



Ministry  
of Defence

JSP 815

# Defence Safety Management System (Preliminary Pages)

# Foreword

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Our vision is to establish a world leading safety culture across Defence, where the value of safety is recognised by everyone. Across Defence, we will embed the management of safety and a care for people into everything we do, with the aim to:

- eliminate fatalities whilst enhancing capability
- minimise injury through learning
- protect the environment from harm.

I am pleased to introduce the Defence Safety Management System (SMS) Framework which has been written to underpin the delivery of this vision. Collectively we now need to work together across Defence to manage all aspects of safety in line with the expectations set out in this safety management system.

This SMS applies across Defence, to drive continual improvement in safety performance and to provide a means to self-assure your own conformance and compliance with the Defence level standards for safety management.

# Preface

## How to use this JSP

1. JSP 815 is the Defence Safety Management System (SMS) which is to be used by all Defence organisations to direct and control safety management within their organisation. This JSP is structured in two volumes:
  - a. Volume 1 - provides the elements, expectations and performance statements that must be achieved to move Defence to a highly resilient and proactive organisation. The policy has been developed to align with ISO 45001 requirements.
  - b. Volume 2 - provides the direction that must be followed and the guidance and good practice that should be followed which is to be used by all Defence organisations to assist them with the successful implementation of the requirements set out in the corresponding 12 Elements of the Volume 1 of JSP 815 (this JSP). Volume 2 subsumes much of the policy previously set out in the DSA 01.1 and 01.2 chapters.
2. The Defence SMS framework described in this JSP is the overarching authority for safety management across Defence. The information contained herein provides a means to assist Defence organisations to put in place good practices and drive continual improvement in safety performance within their organisation.

## Further Advice and Feedback - Contacts

3. The owner of this JSP is the Director of Defence Safety (DS). For further information on any aspect of this policy, or questions not answered within the subsequent sections, or to provide feedback on the content, contact: Directorate of Defence Safety (DDS) at [COO-DDS-GroupMailbox@mod.gov.uk](mailto:COO-DDS-GroupMailbox@mod.gov.uk).
4. This JSP will be reviewed at least annually. Where this document contains references to policies, publications and other JSPs which are published by other Functions, these Functions have been consulted in the formulation of the policy and guidance detailed in this publication.

## Terms and definitions

5. General safety terms and definitions are provide in the Master Terms and Definitions Glossary which can also be accessed via the [GOV.UK](#) page.

Note: Throughout this document, the term 'Defence organisations' refers to Military Commands, Top Level Budgets (TLBs), Defence Nuclear Organisation (DNO) and Enabling Organisations (EOs) collectively. As set out in the terms and definitions glossary link above.

## Scope

6. This policy applies to all those employed by Defence (military or civilian) as well as those working on behalf of Defence (for example, contractors). It applies to all Defence activities carried out in any location (UK or overseas).

## Amendments

7. Proposed amendments to this document are to be made by e-mail to: [COO-DDS-GroupMailbox@mod.gov.uk](mailto:COO-DDS-GroupMailbox@mod.gov.uk) using the following format:

- a. subject;
- b. sender's reference;
- c. date;
- d. volume, element, page, and paragraph being addressed; and
- e. comment.

## Amendment record

8. This JSP 815 Volume, has been reviewed by the Directorate of Defence Safety (DDS) together with relevant subject matter experts and key Safety stakeholders. Any suggestions for amendments should be sent to [COO-DDS-GroupMailbox@mod.gov.uk](mailto:COO-DDS-GroupMailbox@mod.gov.uk).

Version No	Date Published	Text Affected	Authority
1.0	Sep 22	Release of new Defence SMS Part 1	Dir HS&EP
1.1	7 June 23	Restructure to Defence SMS Volume 1	DDS

## Equality and Diversity Impact Assessing Statement

This policy has been equality and diversity impact assessed in accordance with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). This resulted in the completion of a Stage 1 screening only (no direct discrimination or adverse impact identified).

## **Volume 1 – Contents**

### **Title**

Introduction

Purpose

Management system approach

Role of the Defence Safety Function

Structure

Using the SMS

Authority of this Defence SMS

Jurisdiction and legislation

Assurance stages

12 Elements, Expectations and Performance Statements

## **Volume 2 - Contents**

### **Title**

Element 1: Leadership, Governance and Culture

Element 2: Organisation and Dependencies

Element 3: Legislation, Policy, Regulations and Guidance

Element 4: Risk Assessments and Safety Cases

Element 5: Supervision, Contracting and Control Activities

Element 6: Personnel Competence, Resources and Training

Element 7: Equipment Design, Manufacture and Maintenance

Element 8: Infrastructure Design, Build and Maintenance

Element 9: Performance, Management Information and Reporting

Element 10: Accident / Incident Management and Emergency Response

Element 11: Communications and Stakeholder Engagement

Element 12: Assurance

### **Volume 2 Annexes**

Annex A - Applicability of Instructions for SEMS (Element 2)

Annex B - Exemption Certificate Process (Element 3)

Annex C - Duty of Care on Deployments (Element 5)

Annex D - Head of Establishment Responsibilities (Element 5)

Annex E - Safety Aspects for Letters of Delegation (Element 6)

Annex F - JSP 815 Mapping to ISO 45001 (Element 12)

Annex G - Assurance Self-Assessment Toolkit (Element 12)