

From: [REDACT]

Sent: 17 August 2026 15:46

To: [REDACT]

Cc: [REDACT]

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

Thanks [REDACT] , please do keep me updated – we've been advised that SoS Wales will attend the event

[REDACT]

From: [REDACT]

Sent: 17 August 2026 12:24

To: [REDACT] [REDACT]

Cc: [REDACT]

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

Hi [REDACT]

I have not had a response yet and [REDACT] is on leave until Wednesday.

I have a list awaiting responses.

Thank you

[REDACT]

From: [REDACT]

Sent: 17 August 2026 12:21

To: [REDACT]

Cc: [REDACT]

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

[REDACT] – did you get anything back on this ? Is CMECE attending WRDSC?

[REDACT]

From: [REDACT]

Sent: 07 August 2026 09:05

To: [REDACT]

Cc: [REDACT] [REDACT] [REDACT] [REDACT] [REDACT]

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

Dear [REDACT]

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

If the Cabinet Minister confirms his attendance at the Defence Security Resilience Cymru event at ICC Newport and will be delivering a speech, [REDACT] will lead on the associated briefing and speech preparation.

I also understand that the Cabinet Minister has been invited to attend the awards dinner on 3 September and present the High Growth SME Award. Please could the Cabinet Minister confirm if he is able to attend and again [REDACT] will be the lead for the briefing.

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

Thank you

[REDACT]

From: [REDACT]

Sent: 31 July 2026 16:18

To: [REDACT] [REDACT] [REDACT]

Cc: [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: [REDACT]

Sent: 15 July 2026 09:10

To: [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: [REDACT]

Sent: 09 June 2026 18:37

To: [REDACT]

Cc: [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: [REDACT]

Sent: 01 June 2026 09:19

To: [REDACT]

Cc: [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]