Department for Education

UK Shipbuilding Skills Taskforce

Thursday 7 July 2022 (first meeting): summary

Introductions

The Chair, Honorary Captain Dr Paul Little welcomed everyone to the meeting:

- he outlined the importance of the group being focussed on delivery as a taskforce, rather than becoming a committee
- he asked that members ensure they are presenting solutions alongside problems.
- he highlighted that members were there to share their expertise and experience, rather than their organisations'
- members were asked to introduce themselves and outline a hope, concern and what they can bring to the taskforce
- members were also asked to declare any interests that might impact their participation in the taskforce, and that a form would follow from the Secretariat to capture those.

Context

Rebecca Spence from the National Shipbuilding Office outlined:

- the National Shipbuilding strategy (NSbS), including details of the 30-year cross-government pipeline. Key details included:
- not only "boxes", but also what goes into ships included in the strategy
- leisure sector also part of the sector
- the 30-year pipeline includes other vessels in addition to the Royal Navy
- the growing importance of green skills and technology and understanding the barriers facing the sector.

Scene setting

Hon. Captain Dr Paul Little outlined the three stages (Discovery, Prioritisation, Engagement) of the taskforce and the aims/objectives for each of these.

There will be 17 further meetings, with the split of in person and online meetings to be confirmed.

After 12 meetings, the taskforce will produce a report of approximately 100 pages and include prioritised action plans.

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A key aspect of the upcoming work of the taskforce will be through specifically focused workstreams. More details on these will be shared shortly, and individuals will be asked to self-nominate to lead each of these.

Members asked questions around their role as advocates for the taskforce and its work, and the secretariat agreed to share potential discussion topics with members each month.

Members were asked to share any communications opportunities that the taskforce may be able to use to promote its work, and to actively share details of the taskforce and its work with its network.

Terms of reference

The taskforce were asked to suggest any amendments to the terms of reference. These were noted and a revised version will be circulated for agreement in the next meeting.

The discussion focussed on governance and ways of working.

Forward planning

A proposed schedule of meetings for the next 6 months was shared with the taskforce (Annex A).

Members were asked to notify the taskforce secretariat if they would be willing to host a future meeting, and those who had already made those offers thanked for doing so.

Annex A

Proposed schedule of meetings.

Date	Time	Meeting type	Location
Tuesday 16 August 2022	10:00-12:00	Virtual	Microsoft Teams
Tuesday 13 September 2022	10:30-13:30	In-person	City of Glasgow College
Monday 10 October 2022	12:30-15:30	In-person	Berthon Boatyard, Lymington
Friday 18 November 2022	10:30-13:30	In-person	Babcock, Rosyth
Friday 9 December 2022	10:00-12:00	Virtual	Microsoft Teams
Tuesday 17 January 2023	10:30-13:30	In-person	Princess Yachts, Plymouth

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