



## The UK Chemical Weapons Convention National Authority

### Who are we?

The UK Chemical Weapons Convention National Authority (UKNA) in the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero is responsible for implementing the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in the UK, the Crown Dependencies and the Overseas Territories.

The CWC is an international arms control treaty that bans the use of chemical weapons and promotes peaceful uses of chemistry. It is administered by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) based in The Hague. It applies in the UK through the Chemical Weapons Act 1996 (CWA) and supporting secondary legislation.

### What do we do?

- **Monitoring and reporting of chemical activities:** We gather information about the use of certain toxic chemicals from all companies, universities and other entities and we declare this to the OPCW. For guidance on declaration requirements: [Chemical Weapons Convention guidance - GOV.UK](#).
- **Inspections of UK chemical industry and defence sites:** We facilitate regular inspections by the OPCW at locations around the UK.
- **Export and licensing controls:** We review applications for exports of certain chemicals and equipment and we issue licences for the use of particularly toxic chemicals. For guidance on licencing requirements: [Chemical Weapons Convention guidance - GOV.UK](#).
- **National policy development:** We work with colleagues from across the UK Government to promote chemical weapons non-proliferation and to support the improvement of chemical safety and security.
- **International policy development:** We support the OPCW with the global implementation of the CWC and we assist other States Parties to the CWC through capacity building partnerships.