

Event Director

Colonel A P L Dawes

Colonel Andrew Dawes has over 25 years of military service, which includes periods in combat. He is currently Commander South West Region, representing the Army in Wessex. He is also the Joint Military Commander for UK operations across the South West and the Channel Islands during moments of crisis. Most recently, he established a unit to train and prepare defence diplomats and loan service personnel to deploy on overseas assignments working with FCO and foreign armed forces. Previously, he was the global planner in the Australian Joint Operations Command in Canberra, with particular focus on security, stability and defence engagement across the Indo-Pacific region, working closely with US Pacific Command. He has broad experience in Afghanistan, the Middle East, Africa, the Balkans and Central America. He has worked at MoD, UK Permanent Joint HQJHQ, Army HQ and at Task Force, Division, Brigade and Battlegroup levels. Having learnt Arabic, he has also served on the staff of the British Embassy in Cairo. He commanded a regiment on operations in Afghanistan in 2012. He has been mentioned in despatches for gallantry.