

The Ministry of Defence's Head Office is to shrink with up to a 25% a reduction in senior civilian and military staff star count over the next two years, the Defence Secretary Philip Hammond announced today.

A new senior structure will be introduced from April 2013 to ensure the Ministry of Defence itself is less top heavy. It is expected to save the MoD around £3.8m a year. Around 26 civilian and military posts at Senior Civil Service level, equivalent of Commodore, Brigadier, Air Commodore or above are set to go.

The new Head Office will focus more on providing strategic direction. It will no longer get involved in the day-to-day management of the front line commands, which will take over responsibility for managing their own budgets.