Director GCHQ confirms new Chief Scientific Adviser for National Security

Professor Danielle George will succeed Alex van Someren in April 2025

Director GCHQ Anne Keast-Butler has confirmed that Professor Danielle George CBE, PhD will take up the role of Chief Scientific Adviser for National Security this spring.

The role of Chief Scientific Adviser plays a crucial role in providing advice and supporting delivery of Science and Technology for the UK Intelligence Community (UKIC) which includes MI5 and SIS.

Speaking about the announcement, Director GCHQ said;

"Professor George is someone with deep technical expertise and strong academic ability, and she's also passionate about inspiring the next generation.

"We're looking forward to working with her to enhance the science and tech ambitions of the UK intelligence community at a time of unprecedented acceleration of technology."

About Professor Danielle George

Danielle is a Professor of Radio Frequency Engineering and Associate Vice President at the University of Manchester. She was President of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) in 2020 to 2021 and currently a Vice President of the British Computer Society, Chartered Institute for IT.

Danielle was appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire in Her Majesty The Queen's 2016 Honours List for services to engineering through public engagement. In 2016 she received the Royal Academy of Engineering Rooke Medal for services to engineering and in 2017 received the Harold Hartley Medal for outstanding contribution to the field of Measurement and Control.

Danielle was appointed Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in His Majesty The King's 2024 New Years Honours List for services to engineering through public engagement.

Danielle's passion for raising public awareness of the positive impact engineering and science has on all aspects of our everyday lives, as well as highlighting to young people the immense depth and breadth of opportunities a career in science and engineering can offer, has led to numerous current high-profile ambassadorial roles.

PUBLISHED

3 March 2025

WRITTEN FOR

Overview