

15<sup>th</sup> Suppliers' Event

**November 2025** 



Welcome and Introduction

**Ruth Elliot, Chief Financial Officer** 

## Housekeeping





No fire alarms are scheduled for today.



#### This is a hybrid session.

Virtual Attendees: Online presentations (only).

**In-Person Attendees:** Presentations will take place in the JALT, followed by lunch, exhibition booths, workshops and networking in the C7 building.



Presentation slides will be distributed after the event.



We will send out a feedback form post-event. Please fill this out and help us improve our engagement activities.

# **Agenda**

Coffee Break



11:00 – 12:40: Presentations	
Ruth Elliot, Chief Financial Officer and Director of Corporate Services	Welcome & Campus Update
Paula Barham, Commercial Director	Commercial Strategy & Procurement
Tim Davies, Head of Commercial Development & Delivery	Sustainability & Market Engagement

Collee Bleak	
Matt Burton, Commercial Lead	Updates on Jet Decommissioning & Repurposing
Dave Gorringe, M5tec	SME Spotlight
Carl Evans, Commercial Lead Maili Nugent, Commercial Specialist	Updates on LiBRTI, Blankets, Research & Materials
<b>Paul Smith,</b> Senior Business Development Manager MTC Training / Oxfordshire Advance Skills	Updates on OAS
Emma Liddle & Emily Akehurst - Graduate Commercial Officers	Closing Remarks

12:40 - 14:00: Working Lunch

12:40 – 15:00: Exhibition Booths and Networking

13:30 – 15:00: Quick Talks - Commercial Edition

13:30 – 15:00: Fusion Voices: Conversations with Value

Aim: To provide the supply chain with key updates from a commercial perspective, highlighting significant changes, initiatives, and projects at UKAEA, while offering an opportunity to connect and engage with the Commercial team and visit Culham Campus





# To lead the delivery of sustainable fusion energy and maximise the scientific and economic benefit.



**UKAEA's Mission Statement** 

# **UKAEA's Strategic Goals**





#### **SOLVING PROBLEMS**

Solve challenges of sustainable fusion energy—from design through to decommissioning—with world-leading science and engineering.



#### **PRODUCT**

Enable partners to design, deliver, and operate commercial fusion power plants.



#### **PROSPERITY**

Drive UK economic growth and a thriving industry that exports fusion technology around the world.



#### **PLACE**

Create clusters that accelerate innovation in fusion and related technologies.



#### **PEOPLE**

Develop the talented, diverse people needed to deliver fusion energy.

## **Fusion in the Industrial Strategy**



- Government announced £2.5bn investment in fusion in the Spending Review in June 2025. This is for the 5-year period 2025/26 to 2029/30.
- The UK's Modern Industrial Strategy identified fusion as one of the frontier clean energy industries with greatest growth potential:

Fusion Energy – with advanced research and talent, nurtured by the world's largest fusion organisation, the UK Atomic Energy Authority, putting the UK on a path to creating a commercialised fusion reactor by 2040.



## **Recent Developments**



- Fusion Foundations programme concluded
- Culham announced as an AI Growth Zone, next phase of site development being planned
- LIBRTI (tritium breeding) programme and facility design well underway
- JDR programme continues
- STEP programme, under UKIFS, is progressing with design, site characterisation at West Burton, commercial activity
- A range of other facilities focused on solving the various challenges associated with fusion continue to develop at Culham.

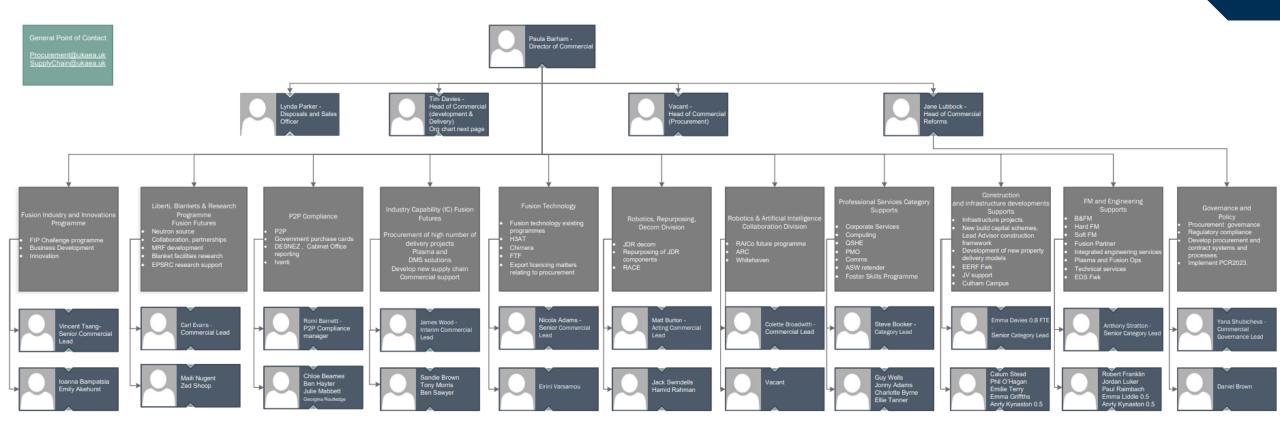


**Commercial Updates** 

**Paula Barham, Director of Commercial** 

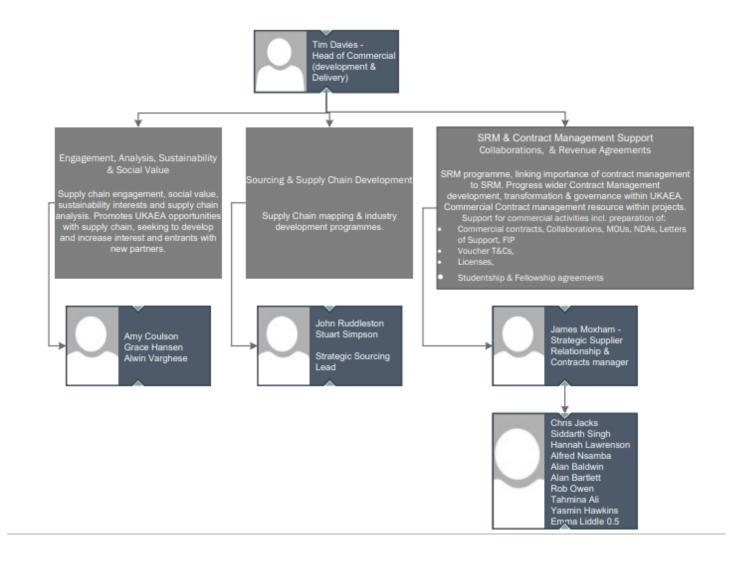
### **Introduction to Commercial Structure**





## **Introduction to Commercial Structure**





### **UKAEA Commercial Function**



#### As of February 2025, we have been governed by Procurement Act 2023

EU Supply

Find a Tender (central digital platform)

- Below Threshold Tender
- Open Procedure
- Competitive Flexible Procedure
- Direct Award

#### **Key Changes:**

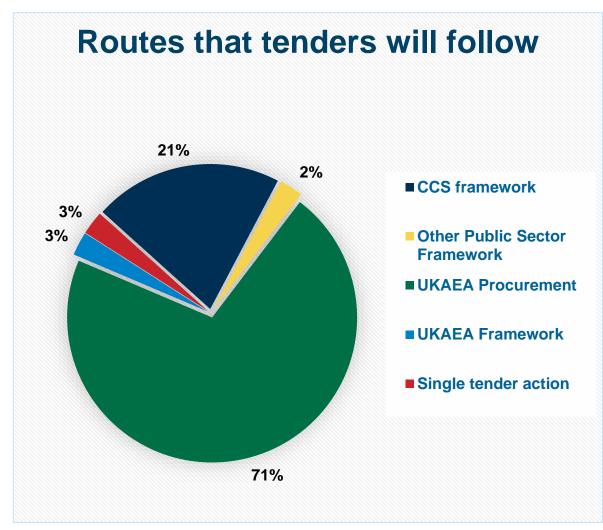
- Introducing the central digital platform, enhanced Find a Tender a single platform for procurement opportunities, notices and other information – suppliers must register.
- New Procedure Competitive flexible procedure combines multi-stage procedures under PCR15 into one, allowing for significant flexibility in planning stages into a procurement.
- Publishing Requirements increased notices for more transparency, now throughout the life cycle of the procurement/contract
- **Debarment Regime** suppliers who violate the law and have repeated poor performance will be barred from bidding for public sector contracts

#### **Key Principles:**

- Delivering value for money
- Maximising public benefit
- Transparency and the sharing of information
- Acting with integrity
- Reducing barriers for SMEs

## **UKAEA Commercial Function**





\*Data based on pipeline 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025

### **UKAEA Procurement Spend**

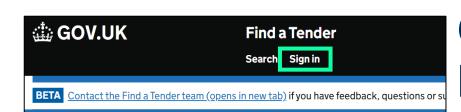
2024/2025	£147M
2023/2024	£259M
2022/2023	£200M
2021/2022	£165M
2020/2021	£105.4M
2019/2020	£82.7M



In our October **2025** <u>Procurement Pipeline</u>, across our programmes we have:

- 38 Upcoming Tender opportunities
- 15 Preliminary Market engagement's
- 68 Aspirational projects

The latest Procurement Pipeline was published in November 2025



# Find information on UK public procurements and contracts

Find a Tender is where public sector buyers publish notices about procurements and contracts that suppliers can search and apply for.

Search >

# How you sign in to Find a Tender has changed

You'll need a GOV.UK One Login to sign in to this service. You can create one if you do not already have one.

You can save searches and get notification emails. You must sign in before registering a buyer or supplier organisation.

Sign in with One Login

## Central Digital Platform = Enhanced Find a Tender



Since Feb 2025 Finder a Tender has been relaunched as a platform where supplier must <u>register</u> using some of their basic tender details to access opportunities and transparency notices published by all Public Sector.

#### **UK Atomic Energy Authority**

**Organisation details** 

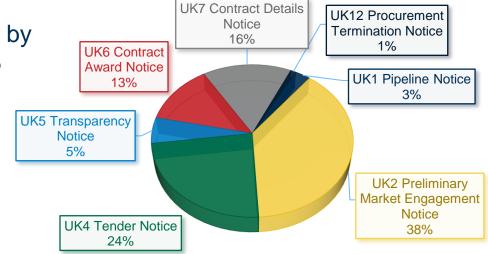
Organisation name
UK Atomic Energy Authority

• Public procurement organisation number (PPON)
PLJV-1169-JTDD

Once registered you will be provided with a Public Procurement Organisation number, which we need in order to publish mandatory notices when working with suppliers.

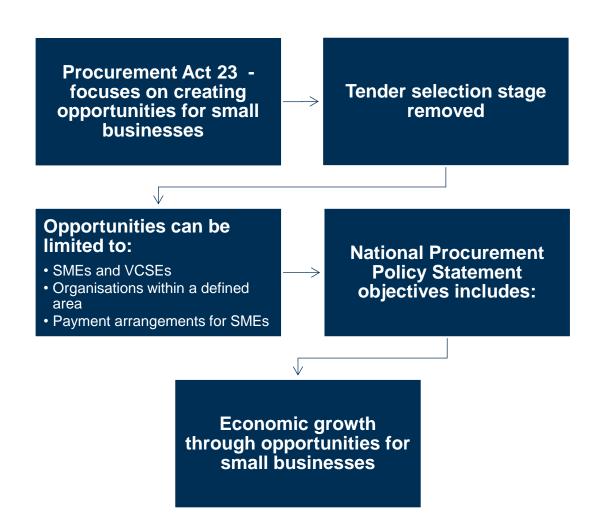
# PA23 notices published by UKAEA since Feb 2025

\*up to 28th October 2025



## **Below Threshold Tender Opportunities**





#### **UKAEA New Processes**

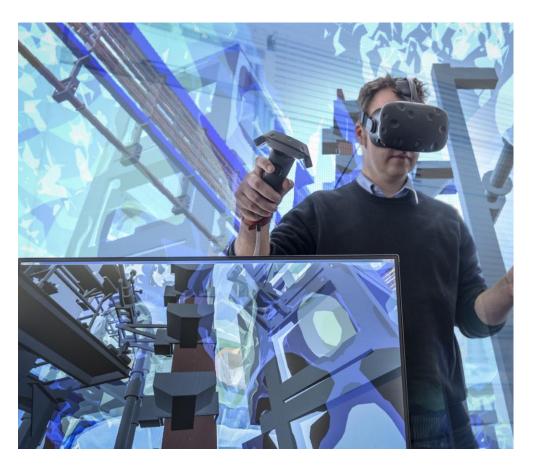
- New simplified process and templates, for requirements that are considered not complicated and have no design elements to them.
- Reduced timelines for contract award decisions.

### **Opportunities developed for:**

- SMEs and VCSEs only, or
- UK only businesses
- Larger contracts offered as Lots so smaller business can apply.

# Research and Development R & D Pathway





Research and development projects that meet the criteria below can be treated as exempt from the Procurement Act 2023

This exemption can be applied for:

 R&D projects that are being carried out for benefit to the public

The research must also be conducted for either:

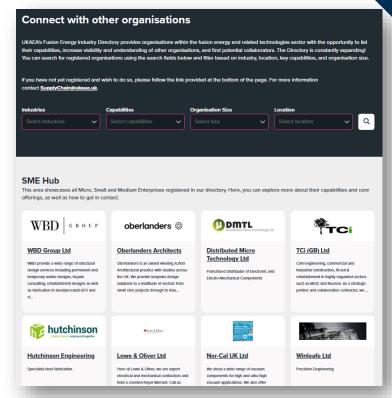
- purpose of acquiring new scientific and or technical knowledge
- manufacture and testing of prototypes

So what is UKAEA doing next?

# Finding capabilities within the market

UK Atomic Energy Authority

- Our Fusion Energy Industry Directory is a resource designed to register and showcase the various capabilities within the supply chain.
- Companies can register and add information about their capabilities for UKAEA and others to search.
- This can be filtered by location, sector, capabilities and company size.
- We have also included an SME Hub to highlight the capabilities of small businesses within the supply chain.







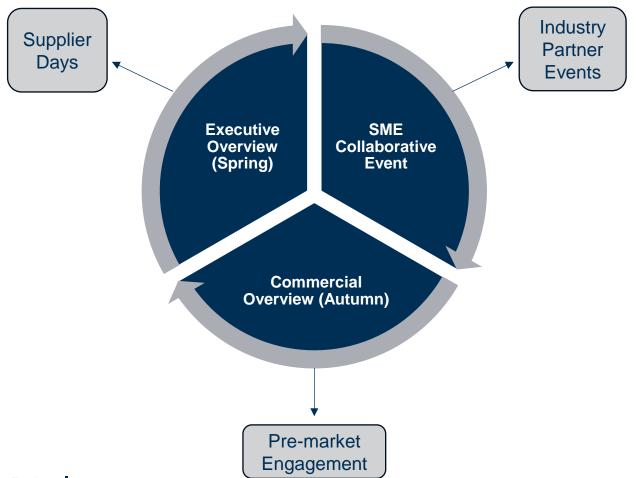
Social Value

Tim Davies, Head of Commercial Development & Delivery

# **Market Engagement**



Market engagement is a core element of our commercial activity, and its importance is strengthened within Procurement Act 2023.





IN 2025 SO FAR, WE HOSTED 2 EVENTS WITH 358 ATTENDEES, OF WHICH 49% WERE SMES

## **NEW: SME Collaborative Event**



For our pilot SME Collaborative Event, we invited 10 SMEs to exhibit for UKAEA

and external delegates.

We also provided three dedicated workshops, covering:

- Bid writing
- Securing value
- Navigating procurement portals (PA23)

This event was put in place following feedback received from the supply chain and is now part of our annual event structure.

Please keep sharing your feedback so that we continue facilitating opportunities to engage and network!



## **UKAEA's SME Action Plan**



Our objective is to reach a wider pool of small, medium and micro businesses and increase the number of SMEs within our supply chain to help build a diverse and resilient supply chain.





#### United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority

Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) Engagement Action Plan

#### Objectives & Targets for FY 25/26

- Increase SME engagement >10% from baseline figure. Our baseline figure is 52% and is taken as an average of SME attendees from UKAEA events over FY24/25. Therefore, our target is to achieve an average of 62% or more of attendees across our events being from SMEs for FY25/26.
- Organise and deliver 1 Annual SME Event (targeting a minimum of 60 SME representatives in attendance) based on a topic of interest, such as networking with Tier 1s.
- Establish and maintain an SME Working Group, with clear terms of reference, goals and a record of activity and outcomes. This group will run bi-monthly as it becomes established, and then quarterly.
- Host 5 SME Surgeries throughout the financial year. Establish terms of references capture conversations and feedback, as well as what we action in response to the feedback generated.
- Host 3 'Training' Sessions throughout the FY. These will be sessions run by a subject-matter expert on areas SMEs find challenging or would like guidance and support on, i.e. using UKAEA portals, creating a bid, navigating UKAEA frameworks etc.
- Create and deliver a regular stream of content on social media, sharing updates, tips for SMEs, etc.

Issue: 1, March 2025

# SME Action Plan: Targets and Objectives for FY 25/26



➤ Increase SME engagement >10% from baseline figure from events during FY24/25.



ON TRACK TO EXCEED

Organise and deliver 1 Annual SME Event (targeting a minimum of 60 SME representatives in attendance) based on a topic of interest, such as networking with Tier 1s.



ACHIEVED

Establish and maintain an SME Working Group, with clear terms of reference, goals and a record of activity and outcomes.



ON TRACK

Host 5 SME Surgeries throughout the financial year. Establish terms of references, capture conversations and feedback, as well as what we action in response to the feedback generated.



ON TRACK
3 COMPLETED, 2 UPCOMING

➤ Host 3 'Training' Sessions throughout the FY.



ACHIEVED AND MORE PLANNED

Create and deliver a regular stream of content on social media, sharing updates, tips for SMEs, etc.



in development.

## **UKAEA's Social Value Charter**



- Updated to reflect changes following <u>Procurement Act 2023</u>, <u>National</u> <u>Procurement Policy Statement and</u> <u>PPN 002</u> (social value model).
- Outlines our commitments
- Outlines our priority areas
  - Kickstart economic growth
  - Make Britain a clean energy superpower
  - Break down barriers to opportunity



#### **UKAEA's social value commitments**

- Introduction of a new platform, Thrive, to quantify and track the social value commitments of our suppliers.
- SME Engagement: Ensure Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) have equal opportunities to secure contracts, and encourage all direct suppliers to subcontract to SMEs, fostering a diverse and inclusive supply chain. UKAEA's SME Action Plan outlines our plans to increase and improve our engagement with SMEs.
- Skill development: Target individuals with limited employment opportunities to enhance their skills, creating a positive social value impact.
- Sustainable Green Fusion Energy: Align with our ambitions for sustainable green fusion energy by developing greener supply chains and reducing scope 3 emissions.
- Develop a fusion talent pipeline: identifying key skills, creating specialised training programs, promoting internships, fostering industry-academia collaboration and supporting continuous professional development through the FOSTER programme.

## What is social value?



Social value is the assessment of **social**, **environmental and economic factors** that a supplier could bring above and beyond the delivery of the contract itself.

- > We have a responsibility to deliver social value via procurement regulations.
  - PPN 002: Update to the Social Value Model
  - MEAT → MAT in Procurement Reforms
  - Ensuring best value for taxpayer's money







#### What is it?

- An online platform for measuring and reporting on social value and impact
- ➤ Thrive provides metrics and proxy values that align with the government social value model (PPN 06/20 and PPN 002)
- ➤ Allows for straightforward data collection for suppliers reporting social value commitments during contract delivery

### Why are we using it?

- ➤ To consistently and effectively capture social value generated through UKAEA contracts
- ➤ We have a responsibility as a public sector organisation to achieve best value for taxpayers' money and deliver social value
- Social value initiatives align with our mission and will support the delivery of fusion energy whilst protecting the environment

# What does this mean for suppliers?

- For applicable contracts, social value will be discussed alongside other KPIs and will be added to Thrive
- ➤ An agreed 'data collector' will provide data and evidence for metrics at agreed timeframes
- ➤ Data is reported via a secure weblink, shared by email. Suppliers do not need an account or license with Thrive.

# UKAEA's Annual Supply Chain Survey is now live!





We are exploring the following themes within our supply chain:

- Supply chain collaboration and risk
- PA23
- Customer relationship
- Business activity
- Future outlooks

Please scan the QR code to contribute. Results will be published in an anonymized dashboard report.

The form will close Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025.



## Thank you

# Please find us at the Commercial booth or the SME Engagement & Social Value booth

Or email us: SupplyChain@ukaea.uk



# **Coffee Break**

See you at 11:55am





## **UKAEA World Quality Week 2025**

**Quality: think differently** 



13th November 2025



**UKAEA**, Culham Science Centre, Abingdon

Scan QR code for details and registration



#### Talks include:

- Improving project delivery for fuel cycle R&D projects
- Looking beyond the sun the good, the bad and the ugly of transformation
- Delivering into the unknown
- The power of integration
- Planning levels of controls
- Project cost and controls
- Lessons Learnt and Continual Improvement



Matt Burton, Acting Senior Commercial Lead RRD



### Agenda:-

- Recent Activity Update
- Programme Approach
- > IVD Overview
- ➤ Spending Review 2025
- Pipeline Details







**Auxiliary Site Clearance Operations** 

J4/J5X Transformer Removals

- 475,00 litres of Oil to be removed and recycled prior to transformer removal.
- 73 Transformers to be removed from site and scrapped.



J5X Power Supplies

& ERFA Units \* 4

**Isolation & Termination** 



**De-oiling Operations** 



#### **Programme Approach**

Immediate priority is to reduce the fixed cost base and avoid the "decommissioning poverty trap".

- "Outside In" approach to release facilities to wider campus needs.
- Progress with auxiliary building / structures clearance (J7-22, J12, J4) with more work to come in the SR period (J51/52, J5 36KV, J5 RPC, P4 cooling towers).





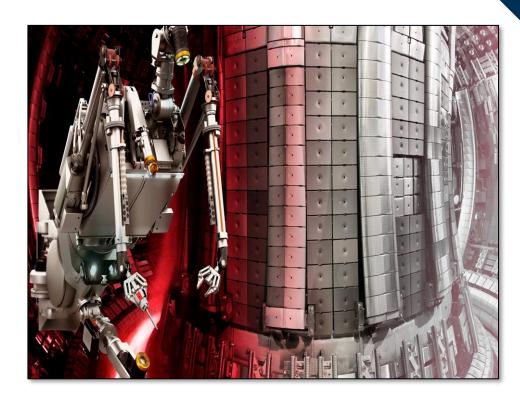
In Vessel Decommissioning (IVD) remains a critical enabler for alternative strategy / future options.

UKAEA is not abandoning the alternative strategy (repurposing, remote handling, and thermal treatment), but revisiting scheduling to meet the financial envelope.

IVD Phase 1 is included in SR25 scope

- Removal of tiles, (17t ILW)
- Specialist supply chain work to upgrade Remote Handling System.
- Interim storage solution also required for ILW waste pending final disposition.

This will result in a slower more deliberate / less ambitious pace and likely longer, but no less innovative programme.





- SR25 impact on our relationship with the supply chain.
- SR25 regulates our ambition for the next 4 years (pace & concurrency) where we are still pursuing the alternate strategy (repurposing, remote handling, and thermal treatment).
- Workforce balance remains a challenge. Limited decommissioning delivery KSE (Knowledge, Skills & Experience), limited supply of decommissioning practical execution workforce.
- JDR will mitigate critical capability gaps through frameworks, opportunity for supply chain organisations to take a coordinated approach to filling JDR gaps.
- Future opportunities to leverage the value of assets to offset the cost of clearance to be reviewed as an area of focus.



# JET Decommissioning & Repurposing Programme Update



UKAEA aims to be open and transparent by providing medium-term plans and longer-term visibility of forthcoming procurement opportunities, enabling the supply chain to make informed decisions to tender for work.

The procurement pipeline is reviewed and updated quarterly.

#### <u>UKAEA Procurement Pipeline - GOV.UK</u>





## SME Spotlight

**Dave Gorringe, M5tec** 

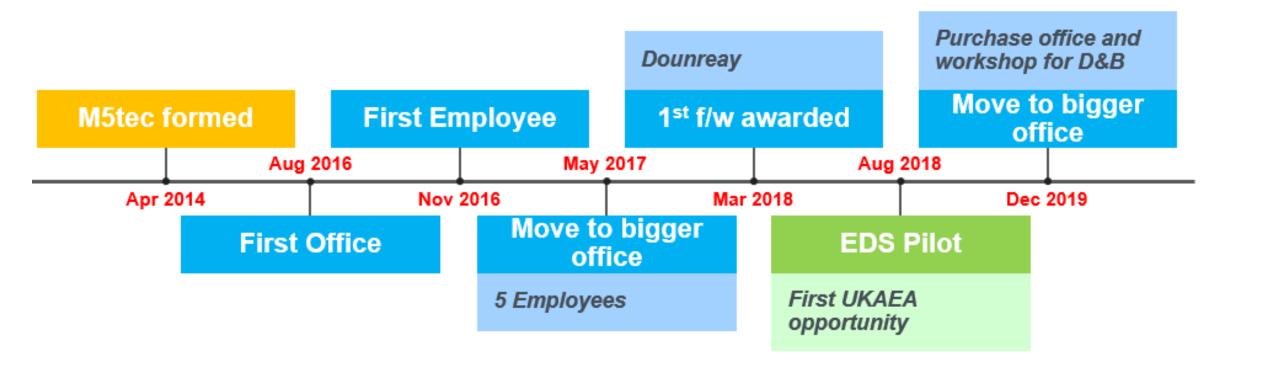


M5tec's Journey into Fusion and UKAEA Partnership

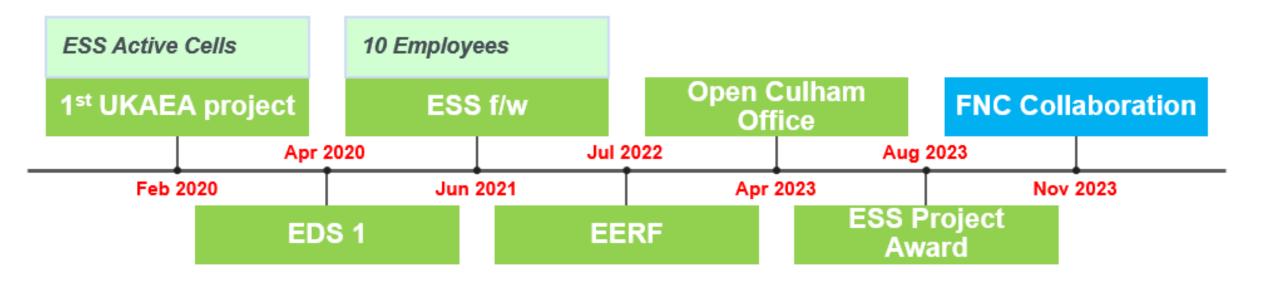
m5tec.com

Dave Gorringe

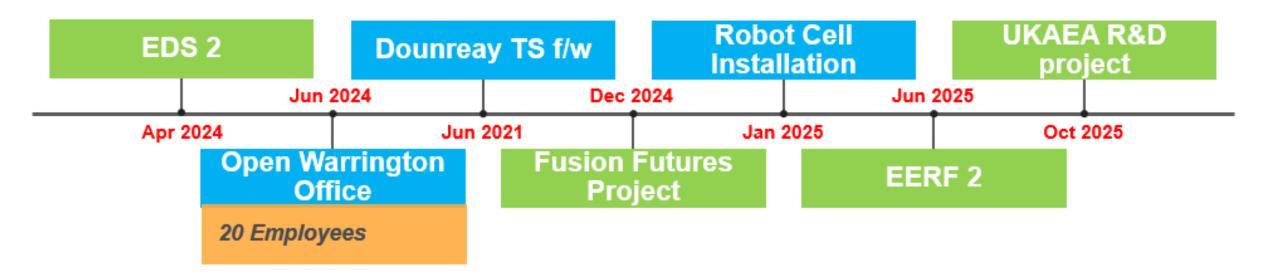
### Where it all began



### M5tec & UKAEA Collaboration gains momentum



#### **Continued Growth**



### Onwards and Upwards

#### **Larger Culham Office Expansion**

Jan 2026



Tel: +44 (0) 1325 711 309

Email: enquiries@m5tec.com

Unit 7, Hurworth Road, Aycliffe Business Park, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 6UD

m5tec.com



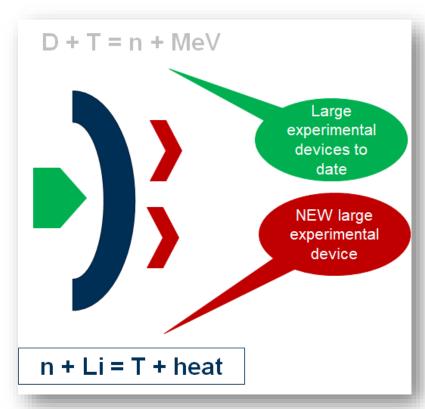


## LIBRTI: 15<sup>th</sup> Suppliers' Event

**Carl Evans, Commercial Lead Maili Nugent, Commercial Specialist**  Lithium BReeding Tritium Innovation

# LIBRTI: Fusion Fuel Capability Programme





- Design, implement, and prove new tritium breeder technologies by developing a first of a kind, world leading, facility that exposes engineered breeder prototypes to high flux fusion neutrons
- Develop collaborative partnerships with greater than half of the LIBRTI funding being invested and leveraged in industry and academia
- <u>Maximise industrial growth in fusion fuel technologies</u> and adjacent sectors that position UK industry to export the technology globally
- <u>Drive inward investment through further development of the UK Fusion</u>
   <u>Cluster</u>
- <u>Expand key UK skills</u> through design, build and operation of a first of a kind facility, including within the supply chain

### **Programme Launch and Progress**



#### **Programme Launch - 7th November 2023 – London**

 A hybrid event hosted by DESNZ and UKAEA attended by 70 fusion industry representatives from approximately 40 different organisations

#### **Key Programme – Funding Updates**

- LIBRTI OBC submitted January 2024, approved April 2024
- LIBRTI hosted the National Infrastructure and Service Transformation Authority (NISTA)
- LIBRTI FBC soon to be submitted

# Progress Against Our Commitments – Neutron Source



**Our Commitment** 

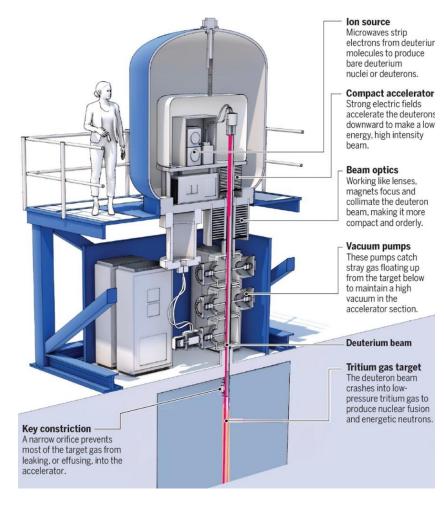
**Progress to Date** 

 The baseline neutron source has been procured, marking a key programme milestone.

Delivery of a baseline neutron source and associated R&D

 Work is under way to enhance performance and strengthen our research collaborations on neutron flux development.





# Progress Against Our Commitments – Facility



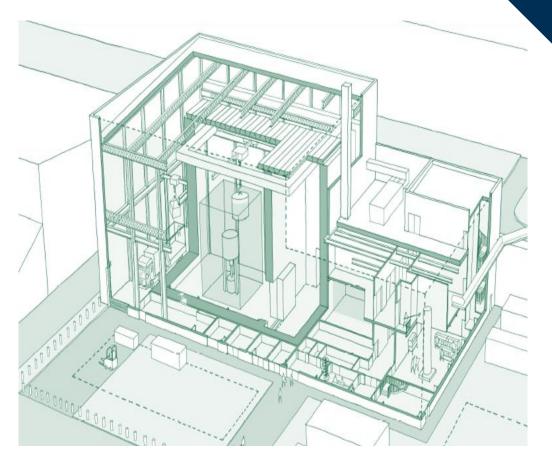
**Our Commitment** 

**Progress to Date** 

 Preparatory works on Site J4 are progressing towards clearance by late 2025, and planning consent processes are under way.

Construction of a new facility to house the neutron source

 The building design has reached the detailed stage RIBA3+, and procurement activities are now in progress.



# Progress Against Our Commitments – Use



#### **Our Commitment**

#### **Progress to Date**

 Several UK and international partners have expressed interest in using the facility for early experiments.

## Installation of the first major experiment

- Ongoing discussions include projects focused on fusion blanket testing, imaging, and materials R&D.
- Collaborative arrangements are advancing with academic and industrial participants to define the first experimental campaigns.



## **Progress Against Our Commitments**



#### **Our Commitment**

#### **Progress to date**

Strong early market engagement with positive industry and academic responses.

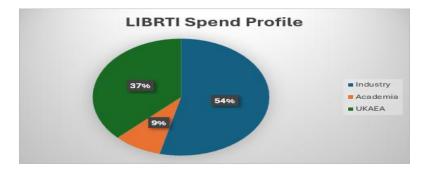
Competitive science awards issued to support research and experimental priming

We intend industry priming of at least 50% of budget

 LIBRTI planned outgoings represent ~54% LIBRTI budget to industry.







### **Procurements**



Workstream	Component / Scope	Estimated Value
Building Works	Site infrastructure, external works & ancillary services, planning permissions, ecological surveys, BREEAM compliance, solar PV	£4.9M
Tritium Handling Equipment	Process vessels, bespoke & COTS systems, integration with facility, regulatory compliance	£4.8M
Blockhouse Equipment Facility & Test Rig	Lifting & remote-handling systems, radiation-tolerant equipment, operational safety & maintainability	£4.5M
Services	OEM & bespoke test rigs, COTS integration, systems engineering, commissioning	£1.1M
Operational Readiness	Installation supervision, commissioning, functional testing, regulatory compliance, professional services	£7M
Facility R&D	Experimental planning, bespoke R&D equipment, professional services, integration with facility systems	£3M
Control & Instrumentation		00.414
(C&I)	COTS components, system integration, support infrastructure, compliance	£2.1M
Diagnostics Systems	COTS & bespoke diagnostics, system integration, testing & verification	£1.0M
Ancillary Scope	COTS equipment, facility integration, support infrastructure	£2M

## **Current Opportunities**



Project Title	Procurement Stage	\\P	Contract D(√V		Estimated rocuremen <u> </u>
Facility - Uncertainty modelling consultancy	1 - Strategy Development		Feb-26	£	30,000
Facility diagnostics - Radiation safety instrumentation	1 - Strategy Development		Feb-26	£	250,000
Facility diagnostics-Neutron source characterisation	1 - Strategy Development		Feb-26	£	300,000
Control and information system for demanding environments	1 - Strategy Development		May-26	£	1,000,000
ERATO - developing LSC cocktail for FLiBe	3 - Tender Published		Dec-25	£	70,000
Supply of 3 LSC Machines	3 - Tender Published		Dec-25	£	540,000
Distributed Control System	3 - Tender Published		Dec-25	£	700,000
Detritiation System	2 - PMEN Published		Jan-26	£	1,500,000



## Updates on OAS

Paul Smith, Senior Business Development Manager MTC Training / Oxfordshire Advance Skills

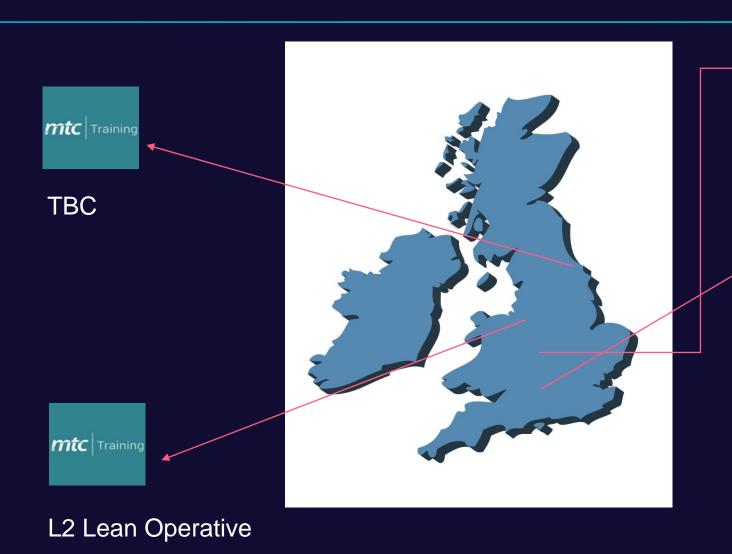
#### What is Oxfordshire Advanced Skills (OAS)?





#### Who are we

#### **mtc** training



L3 Machining
L3 Mechatronics
L3 Tech Support
HNC



L2 Eng Operative/ Lean

L2 Nuclear Health

**Physics** 

L2 Nuclear Operative

L3 Machining

L3 Tech Support

L3 Mechatronics

HNC

L6 Nuclear Scientist and Nuclear Engineer (2026)

#### Who we work with





























#### What we're most proud of...

## Making a difference to our learners and employers



Award winning apprentices





Supporting communities



Industry leading programmes



Access & Awareness project



Sustainability focus and goals



Collaborative industry partnerships



Committed team supporting learners



Our RIGHT Way values





#### **Our commitment to CSR at OAS**

- At OAS, we're here to support the *economic, social and cultural success* of the *Oxfordshire, Thames Valley and Berkshire communities* that we serve.
- As the *leading provider of hi-tech engineering apprenticeships and training* in the area, we have a responsibility to *align our aims to the needs of the local area*. We take this responsibility very seriously.
- Our focus is on developing the next generation of manufacturing engineers to support the future skills
  needs of businesses of all sizes in the locality.

#### **Our commitment to CSR at OAS**



# ナナナナ

## Upskilling

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### **mtc** training

#### Who are our courses for?







#### **mtc** training

### **Upskilling Opportunities**

**Additive** 

**Panel Wiring** 

**Automation** 

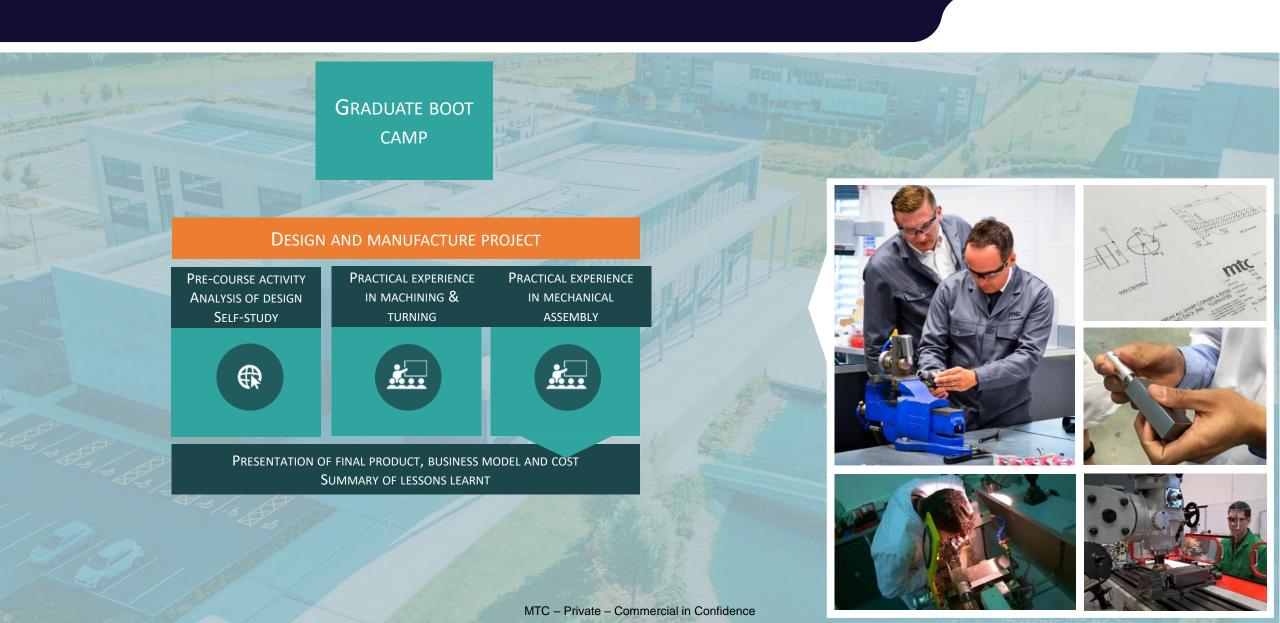
NVQ's

**Mentoring** 

For More Details on Our Courses



#### **Graduate Development Programme (5 Day)**



#### Welding

- MIG / MAG
- Competency checking
- Nuclear TIG welder
- NWIT
- Tig Level 3 modules
- Mechanised & orbital TiG
- L3 welding inspection course



#### **Partnerships**

Oxford Professional Education:

APM Accredited Training Provider offering the full suite of APM Professional Qualifications from Fundamentals to Professional level including a Chartered Support Package also offering PRINCE2, Scrum Essentials and P3O



#### IMR:

Digitisation: Manufacturing Data Analytics, Augmented & Virtual Reality technologies, Software Development, Artificial intelligence, and Machine Learning



## Thank You

Paul.smith2@the-mtc.org

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## Thank you for listening!





Working Lunch 12:40 – 14:00



Exhibition Booths 12:40 – 15:00



Quick Talks: Commercial Edition 13:30 – 15:00



Fusion Voices: Conversations with Value

13:30 – 15:00

**Networking** 



## Please give us your feedback!



Consider how we can improve, for example:

- Communication to supply chain
- Events
- Procurement pipeline
- Visibility of work
- Supporting SMEs