

[News story: Nuclear industry showcases progress in decommissioning](#)

Updated: Added link to the YouTube video showing highlights from the event.

Around 200 stakeholders learned of the progress being made in decommissioning and cleaning up the legacy left from the earliest days of the UK's civil nuclear industry.

The event, which also welcomed representatives from the communities around the NDA's 17 sites, featured innovative technology being developed by the nuclear supply chain.

Some of the remote and robotic technologies that have been put into action on the NDA's sites were showcased.

It was held at the South Gloucestershire College Berkeley Green Campus – formerly the Berkeley Centre – and played a vital research role for the UK civil nuclear industry.

[NDA Stakeholder Summit 2018](#)

David Peattie, NDA CEO, spoke about the importance of the event:

Maintaining productive relationships with our stakeholders is a vital part of the NDA's work and the Stakeholder Summit is an extremely helpful way of explaining the progress we're making in our decommissioning mission.

Hosting this annual event at the former Berkeley Centre, which has been converted from an operational nuclear site to a leading University Technical College, is a great example of the NDA delivering its mission.

The Stakeholder Summit aimed to encourage discussion about the NDA's work in delivering its mission focussing on progress in R&D, waste management, skills and socio-economic sustainability.

An exhibition was set up highlighting how the NDA and its business units work together, while workshops saw delegates learn more about the UK's decommissioning challenge.

The second day was devoted to discussing support for the socio-economic initiatives and the NDA's partnerships with its communities.

This year the Summit welcomed international guests from a number of local authorities in Europe with nuclear sites in their areas. They learned how the

NDA interacts with its communities and its world-leading work in civil nuclear decommissioning.

Professor Melanie Brownridge, Head of Technology at the NDA, spoke at the event and said:

The Stakeholder Summit gives us an opportunity to communicate with people how R&D is helping us to deliver our mission and how the technology that we're deploying on our sites is helping us to achieve this mission safer, faster and cheaper.

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Press release: New £5 million support package for South Wiltshire

The government has today announced more than £5 million in funding to further support businesses, boost tourism and meet unexpected costs as a result of the incidents in Salisbury and Amesbury.

This new package is in addition to the £2.5 million that has been made available since March to support the local community.

Today's package includes:

- £997,000 to support Wiltshire Council's response and recovery costs
- £927,000 to provide immediate support to local businesses and to counter their loss of earnings

- £870,000 to boost the vital tourism industry in the region, including £570,000 for free parking and park-and-ride services, in the South Wiltshire area

In addition, the Home Office has approved a further £2.5 million in special grant funding to cover extra costs incurred by Wiltshire Police, taking the total provided to the police since March to £4.1 million.

Prime Minister Theresa May said:

The people of Salisbury and Amesbury have shown incredible resilience, both since March and in light of last week's tragic events.

The government will stand in full support of the local community and this funding package will ensure ongoing response and recovery needs are met.

We will continue to work closely with local partners in South Wiltshire on the long-term recovery from these terrible incidents.

Today's announcement brings the total package of government support to Salisbury and the region to more than £7.5 million.

Baroness Jane Scott, the Leader of Wiltshire Council, said:

I welcome the announcement of this support package from government, and look forward to working with them to provide the essential support the communities and businesses affected by this incident need.

[Press release: Londonderry attack](#)

Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, the Rt Hon Karen Bradley MP said:

As police were implementing a public safety operation last night in Londonderry following sporadic disorder, officers in the vicinity of the city walls reported that shots had been fired by a gunman and these struck the city walls.

Anyone, who was in this part of the city, at this time, including

children or young people could have been killed. This murderous attack has to be condemned by all right thinking individuals.

I would call on all people of influence within the community to continue their efforts to encourage dialogue and reduce tensions. Anyone with any information about these incidents should contact the police.

We will continue to work with the police to keep people safe.

[Speech: Latin America offers huge opportunities for Northern Powerhouse](#)

Thank you. I am delighted to be here. And I would like to thank the [Northern Powerhouse](#) and KPMG for the invitation to help launch this report.

We all know that trade is vital to the health of the UK economy. It drives our prosperity. It creates jobs, increases choice, lowers prices – and delivers better goods and services for consumers.

Our future prosperity, stability and security depends on finding and opening up the markets of the future, driving investment, championing free trade, and helping companies to develop and export.

Support from DIT

The Department for International Trade – or DIT – was created to do just this – providing effective, relevant and targeted support for UK companies.

To do it well, we need to look at where the emerging markets are and put UK businesses in prime position to benefit.

And the evidence could not be clearer.

The IMF is predicting that 90% of global growth in the next 10 to 15 years will come from outside the EU.

Making the most of this growth means finding new ways of doing things.

That is why we have now appointed 9 HM Trade Commissioners, covering regions right across the world.

These trade experts will be on the ground with the autonomy to improve our trading links with the key markets, raising the profile of the region in the UK and building stronger and deeper trading relationships in the future.

DIT is making Latin America a high priority.

We have 4 trade envoys appointed by the Prime Minister to the region to build on existing relations and maximise bilateral trade.

UK Export Finance has doubled government support for firms looking to export into countries across the region, including up to £5 billion for Mexico, £4.5 billion for Chile and £3 billion for Brazil.

And we can now offer financing in a range of Latin American currencies.

This report was instigated by DIT's excellent Jo Crellin. And I am delighted that she has now been appointed as HM Trade Commissioner to Latin America and the Caribbean.

She brings a wealth of in-country knowledge and expertise to the role – and an extensive network of contacts in the region.

And I am pleased to say – as this report highlights – there is a firm foundation to start from.

Strength of UK-Latin American trade

The demand for UK goods in the Caribbean and Latin America region is strong. £12.5 billion of UK goods and services were exported there in 2016. Total trade in goods and services between the UK and the region totals £22.1 billion.

And this report finds it is only getting better.

Of UK SMEs that export, only 11% did so to Latin America in 2011; in just 5 years it has risen to 19% – almost double.

There is a large and growing appetite for British trade. And there are already a number of success stories.

Last year, with support from [UK Export Finance](#), the bus manufacturer Alexander Dennis secured a £44 million deal to export our iconic red 'double decker' buses, helping to ease congestion in Mexico City.

Another UK company – Aggreko – obtained a £3 million renewable energy deal – and an £11 million oil and gas deal – in Brazil.

And Astra Zeneca has recently secured a £4 million biopharmaceuticals exports deal to Peru.

Growing Latin American economies

Latin America is a growing market with a young population, diverse economies

and vast resources.

It has a large middle class – the report estimated it has expanded by 50% since 2013.

The IMF predicts that Mexico and Brazil will be the tenth and seventh largest countries by GDP respectively by 2020.

These countries are hungry for new technologies, recognised British brands and the chance to visit the UK.

Strength of the Northern Powerhouse

The Northern Powerhouse is ideally placed to take advantage of this.

It is a powerful hub of global commerce.

A centre of new technology, industry, science and start-ups.

This report estimates it has a GDP of £332 billion – around the same size as Belgium – with 26,000 companies exporting over £58 billion last year.

It has high speed rail links, a highly skilled workforce and world class research, with 6 northern universities ranked in the UK's top 20.

And this report highlights just where the big opportunities lie.

Both for companies in our Northern Powerhouse in Latin America and for Latin American companies here.

Developing Northern Powerhouse-Latin America links

These links are already strong.

The report estimates that goods exported from the Northern Powerhouse to Brazil, Chile and Mexico totalled £745 million last year – 10.4% more than the year before.

And it clearly highlights why this trade should only grow.

For British and engineering companies, engaged in exploration, operation and construction – with world-leading, pioneering new technologies in copper, iron ore and silver mining.

For healthcare providers, helping local governments and hospitals improve the quality and accessibility of care.

And for the food and drink sector, growing demand for higher quality, different flavours, and new service channels, will stand British firms in good stead to expand.

This report provides an exciting slice of the range of opportunities that this vibrant, diverse region offers UK business.

And I hope it helps some of the firms here today to realise some of those possibilities.

Brexit

Since the British people's decision to leave the European Union, there has been much discussion on the UK's future as a global trader.

It is clear that the pattern of global trade is changing.

And Britain must adapt to be part of that change.

Rapidly developing regions like Latin America will be key.

We must, as a country, set our sights high.

The markets are already out there for the best that Britain and the Northern Powerhouse has to offer.

DIT – both here in the UK and our teams across the globe – stands ready to help the firms in this room realise that opportunity.

To help you win export orders, support high value jobs, and forge Britain's future as a global trading nation.

To build a truly Global Britain.

Thank you.