

Press release: New members of the Council for Science and Technology confirmed

The Council for Science and Technology advises the Prime Minister on strategic science and technology policy issues that cut across the responsibilities of individual government departments.

Sir Mark Walport, Government Chief Scientific Adviser said:

The 5 new members of the Council for Science and Technology bring with them a breadth of experience and expertise which will enable the Council to continue to provide excellent advice to government on science and technology opportunities and challenges. This will help ensure the UK remains at the forefront of global science.

New members

The new members are:

Professor Sir David Cannadine (ex-officio member)

David is President of the British Academy. He is an historian of modern British history from 1800 to 2000. He has published extensively on aspects of social, cultural, political and imperial history from this period. He has focused on the British aristocracy, urban development and the structure of power in British towns, issues of class in Britain and the themes of cultural expression and ceremony. He is Dodge Professor of History at Princeton University and became President of the British Academy in July 2017.

Suranga Chandratillake

Suranga is General Partner at Balderton Capital and helps to lead early-stage investments in the online media and technology sectors. He was previously an entrepreneur and engineer, and co-founded the intelligent search engine blinkx. Suranga has served as a Software Developer at Morgan Stanley, creating global risk resolution systems. He has an MA in Computer Science from the University of Cambridge and holds patents in the area of video discovery and online video advertising. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in 2012.

Professor Dame Ottoline Leyser

Ottoline is a professor of plant development at the University of Cambridge and Director of the Sainsbury Laboratory, Cambridge. She received her BA (1986) and PhD (1990) in genetics from the University of Cambridge. Among her

honours are the Society of Experimental Biology's President's Medal (2000), the Royal Society Rosalind Franklin Award (2007), the International Plant Growth Substance Association's Silver Medal (2010) and the UK Genetics Society Medal (2016). She was appointed a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) in the 2017 New Year Honours list. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society, a Fellow of Clare College Cambridge, a Foreign Associate of the US National Academy of Sciences, a Member of the European Molecular Biology Organisation, and the Leopoldina. She is Chair of the British Society for Developmental Biology and the Royal Society's Science Policy Advisory Group. She is Co-Editor in Chief of Current Opinions in Plant Biology and an Editor of Development.

Professor Max Lu

Max is a Chinese-Australian chemical engineer and nanotechnologist. He has been President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Surrey since April 2016. Previously he was Provost and Senior Vice-President at the University of Queensland. He was appointed as an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to: education and international research in the field of materials chemistry and nanotechnology, engineering, and Australia-China relations. He has been appointed to the Boards of the National Physical Laboratory and Universities UK. He is a member of the Leadership Council of the National Centre for Universities and Business and a Deputy Lieutenant of Surrey.

Professor Joyce Tait

Joyce is Professor and Director at the Innogen Institute, University of Edinburgh. She has an interdisciplinary background, covering both natural and social sciences. She has specialised in innovation-governance-stakeholder interactions in the life sciences and related areas, including cell therapies and regenerative medicine, synthetic biology, genetic modification (GM) technologies, drug development, stratified medicine and biofuels. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

Additionally, Lord Stern's membership has been extended beyond the end of his ex-officio term as President of the British Academy.

The Council for Science and Technology works on cross-cutting issues of strategic importance, taking a medium to longer-term approach. In developing its advice, it takes into account the cultural, economic, environmental, ethical and social context of developments in STEM.

Notes to editors

- 1) [Find out more about the work of the council.](#)
- 2) The appointments were made in accordance with the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments' [Code of practice for ministerial appointments to public bodies.](#)
- 3) [Members of the Council for Science and Technology](#) are:

- Professor Sir Mark Walport, FRS, FMedSci – Government Chief Scientific Adviser (Co-chair of CST)
- Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell, FRS, FMedSci – President and Vice-Chancellor of Manchester University
- Professor Philip Bond, BSc, DEA, FIMA, FInstP – visiting fellow at the Oxford Centre for Industrial and Applied Mathematics and visiting professor at the University of Bristol
- Professor Sir Keith Burnett, CBE, FRS – Vice-Chancellor of Sheffield University
- Professor Dame Ann Dowling, DBE, FREng, FRS – President of the Royal Academy of Engineering (ex-officio member)
- Anne Glover, CBE – Chief Executive of Amadeus Capital Partners Ltd
- Dr Paul Golby, CBE, FREng – Chair of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and Chair of NATS
- Professor Dame Julia Goodfellow, FMedSci – ex-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kent
- John Kingman – Chair of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) (ex-officio member)
- Professor Sir Robert Lechler, FMedSci – President of the Academy of Medical Sciences (ex-officio member)
- Dr Michael Lynch, OBE, FREng – Founder of Invoke Capital
- Dervilla Mitchell, CBE, FIEI, FREng – Director of Arup
- Professor Fiona Murray, CBE – Professor of Entrepreneurship at MIT Sloan School of Management
- Professor Sir Venki Ramakrishnan, FRS – President of the Royal Society (ex-officio member)
- Colin Smith, CBE, FREng – ex-Director of Engineering and Technology at Rolls-Royce
- Lord Stern of Brentford – Chair of the Grantham Research Institute at the London School of Economics

4) CST reports directly to the Prime Minister. Its terms of reference are to advise the Prime Minister and government on the implications of science and research, engineering and technology. CST works across the remits of individual departments. Areas of advice include:

- the opportunities and risks that science, technology and disruptive innovation present; using horizon scanning to highlight issues about:
 - research and science capability
 - innovation and the economy
 - health and quality of life within the UK
 - sustainable development and resilience
 - how science, engineering, technology and mathematics (STEM) can be developed and sustained in the UK; this can be through education and skills, and the promotion of international co-operation
 - what the government's high-level priorities for science and technology should be
-

News story: Surveillance Camera Commissioner and Information Commissioner sign MoU

Tony Porter, Surveillance Camera Commissioner, and Elizabeth Denham, Information Commissioner, have published a revised memorandum of understanding.

The memorandum is a statement of intent that has at its heart, the protection of the fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens in respect of their privacy, the protection of their personal information and also the public interest which arises when balancing those considerations against a legitimate duty to protect communities, where it is necessary to do so.

It clearly sets out a framework for cooperation, coordination and information sharing between the Surveillance Camera Commissioner and the Information Commissioner in connection with the sharing of relevant information and the delivery of their statutory functions where it is considered by the commissioners to be in the public interest for them to do so.

Surveillance Camera Commissioner, Tony Porter, said:

I'm delighted to publish this revised memorandum of understanding with Elizabeth which sees another deliverable of the national surveillance camera strategy for England and Wales met.

It sets out the roles of each of our offices and practical working level arrangements between us. Given the way that surveillance cameras can now collect and manipulate personal data it's extremely important that we have a framework in place to bolster our excellent working relationship. With the changes in data protection legislation coming in next year this is something that is very much in the public interest.

Speech: Transcript of speech given by the Prime Minister

Shinzō Abe

Good afternoon. My name is Shinzō Abe. With Prime Minister May today we are

able to make this address at this Business Forum between JETRO and DTI of – DIT of UK are to sign this memorandum of cooperation. We're very happy to be able to witness this.

For Japan, the UK is freedom, democracy, and human rights and rule of law. We share these universal values with the United Kingdom. We are global strategic partners. Security and economy are the two wheels supporting this relationship. Active trade and investment relationship between the two countries is the solid foundation of our relationship.

This time around, Prime Minister May, out of her very busy schedule, has come to Japan, and we are very, very pleased to receive her. Yesterday, we met in Kyoto. We had a chance to familiarise Prime Minister May with the tea ceremony, and we had dined in Kyoto, and we had a discussion on a number of issues in front of us.

Normally, we could have asked her to stay in Kyoto for one night, and I could have had more time – relaxing time in Kyoto, but Prime Minister May took a bullet train back to Tokyo, and this morning, a vessel – Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force vessel Izumo, she went aboard. Initial Izumo was built in the United Kingdom, this vessel, so from the olden times, Japan and the UK had this bond in the area of security. This is something that I want to make mention of here.

For Japanese businesses, the UK, for manufacturing and sales and R&D in Europe, this is a very important base, this country United Kingdom. And currently in the UK, about one thousand Japanese companies have outlets, and more than 160,000 people are being employed. These activities by Japanese companies with leading-edge technology, innovation is being created, and through technological transfer, domestic skill base is being enhanced and productivity – and export capability is being strengthened. And with the vitalisation of local economies, Japanese businesses are making great contribution to the UK economy, supporting UK systems or society through provision of various systems, including, in the manufacturing sector, annual auto production units. There is by 1.7 million and three Japanese companies' share is about 50% of this total production.

In June of this year, Queen Elizabeth – 175 years ago, Queen Victoria for the first time in the royal family took a train trip between Slough and Paddington. High-speed rail, new rolling stock was used for her travel, and that rolling stock was produced by a Japanese company. In 2014, when I visited the UK, Japanese companies manufactured high-speed rail, I took a ride on that high-speed rail, and I was able to appreciate that Japanese companies' technology into the daily lives of the British people. I witnessed that with great pleasure.

With the UK leaving the European Union, the UK is in the midst of change, great change. UK's departure from the EU has to be successful for UK, European Union and global economy. This is going to be quite important that this exit is going to be a successful one. After Brexit, the UK economy, I have trust in the UK economy after Brexit. Many Japanese companies, even after the Brexit vote, they have decided on new investments into the United

Kingdom. This is testimony of Japanese companies' expectation for the United Kingdom.

From the UK, in the EU exit negotiation, there has to be transparency and predictivity, to minimise any damage on the businesses. We have received that commitment, and we value this greatly. Even after Brexit, the UK, for business people, it will continue to be an attractive place, a compelling place. I am convinced of that.

So today, in this Business Forum, there are many people attending this Business Forum from businesses both from Japan and the UK. This is a reflection of the high level of interest and expectation in each other. I do hope that this is going to be a great opportunity, under the participation and attendance of Secretary of State Fox. I do hope that there is going to be further development for trade and investment between the two countries, and I do hope that there's going to be a lot of discussion today in this forum. There's going to be a summit meeting with Prime Minister May this evening, and I do hope that there's going to be a strengthened economic relationship between the two countries. We will talk about some concrete matters about such cooperation between the two countries. I look forward to that meeting. Thank you very much.

Prime Minister

Thank you. And I am delighted to be here today, together with so many leading Japanese and British businesses whose trade and investment is fundamental to the jobs and growth that underpin our shared prosperity. And I want to thank the Japan External Trade Organization for co-hosting this event, and Prime Minister Abe for his speech and for the deep and continued commitment that he is showing to the partnership between our two countries.

This is a formative period in shaping the future of my country and as we leave the European Union, so I am determined that we will seize the opportunity to become an ever more outward-looking Global Britain, deepening our trade relations with old friends and new allies around the world. And there are few places where the opportunities of doing so are greater than Japan, the third-largest economy in the world.

Japanese companies already invest over £40 billion in the United Kingdom, making the UK second only to America as Japan's top investment destination, while over 1,000 Japanese companies already employ over 140,000 people in Britain. And, as Secretary of State Fox said, the last 12 months have seen our bilateral trade increase by more than 12% and I very much welcome the commitment from Japanese companies – such as Nissan, Toyota, SoftBank and Hitachi – whose investments over the last year represent a powerful vote of confidence in the long-term strength of the UK economy.

And on Hitachi, I'm very pleased that the Chairman, Mr Nakanishi, is delivering a speech here today. Hitachi's relationship with the UK, in particular their investments into rail, nuclear and a range of other sectors, are truly impressive.

So, I am here together with a business delegation representing some of Britain's biggest investors in Japan because we want to build on that momentum and because I believe that this is a good moment for like-minded partners such as Britain and Japan to be doing more together. For as we become a Global Britain – a European nation still, but one that is outside the European Union – so we will be free to engage more actively and independently, particularly in key Asian markets like Japan. And against the backdrop of a more uncertain world, it is dependable and like-minded partners such as the United Kingdom who will stand with Japan in defending the rules-based international system and the open markets on which so much of our business is based.

So, I come to this forum today seeking to lay the foundations to take our trade and investment relationship to a whole new level as we leave the European Union, and I've agreed with Prime Minister Abe that we will develop an ambitious programme of joint working to help achieve this.

So, we're instructing our ministers responsible for trade, investment and business to develop a new framework, to realise our shared long-term vision, to deepen our bilateral prosperity relationship. This will be supported by business-to-government engagement to ensure it serves the needs of businesses like yours, and it will include a new Trade and Investment Working Group to deliver across our trade and innovation relationships.

Government dialogues will be established on a range of key industrial policies where we share great strengths, such as aviation, space, life sciences and advanced manufacturing. And the UK is also providing £700,000 of new funding to promote opportunities for UK businesses around Japan. And we will continue to collaborate on research and development, deepening our cooperation in this vital area and seeking to spread jobs and prosperity across all regions of our countries.

During the period before we leave the European Union, the UK will continue to champion the early signature and implementation of the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement. This will be our immediate priority, but as we leave the EU, so we will also work quickly to establish a new economic partnership between the UK and Japan based on the terms of this EU agreement.

We will also seek to ensure the freest and most frictionless trade possible between the UK and the EU, and this includes the imperative of a smooth and orderly transition for people and businesses in the UK and in Japan, in the remaining 27 Member States and for all our partners around the world.

Through all these steps, we will ensure the greatest possible confidence in our economy and we will build the closest, freest trading relationship between our two countries for when the UK leaves the European Union; that is the magnitude of our ambition and the scale of our commitment to it. And Prime Minister Abe and I look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead as we strive to achieve it, and with it to secure the jobs and investments that will bring prosperity to our peoples for generations to come.

Thank you.

News story: New CMA guidance to improve merger process

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) is making 3 changes, which are intended to provide additional guidance to merging companies, streamline the CMA's process and reduce the requirements on businesses.

Initial enforcement orders

The first change is the [publication of additional guidance](#) on the CMA's use of IEOs. These are orders that may be put into place during its investigations to prevent merging companies from integrating in a way that could affect the outcome or interfere with the CMA's ability to introduce any necessary measures.

The guidance, which reflects comments received in a recent [consultation](#), provides further clarification on:

- the circumstances in which an IEO will typically be imposed;
- the form that an IEO will typically take;
- the types of derogations that the CMA is likely to grant; and
- the timing for imposing and revoking IEOs and granting derogations.

Merger notice form

The CMA has also made a number of changes to the [merger notice form](#), reflecting comments received in a recent [consultation](#), that are intended to reduce the overall amount of information that businesses need to provide.

The changes include making the form clearer to understand, eliminating unnecessary questions and providing additional guidance on what information is and isn't likely to be required by the CMA in any given case.

Revised guidance on the CMA's mergers intelligence function

Finally, the CMA has also made some minor amendments to the guidance on its [merger intelligence function](#). In particular, the updated guidance clarifies the point at which merging companies who do not propose to notify their transaction to the CMA should submit a briefing note.

News story: Aviation support to exercises

It won't surprise air aware readers that, whilst deployed on or supporting an exercise, an increased level of risk is often found in relation to normal home base activities. An internal Military Aviation Authority (MAA) study into joint exercises in early 2016 concluded that the MAA should conduct detailed analysis of available exercise data – to further investigate why hazards are increased when conducting exercise activity.

A military exercise can be defined as the employment of military resources in training for operations, either exploring the effects of warfare or testing strategies without actual combat. In recent years Aviation has been critical to the success of such exercises whether supporting Counter Insurgency operations in Iraq and Afghanistan or, more recently, supporting defence as it returns to more contingent style operations. The aim of military exercises is the creation of professional resilient aircrew and support staff who can successfully perform in the complex battlespace of the 21st Century; whilst also ensuring the combat readiness of deployable forces prior to deployment. Exercises provide the means to practice, develop, and validate, within constraints, the practical application of a common doctrine: from small single aircraft individual training exercises, to Squadron collective training events right through to larger Tier 2 and 3 exercises such as the JOINT WARRIOR series, RED FLAG and COUGAR deployments. The MAA study found a healthy reporting culture from units deployed on exercise returning around 500-600 exercise related Defence air safety occurrence reports (DASOR) per year from 2010 to 2016. The analysis also found that the level of pre-exercise planning and preparation and first party assurance, whilst deployed, was of a high standard -with air safety risks captured and exploited in detailed post exercise reports across the three services. Nevertheless, aviation exercise planners and support staff should remind themselves of [Regulatory Article \(RA\) 2305\(6\) 'Air exercise planning and airspace integration](#) regulation'.

To capture and understand air safety issues on exercise it was decided to bracket the data by time, and to identify air safety issues from aviation exercises between 2010 and 2016. This time window is of particular interest as it focuses on both aviation exercises supporting Op HERRICK 2010-14 (MST and environmental) and aviation's switch to more contingency era operations from circa 2014 to date. Given the increased importance of Air Land Integration (ALI) capabilities post Op HERRICK, Op ELLAMY, Op TELIC and a focus on the 'whole force' approach to operations (CJIM-Combined Joint, Inter agency and Multinational), a broader and more complex set of exercise scenarios has developed which may suggest the spike in reporting from 2014. It was also noted that due to continuing operations such as Op SHADER not all forces have been able to return to contingency, which may account for gaps in exercise reporting from some force elements.

All readers will be aware that military exercises pose additional risks and

hazards to personnel across the four worlds and the 3700 DASOR identified in this 6 year time bracket identified certain themes. The list below, whilst not exclusive, for those not already familiar across the aviation environment will serve as a useful refresher.