

Annabelle Ransome-Williams – Biography with role profile

After 17 months as MUFC – SSNR Programme Manager I have been given the great honour and privilege to take on the SSNR Team Leader role from Dr James Cowan.

My early career was as a graduate Naval Architect, however, I quickly found myself delivering strategically important transformation projects and this has become a bit of a career theme. My initial exposure to this type of work was with the Future Defence Supply Chain initiative where we re-designed the defence logistics operations. Following approval, the new business model delivered a step change in performance for users while reducing operating costs through footprint consolidation. There is no doubt this experience shaped me personally and professionally. In subsequent years, I worked with Ministers leading the STEM agenda; supplying and delivering surge capacity for helicopter flying hours in Afghanistan and Iraq and developing team and organisation performance in the nation-wide operations of the Rural Payments Agency.



Having moved into the private and third sector to satisfy a thirst for delivery knowledge and experience, I sharpened my skills in a range of diverse positions including demonstrating P3M in RNLI fundraising, helping a Small to Medium sized company turn-around.

Returning to Defence, my work continued in developing teams and ways of working to uplift productivity and performance standards, delivering: Equipment Management services for the Royal Navy; Class Output of T23 and T45 warship availability, and building new capability (people, teams and processes) at the Waterfront. This history has been an invaluable experience in building teams who are motivated by outcomes and value generation.

In the SSN(R) project, I have set up our business-critical activities: identifying and exploiting build and sustainment opportunities; preparing to overcome the inevitable challenges, making bold steps towards our aspirational targets and engendering wider business improvements. Looking ahead, my role has a few key things to focus on for the next few months:

- Maturing the new organisational delivery arrangements to maintain pace and innovation
- Scale over year-2 at pace and preparing for future years detail design and build contract.
- Re-set the costs and address the affordability
- Joining In-Service and acquisition continuum.

On a personal note I live in Exeter with my family and we spend much of our time on the water, moors and coastal paths. For some years now I have been studying at the University of Bath developing a thesis on Innovation and Change but as I am on an extended sabbatical, I suspect that my academic career may have to wait for my retirement.

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