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3. POEMS Management and Responsibilities

3.0.1 The POEMS is designed to identify, assess and assist the management of environmental impacts throughout the life of equipment. Therefore, other parts of the MOD may need to contribute information into POEMS or utilise its output in order to fully discharge MOD wide policy commitments.

3.0.2 The following is a summary of the expected role of key MOD stakeholders.

3.1 The Directorate of Equipment Capability (Customer 1) and Customer 2

3.1.1 Customers 1 and 2 will need to inform the IPT within the User Requirement Document (URD) of any specific environmental considerations or performance requirements that they are aware of, or that the equipment or service must meet. (Note: this will eventually be achieved via delivery of an Integrated Policy Appraisal once this mechanism has been formally adopted as MOD Policy.) Customers 1 and 2 should identify what environmental information they already hold, and to enter into agreements with the organisation responsible for obtaining any location specific permits or authorisations, and related assessment for the use of the equipment. The IPT should check that this has happened as part of stakeholder identification.

3.2 IPT up to In-Service

3.2.1 The IPT will be required to complete, or manage the completion of, the POEMS procedures for the project. More detail on the work required in the completion of each procedure can be found later in this document and in the procedures themselves.

3.2.2 IPTs will be responsible for providing information gathered on potential environmental impacts associated with their projects to other parties. For example, to support location-specific environmental impact assessments or studies which may be required in addition to the assessments completed under the EMS. These may include Sustainability Appraisals, Statutory Environmental Assessments (EAs) and Development Control requirements, site based EMSs etc. Part of the role of the IPT will be to agree and document these responsibilities on a project by project basis. Records should be kept of information that has been provided, and to whom.

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3.3 IPT after In-Service

3.3.1 During the in-service stage IPTs will be required to ensure that environmental information on the equipment or service, and any other information held within the EMS is kept up to date. The IPT must also ensure that the EMS outputs are appropriately reviewed and revised depending on experience and any change in circumstances surrounding the use and maintenance of the equipment or service. This may include revision of Environmental Impact Statements and the further development of disposal plans. The IPT will also be expected to cooperate with the user or operator of the equipment to assist with their own environmental appraisals and assessments.

3.3.2 If the design of the equipment or the scope of the service, the use of the equipment, or the environmental requirements change from that originally identified, the Environmental Impact Assessment must be reviewed (Procedure EMP08) and any resultant additional risks eliminated, reduced or controlled, for example, by updating operational controls. Some of the reasons why the EIA(s) may need updating include:

- a. **Changes to the use of the equipment or service.** For example, changes to where (geographically) it is to be used or how it was to be used (which could include how it is to be used in combination with other systems).
- b. **Changes in the specification of the equipment or service.** For example, situations where changes are made to the equipment, in terms of materials or components, when re-assessment of the environmental impacts and priority of those impacts would be required.
- c. **Changes to environmental requirements or stakeholder concerns.** For example, changes to applicable environmental legislation or policy requirements or a shift in public opinion on an environmental issue.

3.3.3 The responsibility for completing, expanding or modifying the environmental evaluations, will vary from project to project and therefore responsibility cannot be completely specified in this document. However, in all cases the IPT Leader retains overall responsibility for the management and outcomes of the review and revision of assessments and related plans.

3.4 Other Parties In-Service and Disposal

3.4.1 During the in-service and disposal stages several organisations within MOD, such as the Services, Defence Estates, and the Army Training Estate may be requested to follow operational controls developed for the equipment or service. There may be specific operational procedures developed to mitigate environmental impacts, although in most instances environmental considerations will be integrated within procedures and documentation supporting the use, maintenance and subsequent disposal of the equipment or termination of the service. This allows local flexibility in implementing the required mitigation.

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3.5 ASEG

3.5.1 ASEG holds overall responsibility for the management and maintenance of the POEMS.

3.5.2 In addition, ASEG will also be responsible for:

- Leading Management Reviews of the POEMS overall;
- Development of training and awareness activities to support the POEMS;
- Responding to members of the public (in agreement with DS&C) on matters of enquiry relating to Environmental Information Regulations and Freedom of Information Act;
- Providing specialist POEMS and related knowledge to IPTs in the Concept stage of CADMID. Providing general guidance to IPTs in meeting the requirements of the POEMS at other stages;
- Providing guidance for system auditing.

3.6 Functional Safety Management Officers/Defence Safety & Claims (Functional SMOs/DS&C)

3.6.1 DS&C has responsibility for the production and maintenance of the MOD Sustainability and Environmental Manual (JSP 418) which provides the main MOD reference source for POEMS and in particular, the Register of Environmental Standards (Procedure EMP01). SMOs will be ensuring that this information is correctly signposted in the JSPs they sponsor.

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