



**ROLY COCKWELL**

OBE MA MSc CGeog(GIS) FInstRE

Roly Cockwell joined the Civil Service in 2023 to serve as Head of Technology and CIO for the UK's National Centre for Geospatial Intelligence (NCGI). He is responsible for the information systems and data platforms that underpin the national imagery intelligence capability, the production of assured geographic and aeronautical information for Defence, and deployable military geographic capability.

He is a retired Army Colonel with more than 20 years of experience in Defence geospatial intelligence and information systems. From 2019 to 2023 he was MOD's Joint User for Geospatial Intelligence with responsibilities including national GEOINT policy, requirements management, international engagement, and direction of Defence's GEOINT capability development programme. Prior appointments include ACOS J5 Plans for Joint Forces Intelligence Group; Commander Royal Engineers (Geographic); and leadership of the Centre for Intelligence Innovation.

He has a first class degree in Engineering, Masters degrees in information systems design and geospatial information, and experience including operations in Northern Ireland, the Balkans and Afghanistan. He was appointed as an MBE in 2007 for service in Afghanistan, and as an OBE in 2023 for his work as GEOINT Joint User.

Roly is married to Anine, with whom he shares two adult children and a small menagerie of other animals. He is a keen cyclist and canoe sailor, and a lapsed runner, mountaineer and skier.