INTRODUCTION OF THE CADET FORCES COMMISSION

ISSUE

1. The introduction of the Cadet Forces Commission as the sole basis for commissioned service in the Army’s Cadet Forces.

TARGET AUDIENCE

2. All Regular and Reserve personnel, especially those who interact with Cadet Forces (CF).

EXTRACT FOR ROUTINE ORDERS

3. The following announcement is to be included on Unit Orders:

A new Cadet Forces Commission has been authorised by Royal Warrant and will be the only authority for commissioned business in the Army’s Cadet Forces from 1 Dec 17. The Army holds its Cadet Forces in the very highest regard and is proud of the tremendous work they do to develop young people. New commissions are very rare, so it is a mark of Her Majesty’s favour that the dedication of Cadet Force officers is being recognised in this way.

KEY POINTS

4. The Cadet Forces Commission will be:

   a. Introduced on 1 Dec 17. The Cadet Forces Commission will be the sole basis for commissioned service in the Army’s Cadet Forces from 1 Dec 17.

   b. Outside the Reserve Forces Act 1996 (RFA 96) and Armed Forces Act 2006 (AFA 06). Unless they have a Reserve liability, CF officers will not be subject to military disciplinary and administrative procedures, but will be governed by their respective CF regulations.

   c. A Sovereign’s commission appropriate for an MOD sponsored voluntary youth organisation. CF officers retain their commissioned status and will be treated accordingly.

BACKGROUND

5. HM The Queen has approved the creation of the Cadet Forces Commission for CF officers, who dedicate a significant portion of their lives to developing young people in Defence sponsored voluntary youth organisations. The new commission is established under a Royal Warrant and is outside of the RFA 96 and AFA 06. The Army Board has delegated responsibility for the management of the new commission for the Army Cadet Force (ACF) and the Army sections of the Combined Cadet Force (CCF(A)) to GOC Regional Command. The new commission will replace the current Land Forces (LF) Commission (Reserve General List Section B terms of service) for
officers in the ACF and CCF(A) as the sole basis for conducting CF activity. Existing CF officers will be appointed to the Cadet Forces Commission on 1 Dec 17 unless the appointment board has decided otherwise on an individual basis. Thereafter all new CF officers will be appointed to the Cadet Forces Commission.

6. Unless they have a Reserve liability, CF officers appointed to the new commission will not be subject to Service Law, or AGAI 67, but will be governed by ACF or CCF regulations that delegate a greater degree of decision making to senior CF officers. RPOC commanders will be empowered to decide on the most serious cases of misconduct, ill-discipline and poor performance. Where a decision is made to terminate an officer’s commission the single and final appeal will be to GOC RC. Where a CF officer also has a Reserve liability they will retain their LF Commission for service in the Reserves only, remaining subject to Reserve Land Forces Regulations 2016 and Service Law.

7. Once the new commission has been introduced CF officers will no longer be members of the Army Reserve but they will continue to hold commissioned status and be treated accordingly, enjoying access to messes, the receiving of compliments and so on. As is the case now, CF officers will be junior in precedence to Regular and Reserve officers of equivalent rank. Although the new commission is outside RFA 96 and AFA 06 there is no change to CF officers’ authority to lead and direct CF activity and the change in status will not affect the excellent support provided by Army personnel to our CF.

POINT OF CONTACT

8. Further details can be obtained from SO1 Cadets Policy & Plans, Tel: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX), DII: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX