

Regulatory Briefing – October 2020

Europe

United Kingdom

The UK Space Agency (UKSA) launches the international component of its National Space Innovation Programme

On 1 October 2020, the UKSA published a call for proposals for grants between £250,000 and £2.5 million per project for deliverables in the financial year 2020/21 for the international component of the National Space Innovation Programme (NSIP International).

The NSIP International funding call invites UK organisations to submit project proposals involving collaboration with foreign organisations in the countries listed in the following table.

Partner Country	Technology/Discipline
Australia	Earth observation
Japan	Satellite applications
Canada	Robotics
France	Earth observation and climate
India	Earth observation and climate and/or sustainable development
UAE	Disaster relief
Global	Space safety and sustainability, including space debris
Global	Space science

The funding call closes at mid-day (UK time) on 29 October 2020.

More information on the application process is available [here](#).

First UK Space Census survey is launched

On 7 October 2020, a [survey](#) for the first [UK Space Census](#) (Census) of space sector employees was launched. The Census is being conducted by Space Skills Alliance on behalf of the Space Growth Partnership (SGP)'s Space Skills Advisory Panel, and the data and information collected will be sent to the SGP, the Space Sector Council and the UKSA to develop future space policy, with a focus on improving diversity and inclusion in the UK space sector.

The survey will be run until 31st December 2020.

The UKSA publishes the Size and Health of the UK Space Industry survey 2020

On 14 October 2020, the UKSA published its [survey](#) for its biannual Size and Health of the UK Space Industry report to track growth in income, exports and employment in the UK space sector.

The survey is being run by know.space on behalf of the UKSA and is open to responses from space sector organisations across the UK.

The survey will remain open until the end of the year and the industry is encouraged to respond as soon as possible.

The UKSA, DfT, BEIS and the CAA publish consultation on draft insurance and liabilities requirements to implement the Space Industry Act 2018

On 13 October 2020, the UKSA, Department for Transport (DfT), Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) published an additional [consultation](#) on draft secondary legislation for implementation of the Space Industry Act 2018 (SIA), specifically concerning insurance, liabilities regulations and charging proposals (Consultation).

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The Consultation supplements the first consultation on “Spaceport and spaceflight activities: regulations and guidance” consultation published in July 2020.

The Consultation seeks views on the operability and effectiveness of the following documents:

- The Draft Space Industry (Liabilities) Regulations;
- The Impact Assessment on Liabilities & Insurance 2020;
- Guidance for stakeholders on insurance and liabilities requirements under the SIA; and
- Guidance on the Modelled Insurance Requirement Determination Process.

The Consultation covers:

- the proposed Modelled Insurance Requirement (MIR) approach for launch activities;
- liability to indemnify the Government under section 36 of the SIA;
- strict third-party liability under section 34 of the SIA;
- insurance requirements; and
- charging proposals under the Outer Space Act 1986 and the SIA.

The deadline for submitting a response is 23:59 (GMT) on 10 November 2020.

Ofcom publishes its Statement on its recent Notice of proposals to make the Wireless Telegraphy (Licence Charges) Regulations 2020

On 2 October 2020, Ofcom published a [Statement](#) outlining its decision to make new regulations, the Wireless Telegraphy (Licence Charges) Regulations 2020, to:

- consolidate older regulations on the fees payable for the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006 (WT Act) licences; and

- include fees for the following three classes of WT Act licence which were introduced since the older regulations were last amended:

- o Local Access;
- o Shared Access; and
- o Network 2 GHz.

The Wireless Telegraphy (Licence Charges) Regulations 2020 will come into force on 21 October 2020.

ESA publishes its Annual Space Environment Report

The European Space Agency (ESA) has published its [Annual Space Environment Report](#) outlining the status of the space environment and space debris in 2019.

The report highlights the steady increase in debris-creating events, particularly explosions in orbit, despite increasing rates of compliance with international regulations on debris mitigation.

ESA will be holding its 8th European Conference on Space Debris at the European Space Operations Centre in Darmstadt, Germany between 20 - 23 April 2021. Further information on registering for the event can be found [here](#).

United States

FCC publishes a Report and Order to improve the timeliness and transparency of the review process for applications from companies with foreign ownership

On 1 October 2020, the FCC published a [Report and Order](#) to improve the cross-agency review process for applications from companies with foreign ownership.

The rules adopted by the Report and Order establish timeframes for the US executive branch agencies to complete their review of FCC applications, and petitions for declaratory ruling, that the FCC refers to the agencies for assessment

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of any national security, law enforcement, foreign policy or trade policy issues.

International

The UK, the US and six other nations sign agreement on principles of space exploration ahead of planned moon mission

On 13 October 2020, eight countries signed [the Artemis Accords](#), to support the international partnerships involved in NASA’s Artemis programme which aims to achieve a sustainable presence on the Moon as a precursor to a manned Mars mission.

The UK is set to play a key role in the construction of the Lunar Gateway, a new space station which will orbit the Moon.

The signatories of the Artemis Accords are:

- the US;
- the UK;
- the UAE;
- Luxembourg;
- Japan;
- Italy;
- Canada; and
- Australia.



Joanne Wheeler MBE
Managing Partner
joanne.wheeler@wearealden.com



Toby Ward
Partner
toby.ward@wearealden.com



Alex Monk
Partner and COO
alex.monk@wearealden.com



Richard Nunn
Partner
richard.nunn@wearealden.com



Vicky Jeong
Associate (admitted in New York)
vicky.jeong@wearealden.com



Joe Butler
Paralegal
joe.butler@wearealden.com



Eleanor Winn
Paralegal
eleanor.winn@wearealden.com



Patrick Selley
Solicitor
patrick.selley@wearealden.com



Jason Betteley
Barrister
jason.betteley@wearealden.com



Elizabeth Holden
Solicitor
elizabeth.holden@wearealden.com