I am writing to provide supplementary written evidence for Lord Ashton of Hyde further to the oral evidence session to the House of Lords Select Committee on the Arctic on 09 July 2014.

Lord Ashton had asked: “Because of our presence in Afghanistan, is it true that we have cut back our Arctic training in recent years?”

In response I can affirm that; whilst Defence’s Mountain and Cold Weather Warfare Training - for employment in all potential cold weather operations - has reduced this is due to a reduction in the requirement, as mandated in SDSR10 and subsequent policy documents, rather than an impact of operations in Afghanistan.

I hope that this response satisfactorily answers Lord Ashton’s question.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Molloy

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