UK–Norway Defence Industry Seminar 2026

Draft 19 November 2026

23 November 2026		
18:30–20:30	*Networking reception*	
24 November 2026		
Time	**Session**	**Speakers**
08:45–09:15	Registration and refreshments	
09:15–09:25	Welcome remarks	**Connie Mathisen**, Director of Business Development, ADS **Torleiv Opland**, CEO, FSI
09:25–09:55	**Opening keynotes** **Strategic context:** The Lunna House commitments and their implications for bilateral defence cooperation. **Future partnership:** Priorities for deeper UK-Norway defence, security and industrial cooperation.	UK: **Rupert Pearce,** National Armaments Director NO: **Marte Gerhardsen**, Secretary of State
09:55-10:15	**UK Defence Reform:** Defence industrial strategies, investment plans and shared priorities for delivery.	UK: **VAdm Paul Marshall**, DG Portfolio and Plans
10:15–11:00	**Panel 1: Strategic partnership and operational cooperation**	UK: **RAdm Steve McCarthy**, Director Maritime Partnership Office, UK MOD NO: **Brigader Kåre Haugen,** Head of the Investment Department, Norwegian Armed Forces' Defence Staff Moderated by ADS
11:00–11:30	Networking break	

11:30–12:15	**Panel 2: Industrial relationship** How can UK and Norwegian industry help deliver the strategic partnership? The session will explore industrial cooperation, procurement priorities and supply-chain opportunities.	UK: **Nigel Stewart,** Future Business and Commercial Director – Maritime, BAE Systems UK: **Mark Lawther,** Business Development Executive, SEA NO: **Ove Sindre Lied,** Senior Vice President for Industrial Cooperation, Kongsberg (confirmed) NO: **Anja Kavli Furevold,** Vice President Government Relations and Industrial Cooperation, NAMMO (tbc) NO: **Gard Brandsæter,** Vice President Business Development Six Robotics Moderated by FSI
12:15-12:25	**Briefing: UK Defence Procurement**	UK: **Jim Carter**, DG Commercial, UK MOD
12:25–12:35	**Briefing: Atlantic Bastion**	UK: **Commander Mark Butcher,** Royal Navy Develop Directorate
12:35–13:30	Networking lunch	
13:30–14:15	**Panel 3: Fleet readiness, resilience and operational support**	UK: **RAdm Steve McCarthy**, Director Maritime Partnership Office UK: **Barry Woolley**, Warship Support Director, BAE Systems Captian (N) **Bjarte Bolstad,** Norweigan Navy NO: **Espen Solberg,** SVP Business Development Defence, Aker Solutions ASA

		Moderated by **Julie Marionneau**, Director of International Relations
14:15–14:55	**Session 4: Turning Research into Capability: Advancing Defence Innovation (10 minutes each)** Exploring opportunities for cooperation in autonomy, cyber, satellite communications and dual-use technologies to support future operations.	UK: UKDI (TBC) UK: Speaker (TBC) Council on Geostrategy NO: **Christian Brunsvig,** Head of Innovation ICEWORKS, FFI NO: **Øyvind Hellan** Research Director SINTEF
15:00–16:30	*Rolling networking break* *Team and Coffee will be available*.	
15:15–17:00	**Structured B2B matchmaking**	

*timings subject to minor changes