



Background

Aspire is launching a low-risk military capability sustainment initiative. The Defence sector is seeing a significant increase in the numbers, value and complexity of Urgent Operational Requirements (UOR).

This need to rapidly obtain new equipment often leads to critical Support issues being overlooked and significant capability shortfall.

Aspire provides a Support Solution for UOR equipment in an affordable and timely manner.

The Need for UORs

The UOR process is utilised because it is significantly less bureaucratic than full conventional procurement approaches (e.g. UK MoD SMART procurement).

There have also been suggestions within the UK MoD that the UOR approach could be used as the basis for a new procurement strategy to replace, at least in part, the present approach.

The UoR Problem

There are issues with the procurement of UORs. The desire to obtain new equipment rapidly often leads to critical Support issues being overlooked and this can have a significant detrimental impact. For example, military capability may be constrained with increased and potentially unsustainable pressure placed on the Support infrastructure inadvertently.

Issues which may arise include:

- Insufficient Spares
- Increased Supply Chain complexity due to the proliferations of unique Support arrangements
- Impacts on Maintenance Manpower
- Difficulty of Repair (e.g. Poor or no training, poor technical documentation, documentation not maintained, etc.)
- Integration issues with present systems (e.g. weight, volume, power budget issues, etc.)
- Lack of formal feedback systems
- Responsibilities not defined

For More Information about the Aspire UOR Support methodology please **CONTACT US**. We will arrange for a Subject-Matter-Expert to talk to you.

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The Argument

The argument against addressing these Support issues is that they cannot be addressed in the time available and that due to the limited planned life of the system, they do not justify the necessary investment in time and money. This way of thinking is reinforced because the impacts of any such shortfalls are often not fully appreciated by the customer or the procuring authorities and because the impacts will often be delayed.

Aspire UOR Solution

The Aspire UOR Support methodology aims to address these issues by creating a comprehensive, carefully tailored, Support Policy Statement (SPS) for UOR equipment in an affordable and timely manner.

The approach recognises that it will not be practicable to resolve all the Support issues associated with a UOR, but it is possible to identify and to document those issues so that mitigating actions can be taken in the short term and, if appropriate, the issues can be addressed more comprehensively in the long term.

The approach, which is based on an existing, robust methodology, will enable past mistakes and problems to be formally identified and logged and, in some instances, it will enable those mistakes and problems to be avoided for the new procurement.

The Aspire UOR approach is both pragmatic and innovative; it is in essence a structure for applying consistent, justified and auditable common sense.

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The approach is 'accessible' in that its purpose, the approach itself and the underlying logic are all readily apparent and understandable to the non-specialist.

The approach also has the benefit of being flexible and scalable, that is it can be readily adaptable to meet the needs of a wide range of programmes, ranging from the very simple to the very complex.

The primary output of the Aspire UOR Support methodology is a high quality Support Policy Statement (SPS). The UOR SPS is comprised of four categories of information:

- ❑ General Project and System Information
- ❑ The Proposed Employment Plan (Overview of the Operational Context and the proposed manner of use)
- ❑ Support Policy and Organisation (Description of overarching Support policy for the equipment and supporting organisations and their roles and responsibilities)
- ❑ The Equipment Support Plan (Breakdown of equipment into key components and a description of the Support Policy for each)

