

A large, stylized orange chevron pointing to the right, serving as a background for the text.

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Perspectives

Video Transcript

Jon Thompson,
Permanent Secretary of
the UK Ministry of
Defence

"We do a structured analysis of the threats to the United Kingdom and the threats to the interests of the United Kingdom abroad and we run a schedule of operational scenarios and so where might the military get involved in an operation, fifty seven of them or thereabouts and then given, that resources are limited you then have to ruthlessly prioritise all the time.

Well we have an incredibly diverse

workforce. We have just about every profession you could ever think of,

You just have to have an integrated team that looks at the problems, from wherever it is and comes up with a solution. Well I suppose I am coming at the problems that we got by thinking of them through the lens of a finance director, because one of the fundamental problems of the MOD when I joined the MOD in 2009, was that it was financially not exactly an exemplar of how you should do it, so initially you look at it through any normal business lens. What is the business plan?

How do you get that delivered and implemented and it is just like any standard business methodology and

we have adopted that on a grand scale for the MOD and I suppose the time that I spent working in a professional services organization meant that when I came to problems working in the Ministry of Defence, I had that great wealth of experience as to how different people approach those problems. You are not sort of fixed in thinking there is only one way to do it, there are multiple ways of doing it, you just need to get the right advice and experience to help you solve the problems....."