

Get Active, Get Organised, Get Involved

# Unite Against OMEC

## MGS National Branch

Update 1st June 2021



### Early Day Motion now lodged in parliament criticising OMEC.

What the EDM says:

#### MINISTRY OF DEFENCE GUARD SERVICE

That this House salutes the professionalism and dedication of the Ministry of Defence (MOD) Guard Service, which provides civilian security at most of the UK's largest military bases;

insists that MOD Guard Service (MGS) personnel should be celebrated for their vital contribution to the MOD, and that a culture of teamwork is best fostered through equitable terms and conditions of employment across the workforce;

is concerned that the roll-out of Operational MGS Employment Contracts (OMEC) will see the creation of a two-tier workforce, with newly employed guards working significantly increased hours for less pay, and that the MOD anticipates a 14% reduction of the MGS workforce under OMEC;

is further concerned that OMEC appears to be a step towards privatisation of MGS;

notes that long working hours and fragmented security arrangements have been considered to be contributing factors to fatal security lapses at UK military bases in the past, yet there has been no risk analysis published on the potential impact on health, safety and welfare, nor has any Equal Pay Audit been provided;

insists that the security of military bases is of paramount importance, and that operational changes to this section of the civilian MOD workforce must be achieved through detailed consideration in collaboration with the workforce and trades unions, not through hasty imposition by management;

and urges the Government to support Unite the union's call for the MOD to pause the OMEC roll-out to allow for further dialogue on the proposed contractual changes.

EDM online visit: <https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/58561>

Not yet a member?

Join Unite Online Today:

<https://join.unitetheunion.org/>



@Unite MoDGuards

According to DIO the MGS are the "unsung heroes in defence" for your work during the pandemic.

The creation of a two-tier workforce and the implementation of rosters that will be destructive of health and wellbeing is not a song any of us want to sing along to.

[For More Click Here](#)

OMEC is More for Less in every way... FOR YOU!

More work, less pay; fewer jobs, longer shifts.

We know the MoD have courted the likes of G4S & Serco with a view to outsourcing the MGS. We believe OMEC is the first move toward tee'ing up the MGS for privatisation. All at YOUR expense.

Long hours and fragmented security arrangements have been blamed for fatal security lapses in the past.

Despite repeated requests for impact assessments on safety, equal pay and serious concerns about breaches of the Working Time Directive, nothing meaningful has been shared.

Unite, one of the RECOGNISED TRADES UNIONS for MGS workers is demanding that OMEC be paused to allow for full scrutiny and renegotiation.

Protect The MoD  
Guards

They Protect  
You



# OMECE

Bad for your health, Bad for work/life balance,  
Bad for Pay & Bad for the Service



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For more info on why OMECE is Bad for your health, Bad for work/life balance, Bad for Pay & Bad for the Service visit:  
<https://www.unitetheunion.org/campaigns/protect-the-mod-guards/>

## Latest Update on why OMECE is bad for pay

In a very recent communication the following was stated by MGS management: "I am writing to inform you that due to the new incorporation of OMECE and new personnel joining our team, I now have to look at the shift working roster to enable us to accommodate the different working tacos for all"

### Unite's Response

Many of our members have been led to believe that that OMECE would not impact on current non-OMECE officers. This latest communication suggests changes to any or all current working patterns could be near. The working patterns we have seen so far, rely heavily on plain-rate OMECE staff covering weekends rather than core Mon-Fri hrs. This will of course have a direct impact upon the pay of non-OMECE staff.

Unite are firmly of the view that this situation is NOT of the making of any new OMECE guards. New guards starting on OMECE contracts are being subject to inferior Ts&Cs of employment.

Please ensure you lay the blame for the current situation at the door of MGS management and not any OMECE guards.

## Latest Update on why OMECE is bad for the service

We can now confirm that included in the OMECE proposals is a forecast reduction of the overall workforce by between 14% & 20%. As can be seen we have had this figure included in the EDM.

## Get Active, Get Involved

We need all MGS members and workers to get active and get involved in this campaign. We will shortly be closing the Unite Against OMECE survey. If you have not yet completed it please take 5 minutes to do this today. [Click Here Now to take the survey.](#)

## Unite MGS National Branch

Your Branch Reps are employed by the MGS, lace up their boots and do a shift, the same as you do, and spend many hours every week defending and advancing the interests of members.

**Unite is one of the recognised trade unions within the MGS.** Your branch Reps are at the table continually arguing for the interests of members and workers.

However, being a recognised trade union with any employer does not solve all problems. Sure, recognition is important. But what is far more important is having a well resourced, fighting back, trade union that will support members and workers to organise themselves to defend and advance their interests at work.

Real power at work comes from high union membership density and high participation in trade union activity.

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