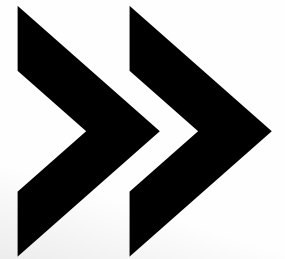




ARMY BATTLELAB





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Welcome to the Army BattleLab newsletter. Over the next 9 months, as the various elements of the BattleLab come together, this will be our main way of keeping you informed and up to date on the project as it grows.



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MAJOR GENERAL JEZ BENNETT
DIRECTOR CAPABILITY

HAPPY NEW YEAR and thank you to all of you who joined us for our first webinar on 3 Dec 2020. With over 200 of you in virtual attendance, and over 100 questions asked, we are thrilled to see the interest that this project has gained so far.

For those of you who were unable to attend live, please use the links along the bottom of this page to access the recording of the session, along with other links to external and internal articles related to this project.

Just before Christmas the Chief of the Defence Staff, at his Christmas RUSI lecture said - *"We need to work more imaginatively with commercial companies that make our systems and with centres of learning and industry at large"*. The Army BattleLab will offer the Army its first true Dedicated Innovation, Experimentation, Exploitation Centre allowing the Army the opportunity to truly work with industry, academia and our end users in new and novel ways. We looking forward to working with you on this journey.

This newsletter will remind and update the key points from last year's webinar, answer questions that we were unable to explore during the session, and sign post the way ahead over the coming year.


WEBINAR

 CDS
Christmas
Speech


JANES
Janes article


 Initial
Press
Release

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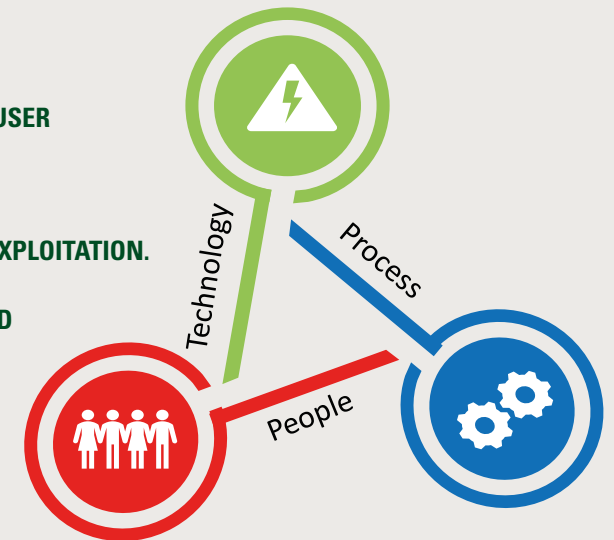
Vision / Intent

The Army BattleLab will offer the Army its first true 'Dedicated Innovation, Experimentation, Exploitation Centre'

An open innovation and collaboration environment, both physical and virtual, where tactics and technology combine to drive operational advantage, now and for the future.

The Army BattleLab will be trusted to solve people, process and technology challenges throughout the organisation at a pace that is relevant.

- **CHALLENGE CENTRIC – END-USER OBSESSED.**
- **CONFIGURED TO ENABLE 'END-TO-END' INNOVATION EXPLOITATION.**
- **STRATEGICALLY ALIGNED AND NETWORKED.**



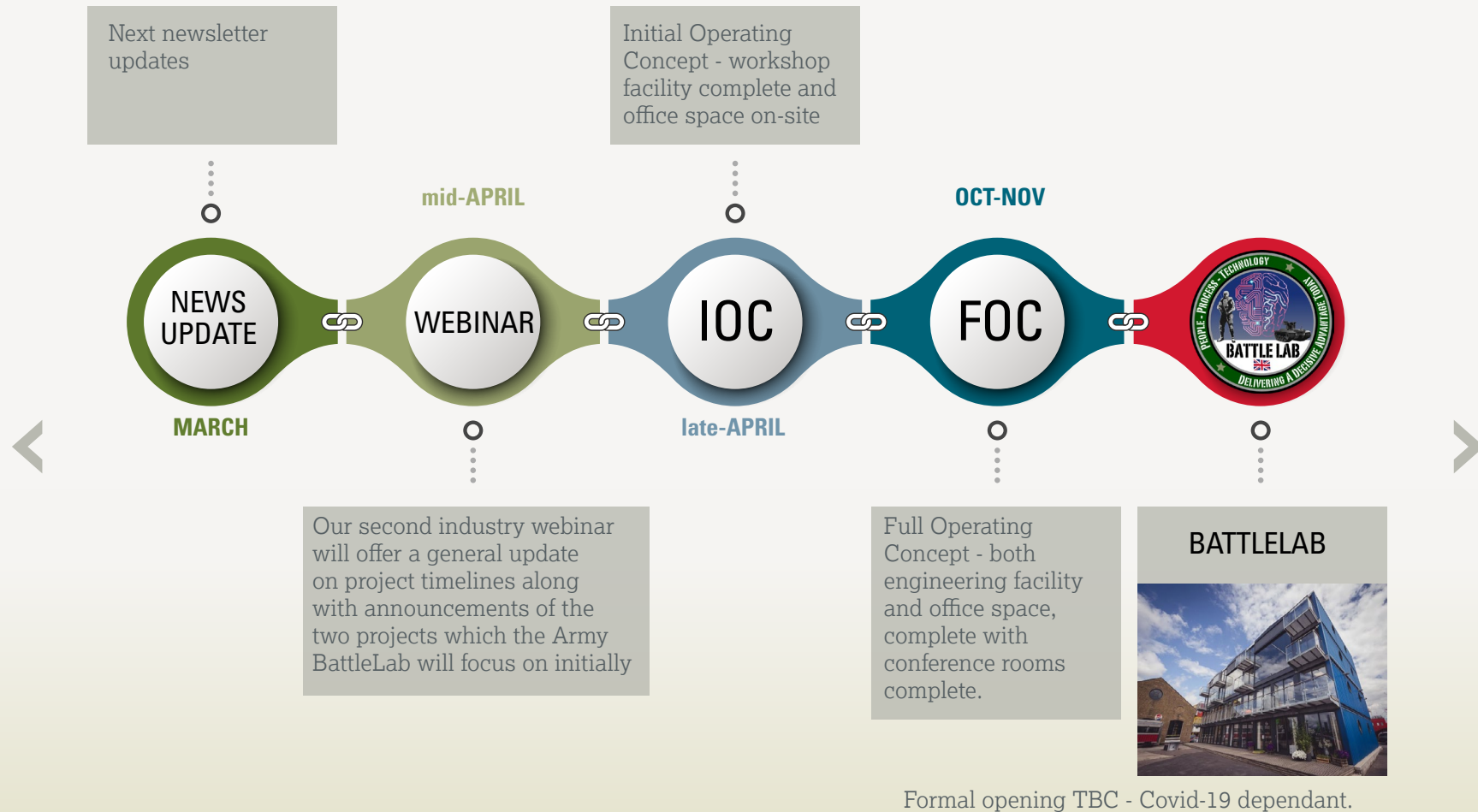
Proposition

The Army BattleLab is an area where we can 'co-locate with innovative industries in a shared space providing co-working offices and workshops or labs to develop technology in conjunction with the end user'.



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PROJECTS TIMELINES



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OPERATING MODEL

Purpose:

To provide an end-to-end innovation pipeline focused on the needs of the user community.

Attributes:

Represent the scope and scale of Army activity, pursuing innovation across three horizons: incremental, adjacent and breakthroughs.

Prioritise agility and exploitation to deliver value, complimenting and accelerating existing approaches.

Operate within a networked community with the BattleLab providing a focal point and catalyst for activity.

Provide persistent challenge to the status quo to drive value and improvement.



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Q1

How do I get involved in this project?

A1

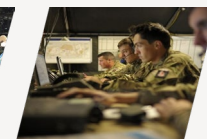
If you received this newsletter directly from the BattleLab team then you are already involved. They will keep you updated as to the key milestones of the project and opportunities for you, or your company, to get involved. If you were passed this document from elsewhere, please get in touch with the BattleLab team via any of the methods on the contact tab to register your interest.

Q2

How does this fit into the existing Defence Innovation System.

A2

There is a variety of innovation Hubs across the MoD which are linked via the Defence Innovation Unit. The Army, as the lead to deliver the infrastructure element of this project, is currently both managing the build but also how we foresee this facility being used. The other innovation Hubs are engaged with the project, some have well developed plans to be involved and several others are considering how this might compliment their current approach. From the outset, this has been designed to be inclusive for both Defence and industry and the Army will be leveraging the specific skills of all Defence organisations and seeking their input in projects which require wide ranging debate and collaboration.



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Q3

What projects are you going to focus on initially?

A3

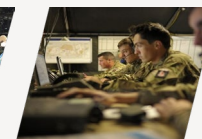
As the BattleLab's approach and operating concept become clearer it is evident that there are some projects that lend themselves immediately to this approach and allow us to test and refine our processes. We expect to focus on two key areas and these will be briefed, as per the timings on the road map.

Q4

Is the project still running on time?

A4

Yes! Covid-19 has caused some delay and we expect that it is highly likely to alter some timelines as this project progresses. The good news however is that ground has been broken, and the first part of the build has started.



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