ADS

UK DEFENCE
ESG CHARTER

COMMITMENTS

1 Climate transition and clean tech

Across the defence sector's value chain, industry is focused on decarbonising operations and developing products that are more climate aware, environmentally sound and that reduce emissions. We are also ensuring that we help deliver new technology that will improve how we meet the defence and security challenges of the future.

Therefore, the sector aims to meet defence's operational and sovereign requirements while supporting decarbonisation and contribution to clean and innovative technologies by:

1 Supporting the UK's commitment to net zero by 2050, working together as an industry to reduce our carbon emissions across our own operations and the wider value chain

2 Advancing the sector's contribution to clean and innovative technologies

3 Increasing supply chain resilience and mitigating environmental impact by including the traceability of critical mineral resources and substances used in the supply chain

2 Societal impact

The sector is resolute in its ambition to close the UK's Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) skills gap, attracting, developing, and retaining a new generation of diverse talent. We also acknowledge the importance of building lasting positive social impact throughout our value chains and in the communities where we operate.

Therefore, the sector aims to enhance our economic and social impact by:

1 Working together and individually to improve the diversity, equality, inclusion, and representation of our workforce at all levels

2 Inspiring the next generation and helping the UK address intergenerational skills shortages in STEM disciplines through outreach programmes and broader initiatives at all levels of education across the country

3 Building and strengthening meaningful partnerships with our local communities, the armed forces, academic institutions and other stakeholder organisations

3 Governance and ethics

The UK defence sector is highly regulated, operating under one of the world's strictest export and licensing regimes. We understand that it is essential for us to adhere to the very highest standards of governance and ethics.

Therefore, the sector will continue to uphold high standards of governance and ethics by:

1 Continuing to build and contribute to greater cyber resilience, to ensure that the UK can maintain operational independence across its critical national infrastructure

2 Continuing to work with stakeholders to improve and sustain a strict, efficient and comprehensive export control system, including carefully assessing the associated risks of existing and potential end-customers

3 Supporting economic growth across the country and improving the competitiveness of the UK in the global market, sustaining and growing sovereign capability and skills for the future in those areas most critical to the defence and security of the nation.

INAUGURAL SIGNATORIES

AIRBUS   babcock   BAE SYSTEMS   LEONARDO   MBDA   QINETIQ   THALES