEFENCE PEOPLE AND VETERANS

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During the debate of 19 October I undertook to write to you about progress on the next-generation fighter aircraft.

Looking to the future, the UK will need to replace the capabilities currently delivered by Typhoon around 2040. Given the timelines for development and acquisition, some of the key decisions on how we approach replacing Typhoon will need to be taken in the early 2020s. Our approach to this decision is multi-faceted, requiring a clear military requirement, detailed consideration of the industrial, international and financial implications. Preparatory work relating to this decision, which builds on the Future Combat Air System Technology Initiative, is already underway.

I hope this explains the Department's position.

I am placing a copy of this letter in the Library of the House.

THE RT HON TOBIAS ELLWOOD MP

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