



e-UPDATE #117 - 26.2.23

Welcome to this latest update.

It has been a frenetic few weeks, and there are updates below on everything from an announcement I made about new **space-related defence jobs for Gloucestershire**, to cutting steel on the Royal Navy's latest **Dreadnought**-class submarine. And there's the latest on my personal hobby-horse - **Cheltenham roads resurfacing** of course!

One major highlight from the last few weeks is the hugely welcome news that the Department for Health and Social Care has agreed to invest **£10.2m in Cheltenham General Hospital** to build a **new orthopaedic theatre and birthing unit**. The state-of-the-art theatre will benefit from high-tech ultra-clean ventilation, multi-use carbon fibre theatre tables, and technology to facilitate robot-assisted surgery. *It takes the total amount invested in our hospital in recent years to over £40m.*

There is also an update below on my recent meeting with **Severn Trent bosses**. Following their "cast-iron" pledge (their words not mine!) to me to clean up the River Chelt, they've been working up **engineering solutions** for the **Charlton Kings site**. I'm pressing for an announcement on the engineering scheme by the end of March.

I was delighted to attend **CGH's Endoscopy Unit charity barn dance** at St Matthew's Church (shame about my two left feet...) and the **Cheltenham Samaritans' Beer Festival** at Pip and Jim's. And it was brilliant to celebrate Cheltenham Park Run's tenth anniversary!

There is also a summary below of my recent ministerial visits to **India and France**. I led a UK delegation to Lucknow to secure investment openings for British businesses, and was pleased to be able to **highlight Cheltenham's cyber and defence industries to an international audience**.

I am also pleased to be supporting GCC's plans to create a **green corridor for wildlife** by planting more than **3,000 trees** on the disused railway site between Bournside School and Canterbury Walk.

Thank you for reading.

Best wishes,

PS I know so many of you already generously donate to local charities, but if you were able to

support **Cheltenham YMCA** (I am sleeping out for them next Friday) I would be hugely grateful! You can read more [HERE](#).

PPS I'm concerned that **graffiti** in town seems to be getting worse. I noticed some has sprung up on the side of John Lewis, and across the High Street. Is that your sense too? Let me know.

Alex Chalk KC MP
Member of Parliament for Cheltenham
Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence



UPDATES



£10.2M FOR ORTHOPAEDIC THEATRE AND BIRTHING UNIT AT CGH

Alex is delighted that the Government has agreed to invest **£10.2m in Cheltenham General Hospital** to build a **new orthopaedic centre and birthing unit**.

The state-of-the-art theatre will specialise in **hip and knee replacements**, and will benefit from high-tech ultra-clean ventilation, multi-use carbon fibre theatre tables,

and technology to facilitate robot-assisted surgery.

In addition, the birthing unit at Cheltenham General will be transformed into a purpose-built midwifery-led birthing unit, with two new birthing rooms including pools. **Works are expected to start later in the year.**

This latest funding comes on top of the multi-million pound investment into the new hospital wing opposite the Lido.

It takes the total amount received by Cheltenham General in government investment since **2015 to over £40m.**

And Alex is banging the drum for millions more for Cheltenham's 'Gloucestershire Cancer Institute'...

Click [HERE](#) to read Alex's column.



[Alex on a previous site visit with Severn Trent. Alex tracked down the Severn Trent storm overflow in Charlton Kings, and called a site meeting with the water company]

STORM OVERFLOW ENGINEERING SOLUTION IMMINENT

After months of behind-the-scenes pressure, **Severn Trent pledged to Alex in 2022 that they would reduce spills into the Chelt by 85% by the end of 2024** - much faster than elsewhere in the country.

This will address a sewage overflow problem that has existed in Cheltenham for decades when heavy rainfall overwhelms the drainage system.

To keep the pressure on Severn Trent, Alex called a meeting with senior management in January to call for engineering works to begin without delay.

Severn Trent confirmed to Alex that they have completed all of the assessment work, and two engineering solutions have been developed. **Sign-off for the preferred scheme is expected by the end of March**, with an announcement expected shortly after.

We are closer than ever to seeing this historic problem fixed once and for all...



[Alex leading a UK team made up of the High Commissioner and British service personnel]



[Alex was they keynote speaker at the Global Investment Summit]



[Alex with the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh]



[Alex with his Indian Defence counterpart]



[After 24 years, Alex was reunited with friends from the school he taught English at in 1999]

ALEX SPEAKS UP FOR CHELTENHAM ON THE WORLD STAGE

Alex was in Lucknow, India to **secure investment openings for British businesses**. As the keynote speaker at the Global Investment Summit, Alex had the unique opportunity to **highlight Cheltenham's cyber and defence industries on the world stage**.

Alex led a delegation of over 30 British businesses, including firms that are already partnering with Indian counterparts such as **BAE Systems**, Thales UK, MBDA UK and **Rolls-Royce**. Alex was delighted that at the summit they signed deals worth over £160m.

Cyber security and defence are growing fast in India. And with thousands of people in Gloucestershire employed by companies like BAe, GE Aviation, Ultra Electronics, Safran, Raytheon and CDS Defence & Security, we are well placed in our county to reap the benefits.

During the visit, Alex also had an emotional reunion with old friends from the Bakshi-katalab school he taught English at after leaving university.

You can read media coverage of the trip by clicking [HERE](#).



CHELTENHAM SAMARITANS RAISE THE BAR AGAIN!

Alex was delighted to sponsor a beer at the **Cheltenham Beer Festival** to raise funds for the Cheltenham & District branch of the Samaritans.

The event, which was attended by hundreds of local residents, had over 40 different craft beers and 20 ciders on offer.

Over **£6,500** was raised!

Writing on Facebook, Alex said:

"Another brilliant event for a great cause. £6k raised and counting..."

"Well done Leigh and your team of volunteers! And thank you Pip and Jim's for allowing use of the venue."



BABCOCK MOD CONTRACT CREATES 400 JOBS

Alex was pleased to announce that Defence company Babcock - which has bases in Gloucestershire - has been awarded the contract to manage and operate **Skynet**, the UK Ministry of Defence's (MOD) military satellite communications system.

Babcock which has a base in Cheltenham in Enterprise Way and at Gloucestershire Airport, employs around 450 people across the county.

The six-year contract, with an initial value of **more than £400 million**, forms part of the MOD's £6 billion Skynet 6 programme, sustaining more than 400 jobs in the south-west of the UK.

Alex said:

"Space is increasingly important for maintaining battlefield advantage. The UK's next generation military satellite communications system will keep us at the forefront of this critical domain and the work under this contract will bolster our resilience for years to come."



ALEX TAKES PART IN CHARITY BARN DANCE FOR CHELTENHAM'S ENDOSCOPY UNIT

Alex was invited by staff at the **Endoscopy Unit** at Cheltenham General Hospital to attend their **charity barn dance** at St Matthew's Church.

The money raised is going towards purchasing sky ceiling panels in the Endoscopy Unit at CGH.

Writing on Facebook, Alex said:

"Thank you to this wonderful group, led by the brilliant Yordanka, for inviting me to join them for a charity barn dance in St Matthew's on Saturday evening.

"It was all to raise money for sky ceiling panels in Endoscopy Unit at Cheltenham General Hospital. And thank you in particular to my dance partner. She DEFINITELY drew the short straw..."

To find out more, please click [HERE](#).



[Alex with pupils and staff from Pate's Grammar School]



[Alex with Mark Owen and Beth Winter from Punchline Glos who sponsor the awards]

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND AWARDS

Alex was invited to attend the **No Child Left Behind** awards ceremony at Cheltenham Town Hall.

No Child Left Behind is a project run by the council which aims to help **all young people in Cheltenham to thrive.**

The awards ceremony celebrated the fantastic work done by local organisations, charities and projects to support families and young people across Cheltenham over

the past twelve months.

To find out more about No Child Left Behind, please click [HERE](#).



ALEX RESPONDS TO BORIS JOHNSON AND LIZ TRUSS IN UKRAINE DEBATE

Alex was at the despatch box to update the House on Britain's military contribution to Ukraine.

Responding to speeches from **Boris Johnson** and **Liz Truss**, Alex paid tribute to the 'sheer bloody-minded defiance' of the Ukrainian people as he confirmed that the UK will continue to help lead the international military and diplomatic effort to uphold the international rules-based order.

Please see below an extract from Alex's speech:

"The signal we are sending to Vladimir Putin could not be clearer. He has turned his country into a pariah and the most sanctioned nation on the planet. Meanwhile, the world stands with Ukraine, ready to support that proud and defiant country to defend its territory and its people.

*One year on, with Russia gearing up for a new offensive, Putin remains unrepentant. **His only coherent war aims are for more war, more death and more suffering.** His desperate hope is that the world will lose its nerve. It will not. Together we will defy him. Together we will prove him wrong. As President Zelensky told us in his stirring address to the House two weeks ago:*

"We know freedom will win. We know Russia will lose. And we really know that victory will change the world"

Slava Ukraini, geroyam slava. [Glory to Ukraine, to the heroes glory]

To watch Alex's speech please click [HERE](#) and scroll to 19:56.



CHELTENHAM COLLEGE IN PARLIAMENT!

Alex was delighted to meet **Cheltenham College** students during their trip to Parliament.

As well as a Q&A with Alex, pupils enjoyed a tour of Parliament and watched a debate from the public gallery.

There were lots of great questions from pupils, including about the situation in Ukraine, climate change and life as an MP.





ALEX LEADS TALKS WITH FRENCH DEFENCE COUNTERPARTS

Alex travelled to Paris to lead talks between the UK and France concerning defence matters.

Alex discussed plans to work together to **boost ammunition supplies**, as well as future projects such as directed energy weapons to counter drones and other threats.

The talks were warm and constructive. Writing on Facebook, Alex said:

"Very warm and constructive talks in Paris today with a French team led by my opposite number Emmanuel Chiva, the French D legu  General pour L'Armement.

"In an uncertain world, France and the UK will work cooperatively to address joint challenges - from securing supply chains to driving forward research & development projects."



[Alex thanked Highways staff who resurfaced Bath Road on 17 February]

'GROT SPOT' UPDATE

As part of his 'grot spot' campaign, Alex has pressed for **CBC and GCC** to address local eyesores including potholes, blocked drains and overgrown hedges.

Following Alex's reports since the last update, the councils have:

- Resurfaced **Bath Road** (pictured above)
- Resurfaced **Sandford Road**
- Resurfaced **Robert Burns Avenue**
- Removed abandoned **CityFibre barriers**
- Agreed to remove **graffiti** from Welcome Gym and Town Centre East Car Park and stairwell
- Removed a **dead rat** (!!)
- Agreed to remove **graffiti** from St James' Square
- Agreed to resurface **Margrett Road Cheltenham (27.02.23)**

- Agreed to resurface **Orchard Avenue Cheltenham (28.03.23)**
- Agreed to resurface **Selkirk Street Cheltenham (01.03.23 - 03.03.23)**
- Agreed to resurface **Pittville Circus Road Cheltenham (01.03.23 - 07.03.23)**

Alex will be meeting with the Highways Department later this month to report further roads that require attention.

If you see any problem areas in the town, please send details to Alex (alex.chalk.mp@parliament.uk) and he will raise them with CBC and GCC.

Alex is also encouraging constituents to submit feedback to CBC's **graffiti** policy consultation. You can do so by clicking [HERE](#).





[Pictures taken on 3 February 2023]

CHELTONIANS IN PARLIAMENT!

Over recent years **nearly 2,000 local people** have made the journey from Cheltenham to Westminster to take in Parliament's remarkable history and architecture.

A coach picks guests up from **Cheltenham bus station** before enjoying a tour of Parliament (including the chamber of the House of Commons), a Q&A with Alex and the opportunity to have tea in the Parliamentary café.

Total cost: just £20 per person, to cover coach hire. The tour is completely free of charge.

Dates open for registration are **17 March, 24 March, 21 April** and **28 April**. More dates for May, June and July will be available soon.

If you would like to attend, please fill out the tour form by clicking [HERE](#)



CHELTHENHAM PARK RUN CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Alex was delighted to join runners, joggers and walkers at Pittville Park as Cheltenham Park Run celebrated its 10th anniversary.

Writing on Facebook, Alex said:

"It's Cheltenham Park Run's 10th anniversary!

"Thank you to all the organisers, marshalls, race directors and runners over the years who have made this the fantastic Cheltenham institution it is today!"

Thanks to Cheltenham Park Run Alex has dusted off his jogging shoes for the first time since his teens. His 5k times have come down in just a few weeks from 29 minutes to a personal best of just over 22 minutes. If Alex (not exactly an athlete...) can do it, anyone can!



Leckhampton School

@leckhamptonsch



This morning, our pupils were delighted to have Alex Chalk, MP for Cheltenham, lead our assembly. The children listened well and asked some great questions. Thank you [@AlexChalkChelt](#)

[A tweet from Leckhampton Primary School]

ALEX VISITS LECKHAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Alex was delighted to be invited to join pupils and staff at **Leckhampton Primary School** for assembly.

Alex enjoyed answering the pupil's thoughtful questions as well as learning more about 'The Agents Of Change' awards which recognises children at Leckhampton Primary School who make positive changes to the lives of others.



ALEX IN THE AUDIENCE FOR ZELENSKY ADDRESS TO PARLIAMENT

Alex was in Westminster Hall for **President Zelenskyy's address** Parliament.

President Zelenskyy thanked the people of the UK for their help and support during his country's fight against Russia and said he was visiting on "behalf of the brave".

Writing on Facebook Alex said:

"President Zelenskyy gave an extraordinary speech, which captured the indomitable spirit of the Ukrainian people in the face of barbarism.

"Parliament came together as one to salute Ukrainians' struggle to defend their nation, and save the lives of their people. We are at their side."

You can watch President Zelenskyy's address by clicking [HERE](#).



ALEX AT GERMANY EMBASSY TO MEET PRESIDENT OF GERMANY'S BUNDESTAG

Alex was invited to the Germany Embassy by the German Ambassador to meet the **President of the Bundestag** during her visit to London.

The President of the Bundestag presides over the sessions of the German Parliament much like the Speaker of the House of Commons.

The importance of strong British and German defence collaboration was discussed during the meeting.



ALEX BACKS LOCAL BUSINESS

Alex was invited to Cheltenham's **Memsahib's Lounge** (in the Muni buildings, close to Barclays) to speak with **Chef Patron Litu Mohiuddin**.

Definitely worth a visit!



[Alex with his German counterpart Benedikt Zimmer]



ALEX HOSTS GERMAN COUNTERPART FOR ALL-DAY UK-GERMANY TALKS IN EDINBURGH

Alex held talks with his **German counterpart**, Benedikt Zimmer, in Edinburgh to discuss **military capabilities and future collaboration opportunities** as two leading European and NATO allies.

Writing on Facebook, Alex said:

"Growing our defence relationship with Germany is important for Britain and for wider European security. These were really useful talks on issues ranging from Boxer infantry vehicles to Typhoon keys. All conducted in an open, warm and constructive spirit."



ALEX AT THE DESPATCH BOX FOR DEFENCE QUESTIONS

Alex was at the despatch box for **Defence Questions**.

Alex answered questions on the **UK's new partnership with Italy and Japan** to develop a fighter jet that uses artificial intelligence, the RAF's technological capabilities and catering for troops.

To watch the session, please click [HERE](#).



3,000 MORE TREES FOR CHELTENHAM

Alex is backing Gloucestershire County Council's plans to create a **green corridor for wildlife** by planting more than **3,000 trees** on a disused railway site in Cheltenham.

Trees and shrubs will be planted along a **1.88 acre stretch of land** on the former railway line between Bournside School and Canterbury Walk.

The project is part of the 80,000 trees the council hopes to plant across the county this season.



ALEX HOLDS TALKS WITH US COUNTERPART

Alex hosted his US counterpart - Gabe Camarillo - in the Ministry of Defence to discuss **British and US Army collaboration and modernisation**.

Writing on Facebook, Alex said:

"Delighted to host my US counterpart for such warm and constructive talks in London. We in Cheltenham well understand the importance of this indispensable relationship, and its importance for global security 🇬🇧🇺🇸"



ALEX CUTS STEEL ON NEW NUCLEAR SUBMARINE

Alex visited **BAE Systems** in **Barrow-in-Furness** to cut steel on **Warspite**, the third of four new submarines that will carry our country's continuous-at-sea nuclear deterrent.

Advanced nuclear submarines enable the UK to maintain a safe and credible capability to deter any adversary, and provide security to our allies.

Alex said:

"Our nuclear deterrent protects every UK citizen from the most extreme threats, every

minute of every day, and progress on the Dreadnought Class is crucial to maintaining our national security.

"This milestone is a significant step forward in the Dreadnought programme, supporting thousands of jobs and apprenticeships across the country, and protecting the UK and our allies for decades to come."

To read the BBC's coverage of the visit, please click [HERE](#).

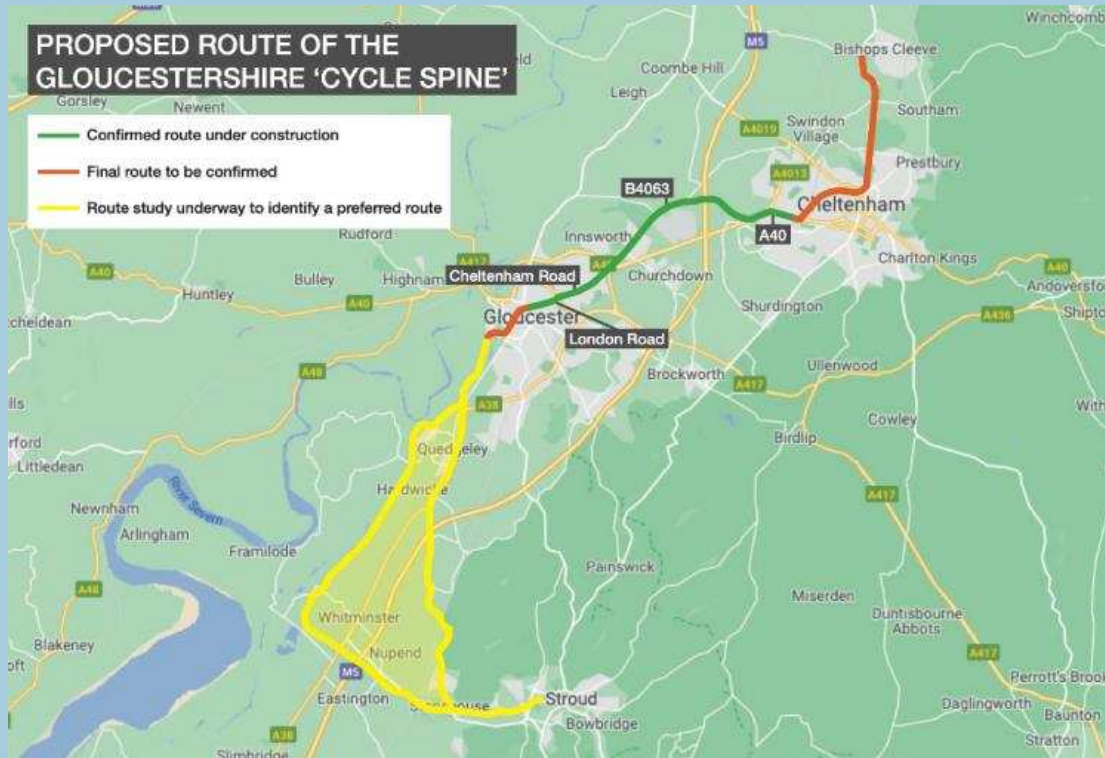


NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK 2023

Alex has supported **apprenticeships in Cheltenham** since being elected. He has hosted Apprenticeship and Training Fairs and has championed Cheltenham's apprentices in Parliament.

To mark National Apprenticeship Week 2023, Alex met with apprentices at **Rolls Royce in Derby** who make reactors that power British submarines.

To watch a video of Alex's visit, please click [HERE](#).



£500,000 OF GOVERNMENT FUNDING TO SUPPORT WALKING AND CYCLING IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Alex helped to secure **£500,000** from the Government's **Active Travel Capability Fund** to provide a cash injection into sustainable and active travel in Gloucestershire.

The funding will be used to construct the **Cheltenham to Bishops Cleeve Cycle Scheme**.

It is expected that the route will extend from the existing Honeybourne Cycle Link at Prince of Wales Stadium and then will link with and broadly follow the A435 corridor.

Alex said: *"Investing in public transport, as well as walking and cycling are crucial to building a cleaner, greener, healthier future. With vision and common sense, a historic opportunity to improve transport in Cheltenham can be seized."*

More information on the scheme is available by clicking [HERE](#)

ADDITIONAL UPDATES

ALSO SINCE THE LAST UPDATE, ALEX HAS:

As Cheltenham's MP:

- Hosted 100+ constituents in Parliament for a **tour and Q&A**
- Held **constituency surgeries** to help constituents with casework, ranging from medical treatment, crime and housing

- Attended the **Sustainability Festival** at Pip and Jim's
- Attended a charity fundraising event for the **The Leukaemia and Intensive Chemotherapy (LINC) Fund**
- Met with Sarah Avery, manager of **Feed Cheltenham**
- Met with Matthew Burke, **Headteacher at St Edward's**
- Met with a **Cheltenham-based nurse**
- Attended **Cheltenham Tigers v Thornbury RFC**
- Met with a constituent to discuss **electricity network issues**
- Met with **University of Gloucestershire International Relations students**
- **Knocked on doors** in Cheltenham
- Met with **Cheltenham based software developers Hinc Ltd** to discuss current projects
- Attended the **Sue Phillips Memorial Concert** at Pip and Jim's

Received briefings from:

- **NHS Gloucestershire**
- **The Golden Valley Development**

WRITTEN PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

Since the last update, Alex has answered 60 **Written Parliamentary Questions** from MPs. Topics raised include Challenger tanks, aircraft carriers and accommodation for troops.

See an example below:

Q. To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, if he will make an assessment of the implications for his policies of the resolution of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe of Friday 27 January 2023 on emergence of lethal autonomous weapons systems and their necessary apprehension through European human rights law.

Alex responded:

"The Ministry of Defence has set out its position on lethal autonomous weapons systems in the Defence AI Strategy and accompanying Ambitious, Safe and Responsible policy paper. The UK does not possess fully autonomous weapons systems and has no intention of developing them. The UK considers that the provisions of international law -

particularly International Humanitarian Law - and existing regulatory frameworks are appropriate to new weapons systems and capabilities.

The UK has been and considered position and continues to take a proactive role in discussions within international fora. The UK is committed to the Group of Government Experts on LAWS under the auspices of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons which is the right forum for taking the debate forward. These are complicated and nuanced issues and given the complexities we need a pragmatic approach based on agreed norms and rules of the road."

IN THE MEDIA

U.K. for tie-up in high-end defence technologies

Defence
The UK is looking for strong relations between India and the U.K. "The UK Mission in India is looking for cooperation in high-end defence technologies, which is an area where we have a comparative advantage," said the minister. "We need to ensure that we are not just a supplier of technology but also a partner in the development of it."

Def Min: Lack of political vision led to weapon import

Defence
The lack of political vision led to the import of weapons from the US, said the defence minister. "We need to have a clear vision of what we want to buy and why we want to buy it. We need to have a clear vision of what we want to buy and why we want to buy it."

'UK committed to jet engine project with India'

Defence
The UK is committed to making its biggest capability transfer in its history as part of the UK-India plan to co-develop a jet engine to Indian specifications, said Alex Chalk, UK minister for defence procurement, on Monday.



UP AND AWAY: Indian Air Force helicopters at the flypast

collaboration UK and India will work on. "We want to do this because we believe in a partnership. But the context is the security context you find yourself in — you have the presence in a difficult backyard of China, which we understand. And that is why we recognise that a strong, independent, sovereign and capable India is essential to preserve its territorial integrity and stand up for international rules-based order," he added.

UK Takes a Relook at Ammo Reserves; Min Bets Big on India

Defence
The UK is taking a relook at its ammunition reserves, says the defence minister. "We need to have a clear vision of what we want to buy and why we want to buy it."



US AIR FORCE'S F-15 JETS MAKE HISTORIC DEBUT AT AERO INDIA

The UK's minister for defence procurement Alex Chalk, who is in a visit to India for an investment summit as well as the Aero India expo, has said that India's growing military capabilities and "unprecedented potential" provide an opportunity to work together to create resilient supply chains.

UP Global Investors Summit: UK to invest in defence, aerospace and medical sectors in Uttar Pradesh

Defence
The UK is looking for strong relations between India and the U.K. "The UK Mission in India is looking for cooperation in high-end defence technologies, which is an area where we have a comparative advantage," said the minister. "We need to ensure that we are not just a supplier of technology but also a partner in the development of it."

British minister Alex Chalk with Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath at UP Global Investors Summit

U.K. for tie-up in high-end defence technologies

Defence
The UK is looking for strong relations between India and the U.K. "The UK Mission in India is looking for cooperation in high-end defence technologies, which is an area where we have a comparative advantage," said the minister. "We need to ensure that we are not just a supplier of technology but also a partner in the development of it."

Minister for Defence Procurement Alex Chalk also pitches for cooperation to supply chain resilience

UK delegation at Aero India commits to 'Create in India' ambition

Defence
The UK delegation at Aero India has committed to partner with India in its journey towards becoming a major player in its defence and security needs. "We need to have a clear vision of what we want to buy and why we want to buy it."

Minister for Defence Procurement Alex Chalk with Indian officials during the inauguration of Aero India 2023

[Media coverage of Alex's trip to India]



We see relationship between the UK and UP absolutely vital: Alex Chalk, UK minister

[Alex was interview on Indian TV whilst in India]

Evening Standard

EVENTS ES MONEY CULTURE INSIDER THE ESCAPIST THE REVELLER THE OPTIMIST COMMENT

NEWS > POLITICS

UK Government committed to building Type 31 frigates as steel is cut on new ship

Defence procurement minister Alex Chalk attended the ceremony to mark the start of work on HMS Active at Rosyth.



[The Evening Standard covered Alex's visit to Rosyth]

Barrow submarines: Third Dreadnought class build starts at BAE



[The BBC covered Alex's visit to Barrow]



[Alex was interviewed on Channel 4 News on anniversary of full-scale invasion of Ukraine]

SINCE THE LAST UPDATE:

Alex's visit to India was covered in the India media, including [The Times of India](#), [The Hindustan Times](#) and [The Indian Express](#). Alex was also interviewed on [Indian TV](#).

Alex's visit to Rosyth was covered by [The Evening Standard](#) and his visit to Barrow was covered by [the BBC](#).

Alex has also written four articles for the **Cheltenham Post and the Gloucestershire Echo**, in which he:

1. Updated readers on his campaign for a **Gloucestershire Cancer Institute** at CGH. Read [HERE](#).
2. Thanked the Government for investing **£10.2m** in a new state-of-the-art orthopaedic theatre and birthing unit at CGH. Read [HERE](#).
3. Highlighted Cheltenham's Cyber and Defence Industries on the world stage. Read [HERE](#).
4. Urged Cheltenham Borough Council to **cut councillor expenses**, not public services. Read [HERE](#).

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD



**SLEEP ROUGH
SO OTHERS
DON'T HAVE TO**

One night can make
a lifetime of difference

FRIDAY 3 MARCH | 7PM - 7AM

**GET INVOLVED
CLICK HERE** >

YMCA CHELTENHAM SLEEP EASY 2023

YMCA Cheltenham is hosting a sponsored outdoor sleep on Friday 3 March to raise vital funds and awareness to support the work YMCA Cheltenham does.

Alex will be taking part again. You can read more [HERE](#).

FAST TRACK YOUR CAREER **APPRENTICESHIP** **OPEN EVENING**

Wednesday 22 March
5.00pm - 8.00pm
Gloucester Campus



GLOS COL APPRENTICESHIP OPEN EVENING

Glos Col are hosting an **Apprenticeship Open Evening** on **Wednesday 22 March** between **5pm - 8pm** at its **Gloucester Campus**.

There will be the opportunity to explore award winning apprenticeships with over 1,000 of Gloucestershire's best businesses in a range of industries, including:

- Business and Professional Services
- Computing
- Catering and Hairdressing
- Dental, Health, Early Years and Education
- Engineering
- Construction
- Mechanics

To register, please click [HERE](#)



UK PARLIAMENT TEACHER AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME

As part of the [UK Parliament Teacher Ambassador Programme](#) the Education and Engagement Service will be hosting the next residential **Teachers' Institute 26-28 June 2023**.

Teachers will experience Parliament first-hand, and then return to their schools to develop understanding of, and increase engagement with, UK Parliament.

Transport, accommodation and meal costs are covered, and applications are welcome from teachers from all phases, school/college leaders and teacher training providers working with young people aged 5-18.

The course includes:

- * Q&A sessions with the Speaker, Lord Speaker and Members of both Houses
- * Talks from subject specialists
- * Workshops devoted to key aspects of the work of UK Parliament
- * Opportunities to explore new and exciting teaching ideas
- * Tours of the Palace of Westminster and the Parliamentary Education Centre

Application forms are available by clicking [HERE](#).



...employing
disabled people
will give me
even more
problems. **SOLVERS!**

ACADEMY OF EMPOWERED EMPLOYERS

Empowered Employers supports organisations in Gloucestershire to consider attitudes and policies that **enable meaningful work opportunities for disabled people, people with mental health challenges and neurodivergent people.**

Empowered Employers are now running a Learning Programme to support employers to make practical adjustments but also challenge assumptions about disability.

The training - which modules include The Equalities Act, Neurodiversity and Mental Health in the Workplace and Workplace Adjustments - **is free of charge.**

For more information, please click [HERE](#).

USEFUL LOCAL CONTACTS

Gloucestershire County Council

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk

01452 425000

Cheltenham Borough Council

www.cheltenham.gov.uk

01242 262626

Age UK Gloucestershire

www.ageuk.org.uk/gloucestershire

01452 422660

Gloucestershire Abuse Support

01452 726570

Citizens Advice Gloucestershire

01452 527202

GRASAC (Gloucestershire Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre)

www.glosrasac.org

01452 305421

Gloucestershire Road Safety Partnership

<https://www.roadsafetyknowledgecentre.org.uk/organisation/organisations-f-h/rskc-organisation-158/>

Gloucestershire Older Drivers Forum

<https://olderdriversforum.com/Gloucestershire/>



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