SUMMARY OF SECRETARY'S REPORT TO THE DSMA COMMITTEE COVERING ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD 26 APR – 25 OCT 20

- No formal, supplementary DSMA notices were issued during this period.

- Defence and security media advice was sought on 66 occasions during this reporting period, a 38% increase over the previous period but still well below the historical average of 110 over 6 months. 28 requests were initiated by the media, 30 by Government officials and 8 by members of the public.

- The number of requests for advice on particular topics included:

UK Special Forces	25	Military Equipment	6
Intelligence Agencies	10	DSMA System	4
Nuclear Weapons	1	Historical	5
Counter-Terrorism	2	Members of the Public	7
Cyber	5	Miscellaneous	0
Current & Recent Military Ops	1		

In addition, the DSMA Committee's secretariat assessed:

- Options to improve further the Committee's transparency.

- The impact of the Law Commission's Final Report on the Protection of Official Data.

- The impact of the recent RUSI study into 'Terrorism and the Mass Media'.

The Committee's Secretary did not promote the DSMA notice system during this period but will begin an online briefing programme in December.