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>Her Majesty the Queen has approved the appointment of General Sir David Richards as the new Chief of the Defence Staff. General Richards will take over from the current CDS, Air Chief Marshal Sir Jock Stirrup, in October this year.

>Dr Liam Fox, Secretary of State for Defence, said:

>◆ I am pleased to announce the appointment of the successor to the Chief of the Defence Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Jock Stirrup.◆ General Sir David Richards will take over as CDS in October this year, following the conclusion of the Strategic Defence and Security Review.◆ I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Sir Jock who has provided excellent leadership to the military throughout his time as CDS, and who will undoubtedly continue to do so over the coming months on Afghanistan >and on the SDSR.◆