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## Welcome to the June edition of the DGP Newsletter!

It has been a busy three months in role, and this month more engagement and progress were underway around the DGP. Last month saw the appointment of Penny Mordaunt, Secretary of State for Defence. One of her first speeches since assuming the role was at the Sea Power Conference 2019, where she acknowledged Defence must sit at the heart of the prosperity agenda and a key part of this will be 'improving the relationship between industry and Government'.

Planning for DSEI has ramped up this month with stand designs confirmed and work ongoing to develop the DGP key messages and showcase the Team UK approach, which sees a partnership between UK Government, Defence Industry and Academia working together to deliver the very best defence solutions. At DSEI the emphasis will be on international collaboration, innovation and partnerships.

The Skills Group have also developed a survey to ascertain the demand and priorities for digital skills within the Defence sector, with DPG companies fully engaged. I look forward to attending the next Skills Workshop in June to discuss the survey output and developing plans for the next phase.

DGP is actively supporting the Women in Defence Charter. The team attended the working group this month which outlined progress to date in establishing the charter and the next steps with regards to governance, launch and signing up.

On behalf of the DGP, Richard McKie DGP Programme Director, also attended the first Catapult Defence Strategy group workshop in June. This provided the opportunity to give an overview of the DGP and to understand how we could best work together and collaborate on strategy going forward. We need to work closely with the Catapults to build relationships with growth partnerships in adjacent sectors and to support the sharing of good ideas and best practice going forward.

### Monthly Progress Update

### Value Chain Competitiveness

An overview of the Value Chain Improvement Framework was given at the DGP Operations Board meeting to confirm delivery of the improvement package offering for Defence suppliers. From discussion, it was agreed that the way forward would be to commence a VCC working group and look to broaden the scope of activity for the workstream.

### Monthly Progress Update

### Skills

A survey is underway of all the member organisations to assess the demand and priorities for digital skills within our sector, focussing on both technical skills and the 'soft' or 'enabling' skills required for effective performance in a digital environment. The output of this exercise will be brought together in a workshop on 26<sup>th</sup> June in order to develop a plan to deliver the required development interventions to prepare our workforce for new and future technologies. This will be presented to the Steering Board on the 11<sup>th</sup> July along with a proposal on the work to take forward.

The UKDSC had multiple engagements both nationally and internationally. Planning continued on DSEI 2019 with strong support right across the DGP enterprise for this important event. Activity to position the UKDSC for launching the Defence Suppliers Forum – Capability Management Innovation and International (DSF CMI&I) pathfinders was completed and I look forward to further reporting on these activities as they represent a material change in our approach to capability development across industry and HMG. The enthusiasm and support from all stakeholders for this activity was very pleasing to see.

### **Market Intelligence Cell:**

The Market Intelligence Cell (MIC) has been recognised for establishing world-class expertise in managing data on export markets and will now seek to determine how it might apply its skills to collect and aggregate economic data from across the defence sector.

### **Strategy:**

Planning for DSEI 2019 continues to advance, with development of the capability stories progressing well. Close engagement is ongoing with DIT-DSO to determine the plan for delegations visiting the show.

The UKDSC Strategy Team is working with industry members to highlight areas of support services capability provided by industry in the UK defence market. Initial dialogue points to multiple examples across equipment sustainment and modernisation, complex infrastructure management and training services. Further engagement with industry will seek to mature a comprehensive articulation of the UK capability offer in these areas, as well as develop market intelligence.

### **Innovation:**

UKDSC hosted the Initial DSF CMI&I Workstrand 2 workshops, these were held in Farnborough on 4th and 6th June. The next stage of the process will be to hold bilateral engagements to discuss capabilities and investment plans, these will be completed by 28th June. The MIC is conducting a parallel exercise in support, providing an international market and competitor analyses in those domains. The next provisional date for the collaborative workshop is being planned for 28th August in Farnborough.

For more information and the latest updates, visit the [UKDSC Website](#).

May has been a busy month for us as we continue working on our country strategies. We continue to report on individual strategy progress at the monthly DGP Operations Board. This month has seen the departure of a member of the sDSO team.

For more information and the latest updates, visit the [DIT-DSO Website](#).