

From: [REDACT]

Sent: 06 August 2026 17:08

To: [REDACT] [REDACT]

Subject: RE: * FOR CLEARANCE PLEASE* DC/AP/05644/26 - Business in Focus (was DC/FM-/05168/26)

[REDACT], might be worth adding into one chain of correspondence, rather me asking separately, that [REDACT] also has the opportunity to attend the awards dinner on the 3rd and present the 'High Growth SME' Award category.

[REDACT]

From: [REDACT]

Sent: 06 August 2026 16:42

To: [REDACT]

Subject: RE: * FOR CLEARANCE PLEASE* DC/AP/05644/26 - Business in Focus (was DC/FM-/05168/26)

I'm happy, thanks [REDACT]

[REDACT]

From: [REDACT]

Sent: 06 August 2026 15:23

To: [REDACT] [REDACT]

Cc: [REDACT]

Subject: * FOR CLEARANCE PLEASE* DC/AP/05644/26 - Business in Focus (was DC/FM-/05168/26)

Hi [REDACT] and [REDACT]

Just wanted to check if you are happy for me to send the below note to PO please.

Thank you

[REDACT]

Dear [REDACT]

Thank you for confirming that the Cabinet Minister is happy to meet with Business in Focus and [REDACT]. I will keep an eye out for the diary briefing, which our team will lead on.

Please see the information below relating to the speech for the Defence event at ICC in Newport. If the Cabinet Minister confirms his attendance and is going to deliver a speech, [REDACT] will take the lead on this work.

Officials could provide the Cabinet Minister with the Wales defence facts and figures to support a speech indicating the importance of the sector to Wales, and with the release of the Defence Investment Plan there could be contracts / inward investments we could announce:

- Wales' combined defence and aerospace sector directly employs around 16,000 people.
- The sector has an estimated annual turnover of £3.7 billion.
- It contributes approximately £1.5 billion Gross Value Added (GVA) to the Welsh economy.

UK Government Defence Spending in Wales – the Wales Defence Growth Deal's primary objective is to increase

- The Ministry of Defence spent approximately £1.1 billion with industry in Wales in 2024-25. (3.5% of total UK spend)
- This equates to around £340 per person in Wales.
- The spending is estimated to support around 3,900 jobs directly.

Key Industrial Strengths- Wales has nationally significant defence capabilities in:

- Armoured vehicles (General Dynamics UK, Merthyr Tydfil)
- Munitions and energetics (BAE Systems Glascoed)
- Cyber security and digital trust (Thales Ebbw Vale, Airbus Newport)
- Uncrewed and autonomous systems (QinetiQ Aberporth and wider West Wales test ranges)

Strategic Assets

- BAE Systems Glascoed currently supplies [REDACT] used by the Armed Forces for training and operations.
- [REDACT]
- West Wales hosts major unmanned air systems testing facilities centred on Aberporth and Parc Aberporth.

Defence Workforce and Public Sector Presence

- ONS data shows employment in the broader public administration and defence category in Wales increased from approximately 85,000 jobs in 2017 to 101,000 jobs in 2023.

Current Growth Opportunities, supported by the Wales Defence Growth Deal (£50m over 5 years)

- [REDACT]
- [REDACT]
- [REDACT]
- Increased participation by Welsh SMEs in major UK defence programmes following planned uplifts in UK defence expenditure.

Skills

- Officials are exploring a Defence Technical Excellence College with MOD to provide the required future skills of the industry

From: DS Cabinet Minister for Enterprise, Connectivity and Energy/YD Gweinidog Cabinet dros Fenter, Cysylltedd ac Ynni [REDACT]

Sent: 31 July 2026 16:18

To: DS First Minister Wales/YD Prif Weinidog Cymru <[REDACT] PS First Minister Wales/YP Prif Weinidog Cymru <[REDACT] [REDACT] [REDACT] [REDACT]

Cc: DS Cabinet Minister for Enterprise, Connectivity and Energy/[REDACT] [REDACT]

Subject: FW: Business in Focus DC/FM -/05168/26

Hi All

The CMECE is happy to meet with Business in Focus and [REDACT] yet he is asking if it would be appropriate / if there are solid facts for him to deliver a speech on defence at the ICC Wales event on 3 / 4 September?

I would be grateful for your thoughts and advice.

Kind Regards



[REDACT]

From: DS First Minister Wales/YD Prif Weinidog Cymru [REDACT]

Sent: 15 July 2026 09:10

To: DS Cabinet Minister for Enterprise, Connectivity and Energy/[REDACT]

Subject: FW: Business in Focus DC/FM -/05168/26

Bore da,

Please note that the Prif Weinidog has received an invitation to the Defence Security Resilience Cymru event in September. We will be declining this invitation from the Prif Weinidog as officials advise that this falls under CMECE's portfolio area. Please can CMECE PO take forward? We have reassigned on CABS, reference DC/AP/05644/26.

[REDACT]

From: EntrepreneurshipGovBus [REDACT]
Sent: 09 June 2026 18:37
To: DS First Minister Wales/YD Prif Weinidog Cymru [REDACT]
Cc: Economy – Government Business / Economi – Busnes y Llywodraeth [REDACT]
[REDACT][REDACT][REDACT]

Subject: Business in Focus DC/FM -/05168/26

Dear Private Office

Apologies for the delay but please find attached the diary advice for the Defence Security Resilience Cymru event for Prif Weinidog's consideration.

Thank you

[REDACT]

From: DS First Minister Wales/YD Prif Weinidog Cymru [REDACT]
Sent: 01 June 2026 09:19
To: Economy – Government Business / Economi – Busnes y Llywodraeth [REDACT]
Cc: [REDACT][REDACT][REDACT][REDACT]

Subject: FM Advice request* - Defence Security Resilience Cymru Business in Focus DC/FM -/05168/26

Please see attached an invite for the First Minister. The invite asks the First Minister to consider attending the Defence Security Resilience Cymru event.

Please provide advice on the appropriateness of First Minister's acceptance of this request by 15:00 on 09/06/2026

Guidance on what you should consider when drafting the advice is attached above, along with the original invite.

We generally only require a minute of advice, and the template is attached. However, if the request deals with contentious issues please provide a draft reply. The First Minister's letter template can be found here:

<https://intranet/English/Ministers/WritingMinisters/Pages/Ministerial-letter-templates.aspx>

Once completed please submit electronically to [REDACT]

****If this is not for your Division please transfer it to the relevant Head of Division.
Guidance on how to go about this can be found at the following link**:**

<https://documents.hf.wales.gov.uk/xclient/id:A707144>

Please contact me if you have any queries regarding this email.

[REDACT]