



Ministry
of Defence

Defence
Suppliers Forum

Defence Suppliers Forum Newsletter



April 2021

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DSF Main Meeting

A DSF Main meeting, chaired by Secretary of State and Charles Woodburn, Chief Executive BAE Systems, was held on 23 March following the release of the Integrated Review, Defence Command Paper and the Defence and Security Industrial Strategy. Min(DP) was also in attendance alongside senior representatives from across the DSF.

The minutes of this meeting can be found [here](#).

Integrated Review and Command Paper

The [Integrated Review](#) was launched on 16 March and sets out a vision for Global Britain and new framework that defines the UK's national security and international objectives.

Defence plays a vital part in delivering that vision and on 22 March, the Defence Secretary announced the publication of '[Defence in a Competitive Age](#)', which sets out how Defence will transform to counter deepening threats and seize opportunities to achieve those goals.

At the heart of MOD's approach is the development of an integrated high-tech force across sea, land, air, space and cyber that is persistently engaged to compete, collaborate, and respond to the challenges we face.

In order to do this, MOD will invest an additional £24 billion over the next four years to reform and renew the Armed Forces and at least £6.6 billion of investment in accelerated Research and Development will deliver next generation

Recent meetings

- 23 Mar – Commercial Working Group
- 24 Mar – Digital Steering Group
- 25 Mar - Commercial Enterprise and Acquisition Steering Group
- 14 Apr – Executive Group Communications Forum

Upcoming meetings

- 22 Apr – Commercial Enterprise and Acquisition Steering Group
- 26 Apr - Capability Management, International and Innovation Group
- 28 Apr – SME Working Group
- 10 May – Digital Steering Group
- 11 May – Commercial Working Group

capabilities to outpace our adversaries, and give us a decisive edge, as a global Science and Technology power.

MOD will also invest in game-changing technologies, including in cyber and space, to ensure we stay world leading, and will retire those “sunset” capabilities that will be less relevant or effective against future threats. MOD's commitment to rapid modernisation, shipbuilding, and accelerated R&D will drive strategic advantage and create new foundations for prosperity across the whole UK.

Defence and Security Industrial Strategy

The publication of the new [Defence and Security Industrial Strategy \(DSIS\)](#) on 23 March establishes a more productive and

strategic relationship between government and the defence and security industries.

DSIS is the framework for delivering the strategic and operational capabilities set out in the Defence Command Paper and exploiting technological opportunities while supporting growth and investment in the UK.

It ensures the UK continues to have competitive, innovative and world-class defence and security industries. MOD looks forward to working with industry colleagues to deliver on this ambition, including to drive innovation and improvements in productivity, efficiency and strengthen the resilience of the sectors.

Climate Change and Sustainability

Climate change is a threat which affects us all, in every region of the world and in every part of society. Defence recognises the impact and how we must all work together to address it.

MOD published its [Climate Change and Sustainability Strategic Approach](#) on 30 March. The report sets out the ambition, the principles and the methods needed for UK Defence to meet the challenge of climate change. The Approach seeks to inspire all those in and connected to defence through three interlocking ambitions, set around adaptation and resilience, sustainability and net zero, and global leadership.

To support the ambitions of the Strategic Approach, the DSF are making good progress in setting up the DSF Climate Change and Sustainability Steering Group and lead Trade Association ADS have now reached out to Industry for membership nominations.

Capability Priorities Collaboration Process (CPCP) Pilot

The first iteration of the DSF CMII CPCP pilot, referred to as Vehicle & Operational Infrastructure Powerplant (VOIP), concluded last month with the completion of its final deliverable; the submission of the outcomes report to Army Headquarters Capability Ground Manoeuvre on 31st March 2021.

The DSF CMII had tasked the UKDSC with convening HMG and Industry partners to explore the alignment between MOD capability requirements, UK industrial capability, export opportunities and international competition (often referred to as the ‘three lenses’) for priority capabilities. These ‘three lenses’ form the main sections of the outcomes paper.

Lens 1 ‘MOD Capability Requirements’ discusses HMG’s net-zero 2050 goal and how investment is shifting to align with these goals; from fossil fuel reliant technology to sustainable technologies. It also details how such sustainable technologies could deliver enhanced military capability and describes Army HQ’s Battlefield Electrification Strategy (Figure 1), which is being developed to map out how to meet the net-zero 2050 challenge.

Lens 2 provides an explanation from the results of the assessment of UK industrial capability and capacity. These results were based on primary sources in the form of an online questionnaire and company/Army bilateral discussions supplemented by secondary sources from background research.

Lens 2 also covers the Defence Lines of Development (DLODs) considerations which accompany the transition from fossil fuel powered propulsion to low-carbon propulsion.

Lens 3 is a market analysis activity assessing the potential global accessible

market for in scope wheeled vehicles which would be in-service by 2035 and the potential opportunities for UK industry.

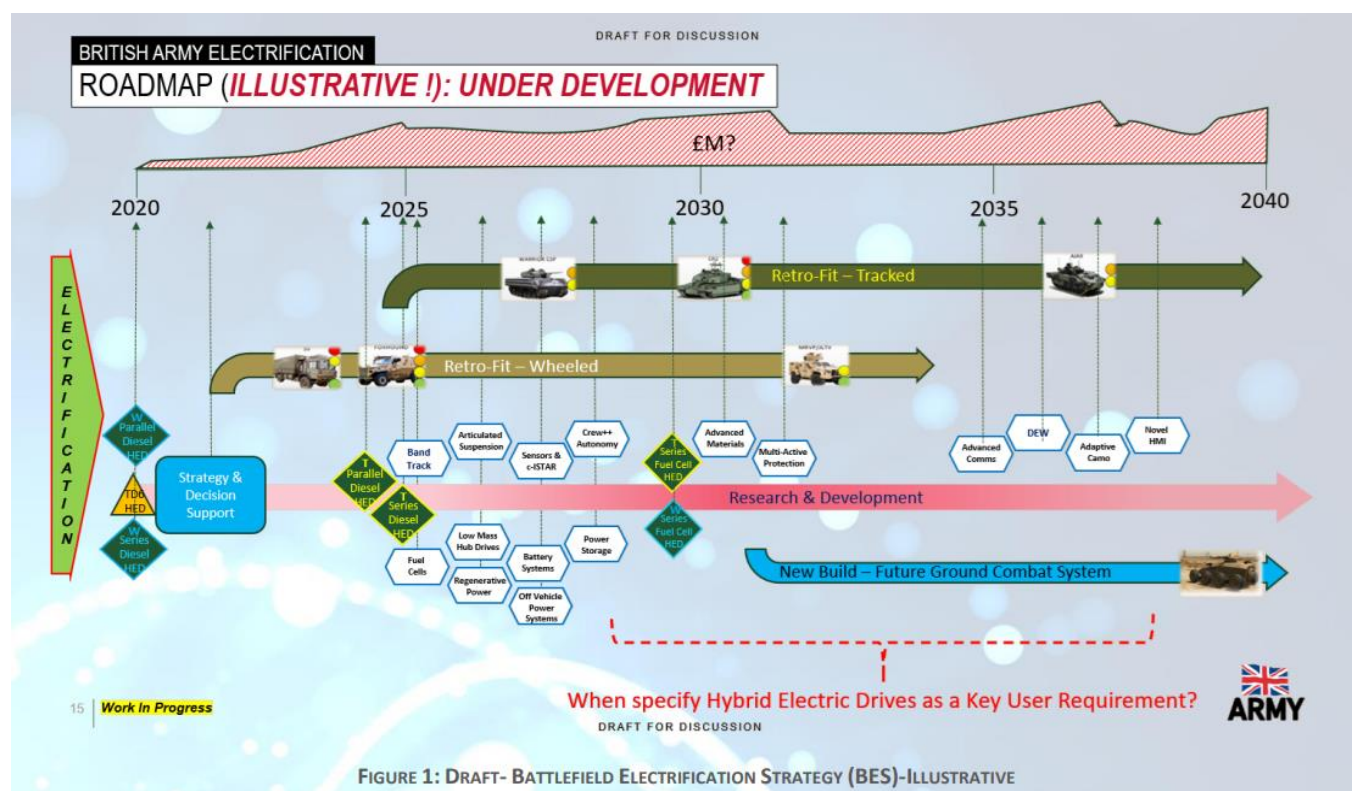
It is an independent assessment across several categories including the global market to 2030, global fleet comparison with UK platforms and an assessment of several countries' industrial aspirations in HEV/BEV to 2035.

The report also includes an industrial alignment analysis, which provides an overview of the 12 technology families within the VOIP challenge and the developed taxonomy.

This analysis of the technology areas is across four aspects: academic literature trends, inventions from patents, UK high-growth investment market and the global investment market.

The report presents a series of recommendations for consideration which form the key outcomes of this project and will inform the work the Army is conducting on the electrification of the battlefield.

Figure 1



About the Defence Suppliers Forum

The Defence Suppliers Forum (DSF) enables strategic engagement between Government and the Defence Industry to facilitate the effective sharing of information, aligning our objectives and optimising the delivery of Defence capability from the Defence budget.

Within the Defence landscape we expect the future to bring continued and significant change, including in technology, military doctrine, and the economic environment. The Joint Industry 2025 Vision recognises that there is a need for improved pace and agility and for the joint approach to defence capability to be markedly different. The DSF is central to delivering the Joint Vision and its work therefore aims to create a more collaborative, but also demanding approach to MOD's relationship with Industry in order to deliver more within the funding envelope.

The DSF is co-chaired by the Right Honourable Ben Wallace MP, Secretary of State for Defence, and Charles Woodburn, Chief Executive BAES. Across the DSF groups membership includes senior officials from MOD and other government departments and representatives from MOD's strategic and mid-tier suppliers, as well as small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). This monthly newsletter provides an overview of the key discussions and outputs from the various DSF groups.

