



What is the Security and Resilience Growth Partnership?

The Security and Resilience Growth Partnership is a Ministerially-chaired group that brings together senior representatives from the government, industry, and academia to identify and address barriers both to capability development and increasing UK security exports

What is Security Innovation and Demonstration Centre (SIDC)?

The Security Innovation and Demonstration Centre (SIDC) is the first initiative of the Growth Partnership. It is designed to improve capability development and contribute to economic growth and international security,

Hosted by the Home Office Centre for Applied Science and Technology (CAST), SIDC is designed to form collaborative partnerships between industry, academia, policy-makers and end-users to:

- Identify and scope security challenges and requirements, including through the development of capability roadmaps.
- Inform how capabilities are developed by industry and academia.
- Demonstrate innovative solutions, and their benefits, to end-users.
- Support economic growth and global security by showcasing its work, and UK security capabilities, to international partners.

The initial priorities for SIDC projects are in the areas of counter terrorism, crime reduction (including organised crime), and border security.

What does SIDC do?

For the government, police and emergency services

SIDC facilitates pre-commercial engagement with a wide range of suppliers. Through this, policy-makers and end-users (and their capability programmes) will be able to:

- Develop a better understanding of security challenges, by drawing upon the security sector's subject matter expertise.
- Develop a better understanding of commercial technology, and how that technology can be applied to security requirements.
- See first-hand the benefits of technology in realistic demonstrations.
- Access new suppliers and innovation.

For industry and academia

Through SIDC projects, industry and academia are able to:

- Gain a deeper insight into the key challenges facing policy-makers and end-users.
- Help inform and shape Science and Technology programmes, prior to calls being issued.
- Have access to Research & Development programmes that were previously closed or limited to a small number of players.



- Have access to laboratory space, replica or live data sets and systems, trial results, operational environments, and end-user insights, which will improve the effectiveness of capability development and help ensure rapid increase in the Technology Readiness Levels of capabilities.
- Develop new partnerships for the commercialisation of research.

SIDC is not a procurement route, but will inform the shape of Science and Technology programmes and requirements. Nor does it provide advice about commercial models or review specifications immediately prior to procurement; for this, other services are available (such as Bluelightworks, which allows departments and forces to pull-in advice from individual experts in industry and academia in order to de-risk procurement processes.

Programme of activity

SIDC has been in pilot phase since June 2014. It has run two pilot projects to prove the concept of collaborative requirements and capability development:

- In support of an existing government communications programme. SIDC helped develop and implement a new operating model for the programme by providing outreach to new companies, academic institutions and technologies.
- In support of the police national Body-Worn Video (BWV) programme. SIDC shared trial data and end-user insights with manufacturers to inform hardware development. It also placed BWV in the context of a digital criminal justice system.

From January 2015, SIDC will undertake the following projects:

1. **Communications:** continued support to a communications programme.
2. **Body-Worn Video hardware:** set up an industry reference group to develop technical standards for BWV hardware.
3. **Digital policing and criminal justice:** set up an industry reference group to develop open data standards.
4. **Organised crime:** enhance understanding of how the digital environment is affecting different types of organised crime.
5. **Border security:** identify innovative detection capabilities and techniques.

SIDC is also in ongoing discussions about other projects.

How to get involved

SIDC's projects are open to all industry and academic organisations. To express interest in participating in a project, please email SIDC@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

SIDC is a partnership between government and industry. Currently, one industry secondee is in the core team. Other industry secondees will be sought to manage particular projects within SIDC's forward programme (on a full or part time basis). To express interest in a secondment, please email SIDC@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

