



25-26 MARCH 2026

FARNBOROUGH INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION & CONFERENCE CENTRE

# Pre-Planner

# Day 1

## KEYNOTE ARENA

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**KUEHNE+NAGEL**

Welcome from the Meeting Chair  
10.20 – 10.30 **Jacqueline Pickard de Hagerty**, Director of Consulting Services, Women Empowering Defence

10.30 – 10.45 **Ministerial Address**  
**Luke Pollard MP**, Minister for Defence Readiness and Industry

10.50 – 11.25 **The Role of the National Armaments Directorate Group**  
**Rupert Pearce**, UK National Armaments Director, MOD

12.00 – 12.35 **Implementing DIS: What Does Mutual Success Look Like?**  
**Jim Carter**, Director General Commercial and Industry, MOD  
**Andrew Kinniburgh**, Director General, MakeUK  
**Phil Waterhouse**, Group Corporate Affairs Director, ACPL Group  
**Tony Reeves**, Chairman and Founder, MAIAR

13.00 – 13.35 **Marc Priestly – From Pitlane to Procurement – F1 Insights to Drive Innovation**  
**Marc Priestly**, Former Senior Mechanic – McLaren F1 Team

13.40 – 14.15 **PANEL: Financing the Future of Defence**  
**Lisa Quest**, Partner, Head of UK&I, Co-Head of Government and Public Institutions, Oliver Wyman  
**John Godfrey**, Managing Director for Public Affairs, Policy and Research, The City UK  
**Sherin Aminossehe**, Director of Growth and Missions, MOD  
**Kevin Craven**, CEO, ADS Group

14.20 – 14.55 **MOD Keynote – Engaging with the UK Defence Supply Chain**

15.00 – 15.35 **PANEL: AI & Autonomy: Procurement & Effect in the Digital Era**  
**Victoria Cape**, Commercial Director, MOD Defence Digital  
**Dr Annie Iakovaki**, Head of Industrial Supply Chains, Digital Catapult  
**David Kershaw**, Founder & Managing Director, Posterity Global

Agendas Subject to Change

## INNOVATION AND FUTURE DEFENCE TECHNOLOGIES ZONE

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10.25 – 11.00 **Delivering the Ambition of an Uncrewed Systems Centre for the UK**  
**Simon Levy**, Head of Strategic Military & Industry Engagement, ADS Group  
**Brigadier Stu Nasse**, Head, Capability Coalition, British Army

11.30 – 12.10 **PANEL: Integrating AI Across Defence Procurement – From Data to Decision Advantage**  
**Steven Wood**, Head of Aerospace, Defence & Security, Digital Catapult  
**David Kershaw**, Founder & Managing Director, Posterity Global

12.15 – 12.40 **UKDI Demand Signals to Industry and Academia**  
**James Gavin**, Deputy Director, UK Defence Innovation & Head of Technology Transition, UKDI  
**Helen O'Rourke**, Programme Manager, North West Regional Defence & Security Cluster

12.45 – 13.20 **PANEL: Recent Conflict: What it Teaches us About Procurement and Resilience at Pace (Sponsored by DELL)**  
Panel Members TBC

13.25 – 13.50 **Delivering Digital Advantage**  
**Jeremy Wimble**, Programme Manager, Defence, Tech UK

13.55 – 14.20 **Meeting Defence and Government's Secure by Design Needs Within the Supply Chain**  
**Stewart Woods**, Cyber CTO, Thales UK

14.25 – 14.50 **Driving T&E Transformation through the T&E Marketplace**  
**Caroline Kelly**, Asst Head of Future Technology, MOD T&E

14.55 – 15.30 **PANEL: Neutral Vendor Framework for Innovation**  
**Edward Cassels**, General Counsel & Commercial Director, Arondite  
**David Taylor**, Non Executive Director, Constellia  
**Verity White**, Head of Defence, Constellia

## INFRASTRUCTURE & ESTATES ZONE

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11.10 – 11.45 **PANEL: DIO Strategic Supplier Relationship Management**  
**Claire Benham**, Commercial Director, DIO  
Other Panel Members TBC

11.50 – 12.15 **Securing the Backbone of Defence: Cyber Resilience for Operational Technology**  
**Suzanne Wharton**, Principal OT Cyber Security Consultant, Jacobs

12.20 – 12.55 **PANEL: Realising the Ambitions of the Strategic Defence Review – Industry Reflections (Sponsored by Gleeds)**  
**Suzanne Tearle**, Head of Defence, Gleeds  
Other Panel Members TBC

13.00 – 13.25 **Beyond the Battlefield: Why Infrastructure is Critical for Defence Readiness**  
**Jayne Dale**, Business Development Director, Arcadis  
**Ben Hawkins**, Security Sub Sector Leader, Arcadis

13.30 – 13.55 **MOD Infrastructure Following SDR and Defence Reform**  
**Major General Andy Sturrock**, Strategy & Plans Director, DIO

14.00 – 14.35 **The Evolving Role of the Defence Estate: Supporting Sustainability, Security and Operational Readiness**  
**John Hansford**, Principal Advisory Account Lead, Defence, Mott MacDonald  
**Pete Quaite**, Head of Infrastructure Plans, British Army

14.40 – 15.05 **Defence Housing Strategy**  
**Karen Houston**, Commercial Defence Housing Head, DIO

## SUPPLY CHAIN & MARKET ENGAGEMENT ZONE

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10.40 – 11.05 **Working with Primes**  
**Simon Stimson**, Senior Procurement Manager, MBDA

11.40 – 12.05 **Financial Resilience in Defence Supply Chains: Optimising Working Capital and Growth Strategies**  
**Aimie Stone**, Chief Economist, ADS Group

12.40 – 13.05 **Accessing Defence Sector Opportunities with DCI**  
**John Rodigan**, Business Development Manager, DCI

13.10 – 13.35 **How Commercial Sector Agility and Resilience Can Bridge Critical Gaps in Defence Capability**  
**Jim Hartshorne**, Managing Director, Commercial, Unipart

13.40 – 14.05 **Hardening MOD's Supply Chain Cyber Security**  
**Phil Blunden**, CyDR Engagement Manager, MOD

14.10 – 14.35 **SCRIPT and the Origin Secured Pilot for DEFCON Automation**  
**Fiona Cowan**, MOD SCRIPT-TL

14.40 – 15.05 **7 Things Organisations Can Do to Alleviate Sustainable Pressures in their Supply Chains**  
**Ian Schollar**, Head of Teaching, Learning and Quality, CIPS

## COMMERCIAL TRANSFORMATION ZONE

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11.05 – 11.30 **Applying Commercial Excellence to Defence: Smarter, Faster, Value-Focused**  
**Melaye Ras-Work**, CEO, Efficio  
**Samantha Bromiley**, Customer Delivery Director, Defence Commercial and Industry

11.35 – 12.10 **PANEL: Defence Workers: The Next Generation (Sponsored by Manpower/Experis)**  
**Jo Osburn-Hughes**, Human Resources Director, MOD DE&S  
**Michael Noone**, Head of Experis Academy UK (ManpowerGroup), Manpower/Experis

12.45 – 13.10 **Delivering Defence Differently: New Procurement Models in Practice**  
**Helen Bates**, Commercial Director, DE&S

13.15 – 13.50 **PANEL: Bidding Successfully in the New Commercial Environment**  
**Peter Coyle**, CEO, Bid Masters  
**Brad Hayward**, Sales Director, Marlborough Communications  
**Andrew Butler**, Defence & Security Managing Consultant, MOD  
**Charlotte Davies**, Head of Defence Commercial, ADS Group (Moderator)

14.25 – 14.50 **Designed for Disruption: Transforming how the MOD Buys Innovation**  
Representative TBC

14.55 – 15.30 **PANEL: Fixing Defence Procurement: Delivering Pace, Productivity and Value (Sponsored by CTS Logistics)**  
**Helen Bates**, Commercial Director, DE&S (MOD)  
**Pina Palermo**, Commercial Director, Qinetiq  
**Charlotte Davies**, Head of Defence Commercial, ADS Group

Agendas Subject to Change

## UK DEFENCE INDUSTRY GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT ZONE

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11.20 – 11.55 **PANEL: Regional Growth Deals**  
**Fred Thomas**, MP, Member of the Defence Select Committee  
**Samira Braund**, Defence Director, ADS (Moderator)  
**Calum Taylor**, Deputy Head of Growth and Place, MOD

12.00 – 12.35 **Regional Defence Clusters: Building Stronger, More Diverse Supply Chains**  
Representative TBC

13.10 – 13.35 **From Strategy to Supply Chain: Translating the DIS into Action**  
**Ben English**, Chief of Staff, Defence Industrial Strategy

13.40 – 14.05 **PANEL: From Strategy to Delivery: Making Defence an Engine for UK Growth (Sponsored by Willmott Dixon Construction)**  
**Keith Yarham**, National Sector Lead for Defence, Willmott Dixon  
Other Panel Members TBC

14.10 – 14.35 **UK Defence – A True Engine for Growth?**  
**Andrew Kinniburgh**, Director General, Make UK

14.40 – 15.05 **Resilience by Design: Delivering the Defence Industrial Strategy with Industry**  
**Emma Baker**, Defence Policy Adviser, ADS Group

## INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION & EXPORTING ZONE

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10.50 – 11.15 **Exporting Capability: Global Opportunities for the UK Defence Industry**  
**Lt Col Andrew Teeton**, Military Advisor Counter-Explosive Ordnance & CBRN, UK Defence & Security Exports

11.20 – 11.45 **How IC&E can help SMEs Export**  
**David Woodbridge**, SME Engagement Team Leader, IC&E/MOD

11.50 – 12.25 **Wider Opportunities to Export in the Submarine Space and the Role of UKDE**  
Representative TBC

13.30 – 13.55 **Connecting Strategy to Supply: UK-Japan Defence Cooperation and the Future of Industrial Integration**  
**Keziah Morley**, Defence Exports Senior Desk Officer - Japan, Department for Business & Trade  
**Rachel Dowling**, Head of Government Affairs, Astroscale

14.30 – 15.05 **Maritime Security and Supply Chain Resilience: UK-Denmark Defence Cooperation**  
**Marcus Salomon**, Principal Adviser for Defence Industry, Royal Danish Embassy in London  
**Frederik Søndergaard Hansen**, Founder & CEO, Stormborn

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# Day 2

## KEYNOTE ARENA

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10.20 – Welcome from the Meeting Chair  
10.30 Tara Zammit, Women in Defence

10.30 – MOD Keynote – Developments within International Collaboration and Exports (IC+E)  
10.45 MOD Representative

10.50 – Are We Ready? Lessons from The Wargame Podcast  
11.25 Deborah Haynes, Security and Defence Editor, Sky News

11.30 – PANEL: Building a Resilient and Secure Defence Supply Chain  
12.05 Samira Braund, Defence Director, ADS Group

11.30 – Trevor Taylor, Independent Defence and Security Consultant, RUSI  
12.05 Professor Luke Butler, Professor of Public Procurement Law and Regulations, University of Nottingham

13.00 – Wargames Interactive Feature  
13.45 Deborah Haynes, Security and Defence Editor, Sky News

13.15 – PANEL: From Conflict to Capability: Lessons from Ukraine for UK Defence and Industry  
13.40 Denis Demko, Economic Secretary, Embassy of Ukraine in the United Kingdom

14.50 – Andrii Romanchuk, Senior Partner, Eucon Legal Group  
14.25 Kateryna Chernohorenko, Former Deputy Minister of Defence for Digital Development, Digital Transformation and Digitisation, Ukraine Government

13.45 – Jon Gray, Chief of Staff and MD Regions, ADS Group  
14.25

14.30 – PANEL: NATO and Alliances: Interoperability and Industry  
15.05 Professor Mark Webber, Professor of International Politics, University of Birmingham  
Sir Stuart Atha, Director, BAE

## INNOVATION AND FUTURE DEFENCE TECHNOLOGIES ZONE

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10.35 – Partnering with Science & Technology for Future Capability  
11.00 Rob Lock, Chief Scientist, AWE

11.05 – PANEL: T&E Transformation – Where Are We Now?  
11.40 Freddie Martin, Programme Director, MOD T&E

11.05 – Kelvin Hamilton, CEO, Flare Bright Ltd  
11.40 Andy Caldwell, Head, Research and Development, Test and Evaluation, MOD T&E  
Rob McGeachy, Head of Digital, Thales Training and Simulation  
Dan Stembridge, CEO, WholeShip Ltd

12.15 – How Innovate UK Will Be Part of IS8  
12.40 Paul Larcey, Knowledge Transfer Manager – Security and Defence, Innovate UK

12.45 – Security & Resilience-led Design  
13.10 Representative of WSP

13.15 – Post-Quantum Security: Preparing Defence Infrastructure for the Next Era of Cyber Resilience  
13.40 Alistair Leuchars, Deputy Director, Cyber & Digital, ADS Group

13.15 – Trevor Graham, CSO & GM – Belfast, Arajit

13.45 – UKDI Demand Signals to Industry and Academia  
14.10 James Gavin, Deputy Director, UK Defence Innovation & Head of Technology Transition, UKDI

13.45 – Helen O'Rourke, Programme Manager, North West Regional Defence & Security Cluster  
14.10

## INFRASTRUCTURE & ESTATES ZONE

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10.50 – PANEL: Adapting to a Dynamic Defence Landscape: Enhancing Agility Across the Supply Chain  
11.15 Moderator: Bill Backus, Defence Account Director, Costain  
Other Panel Members TBC

11.20 – Efficient by Design: Meeting Sustainability Targets Across the Defence Estate  
11.45 Representatives TBC

11.50 – Importance of Centralised Management for Defence Facilities  
12.15 Representative of Honeywell

12.20 – PANEL: MOD Infrastructure Following SDR and Defence Reform (Sponsored by Amey)  
12.55 Other Panel Members TBC

13.00 – Enabling Defence Capability: Data-Driven, Resilient and Sustainable Estate Management  
13.25 Phil Sayers, CIO for Defence Infrastructure Organisation, MACS EU  
Peter Lemon, Sales Director UK & Ireland, MACS EU

13.30 – DIO Pipeline  
13.55 Jen Vidler, Operations Head, DIO  
Kate Allen, Commercial Head, DIO  
Toni Gray, Facilities Management Project Delivery Head, DIO

## SUPPLY CHAIN & MARKET ENGAGEMENT ZONE

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10.50 – Accessing Defence Sector Opportunities with DCI  
11.15 John Rodigan, Business Development Manager, DCI

11.20 – Early Engagement for Defence Procurement: Building Stronger Partnerships from Concept to Contract  
11.45 Harrison Talbot Brown, Deputy Director, Industry Collaboration and Supplier Management, MOD NAD  
Brigadier Samuel Cook, Deputy Director Options Initiation, British Army  
Nathan Hinchcliffe, MOD Co-ordination Authority

11.50 – Enabling an Optimised and Resilient Defence Supply Chain Through Critical Utilities Infrastructure  
12.15 Matthew Osmond, Director of Sales & Business Development (Industrial, Water & Energy), Veolia

12.20 – Understanding the Role of the SSRO  
12.45 John Russell, Chief Executive, SSRO

12.50 – Panel: Case Studies in Collaborative Procurement  
13.25 Chris Mayne, Managing Director, Teleplan Forsberg  
Ian Schollar, Head of Teaching, Learning and Quality, CIPS

13.30 – From Factory to Frontline: How Containerised Manufacturing Transforms Defence Operations  
13.55 Jake Hand, Founder CEO, Rapid Fusion

14.00 – PANEL: Mid-Tiers, Enabling the Supply Chain  
14.35 Moderator: Simon Levy, Head of Strategic Military & Industry Engagement ADS Group  
Panel Members:

14.40 – John Kite, Deputy Director, Industry Collaboration And Supplier Management, MOD; Richard Edwards, Account Director, Skanska;  
14.35 William Haley, Director, William Haley Engineering

15.05 – Doing Business with Defence Representatives TBC

## COMMERCIAL TRANSFORMATION ZONE

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11.05 – Driving Productivity Through Contracting: Lessons from the Strategic Defence Review  
11.30 Representative TBC

12.05 – Securing Tomorrow: International Alliances and the Resilient Supply Chain Imperative  
12.30 Representative of Capita

12.35 – Defence Supply Chain Capability Programme: Building a War-Ready Supply Chain with Industry  
13.00 Steven Mills, DSCCP Programme Lead, MOD

13.10 – Delivering Defence Differently: New Procurement Models in Practice  
13.35 Helen Bates, Commercial Director, DE&S

13.40 – Private Equity in the Era of Defence Reform  
14.05 Nigel Herbert, Head of Practice – Asset Optimisation, Arcadis LLP

14.10 – Getting to Know Commercial X: A Bold, Dynamic Approach to Buying Innovation  
14.35 Veronica Carroll, Commercial X Lead

## UK DEFENCE INDUSTRY GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT ZONE

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11.30 – From Strategy to Supply Chain: Translating the DIS into Action  
11.55 Representatives TBC

12.00 – Tees Valley: Delivering Regional Growth in Support of the UK's Sovereign Capability  
12.25 Michael Kendall, Inward Investment Manager, Tees Valley Combined Authority

12.30 – Defence Office For Small Business Growth  
12.55 Representatives TBC

13.00 – PANEL: Delivering Innovative Defence Solutions through Industry and Academia  
13.35 Jeremy Wimble, Programme Manager, Defence, Tech UK  
Graedon Crouch, Futures Lab Command Lead, Oinetiq

14.10 – Supporting the Defence SME Ecosystem: Pathways to Scale and Long-Term Growth  
14.35 Andrew Kinniburgh, Director General, Make UK

Agendas Subject to Change

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