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

With the recent Cabinet appointments, there are new Ministers in post at the Ministry of Defence, the Department for International Trade and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. I have welcomed them in their new roles and look forward to working with them to build upon the momentum across the Defence Growth Partnership (DGP). With Defence & Security Equipment International (DSEI) only a month away, there is an urgency to get everyone up to speed and supporting Team UK at this event.

The Steering Committee met in late July, we reviewed progress on the various workstreams and activities across the DGP, the issues and challenges facing us today and to look at priorities and objectives in the future. We have made good progress on several initiatives; the development of the Joint Economic Data Hub (JEDHub), Local/Regional defence engagement and establishing a collective approach and direction for the Digital Skills initiative and also the 'How to Framework' under the Value Chain Competitiveness initiative. The approach to strengthen engagement with the Defence & Security Organisation through sharing of

knowledge and experience is welcomed, this will further enhance the opportunity for Team UK to secure new business in a highly competitive and uncertain international defence environment. Important for us all is to maintain momentum in the DGP, to increase the pace of our activity and encourage further investment from across the DGP community. We will firm up on the date for a Steering Committee workshop in the coming weeks with the intent to reconfirm and/or refresh our aims, objectives and future ambitions for the Defence Growth Partnership.

The planning process is in full swing for the DGP's 'Team UK' presence at this year's DSEI, which takes place from 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> September 2019. The Team UK approach sees a partnership between Government, the Defence Industry and Academia working together to deliver the very best defence solutions for our International partners.

Capability themes for DSEI have been developed in conjunction with the DGP community and UKDSC to showcase the technology, expertise and innovation across the UK Defence sector. These will enable Team UK to articulate what the DGP has to offer, with regards to building long-term relationships and collaboration in Defence. We will have engagement with overseas delegations, alongside a DGP Skills Event and launching the Women in Defence Charter on our stand. There will be more information on these as we progress towards the show. I look forward to welcoming you to the Team UK stand (S10-440) next month!

Thank you for your continued support.

### Monthly Progress Update

### Value Chain Competitiveness

Rolls-Royce presented the work on the Value Chain Competitiveness (VCC) Improvement Framework at the DGP Steering Committee. It was agreed by all that this was a very valuable piece of work by the Rolls-Royce team and, following any final minor updates, it would then be finalised and made available to all DGP members for them to use within their supply chains as they wish. The DGP Operations Board will also convene a workshop to consider the next steps, the wider landscape of supply chain improvement applications that are now available to the SME community and other initiatives the group can be involved with.

### Monthly Progress Update

### Skills

The output from the recent skills survey across the DGP Partners was presented to the Steering Board for information and approval to proceed. A number of options as to the approach to be taken to upskilling and reskilling the defence sector workforce were discussed and a solution agreed, which is designed to be pragmatic and have early impact. This will include collaborating with other initiatives where appropriate. The Skills Group are now creating workstreams to address this demand.

With the formal opening of DSEI now less than a month away, a significant amount of effort has been devoted to this major event during July and indeed over the last few months. As part of our broader DSEI preparations, we've also taken the opportunity to refresh our UKDSC Strategy document as well as updating the UKDSC website, which will contain a number of new features and links to specific areas of interest.

### **Market Intelligence Cell (MIC)**

During the last month the Market Intelligence team hosted 9 visits from Government, Industry teams and individuals that will be used to further inform, evaluate and refine activities through to the end of the calendar year. The MIC continues to develop the global market assessment to underpin high-priority capability themes. In parallel, the team has instigated a wider regional strategy approach and is exploring the alignment of capability needs. It is also developing its own Market Environment Assessment ahead of DSEI 2019. The concept for the Joint Economic Data Hub (JEDHub) is maturing.

### **Strategy**

The Capability Team continues to develop relationships in strategic markets, with a number of international visits undertaken in the period. The team has also been leading a series of exercises with industry and the Royal Navy (RN), collaborating on potential future requirements and how UK industry can support the RN longer-term Capability needs.

DSEI preparation continues apace, which will see several of our Capability leads fronting the DGP Team UK stand. In collaboration with DIT-DSO representatives, the aim is to host multiple international delegations with a view to providing specific Capability updates, Team UK overview and to emphasise the importance of international collaboration.

### **Innovation**

The Innovation team is close to finalising its outputs for the initial DSF CMI&I work package related to the UK Defence Capability development and are due to produce a draft outcomes paper by end of August. On a related front, work has also continued on developing UKDSC's investment analysis capability, whilst Cranfield has initiated a complimentary piece of work which assesses global innovation best practices. On the Cross-Sector Innovation (CSI) front, a final workshop has been held with the Oil and Gas companies, led by OGTC, to help progress potential CSI challenges during the latter part of 2019.

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

July 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 and specifically for this month, the DSO Industry Liaison Board (DILB). We also said goodbye to a member of the sDSO team.

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