



Advancing research into space surveillance and tracking:  
Call for grant proposals

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## 1. Purpose

- 1.1. In support of this strategic objective, the UK Space Agency is inviting applications for public grant funding from organisations interested in developing space surveillance and tracking (SST) capabilities in the UK space sector. Proposals should focus on one of the two core themes:
- Low-cost Low Earth Orbit (LEO) surveillance and tracking sensors.
  - Artificial Intelligence and Machine learning to enhance SST data exploitation.

## 2. Strategic context

- 2.1. The Government's ambition is to grow the UK's global share of the space market to 10% by 2030. To achieve this ambition, industry will need to quickly seize the most significant growth opportunities in current and emerging markets.
- 2.2. Our National Space Policy of 2015 has set a clear aspiration to enable access to new space markets from the UK; *"Government will enable access to new space markets where they offer significant advantages to UK space businesses"*.
- 2.3. SST is a growing market with the current forecast potentially expected to reach over £100 million by 2035<sup>1</sup>. With the demand for SST increasing, this provides an opportunity for the UK space industry to take a leading role in the sector. The European Space Agency currently estimates there are over 900,000 pieces of space debris larger than 1 cm orbiting the Earth. Only a small proportion of these are currently tracked. Advancements in technology which are enabling the rapid growth in satellite launch and increasing the number of satellites, including those in mega constellations, are greatly increasing the global requirement for SST capability.
- 2.4. Our ambition, therefore, is to provide grant funding to companies seeking to develop SST technologies or capabilities for use in or by the UK. Priority areas for market growth have been identified as low-cost LEO surveillance or tracking sensors and artificial intelligence/machine learning used to enhance space surveillance and tracking operations.

## 3. Invitation to submit grant proposals

- 3.1. We are inviting companies to submit applications for studies that develop a technical and/or operational system design for providing innovative space surveillance and tracking capabilities. This call has two themes:
- Low cost LEO surveillance and tracking sensors:

We are interested in novel technologies, techniques and system design which provide performance similar to, or better than, current systems at reduced cost. Both ground-based

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<sup>1</sup> 'Commercial Space Surveillance & Tracking', Euroconsult, 2020.

and space-based systems are within scope, although we anticipate that it may be difficult to fulfil the low-cost requirement using space-based systems.

Proposals should focus on technologies capable of detecting active satellites and debris. Proposals for technologies capable of the detection of objects of at least 2 cm (at 400 km altitude) and 10 cm (at 2,000 km altitude) diameter are preferable, but this is not compulsory if the proposal can demonstrate the benefit of alternative technologies.

- Artificial intelligence and machine learning to enhance SST data exploitation:

We are interested in proposals that apply artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques in order to address identified challenges in SST. Proposals should demonstrate how artificial intelligence/machine learning will enhance SST capability over traditional techniques.

Some of the challenges proposals could focus on include improvements to the monitoring of satellite manoeuvres, status and pattern of life, advancements in conjunction assessments, or monitoring of in orbit servicing missions. These are suggestions only, and proposals addressing other challenges in SST are welcomed. We welcome proposals equally from AI or machine learning specialists who have not previously worked within the space sector or space specialists who wish to consider how to utilise these techniques.

3.2. Proposals are invited for studies or demonstrations of how a business, or businesses working together, can advance development of UK SST capabilities as identified above.

3.3. Proposed studies should, where feasible, include technology demonstration and produce verifiable performance data for the technology and/or system. Proposals for paper studies will be considered where the study can be shown to result in robust simulation of performance. All studies should aim to demonstrate:

- Technology and/or system performance;
- Estimated costs for infrastructure and operations;
- Commercial feasibility of technology and/or system for SST.

3.4. If companies wish to work in partnership, a lead company (the Prime) must be identified and will become the sole recipient of the grant funding:

- Each project must have one clear Prime organisation, who will be the signatory of the Grant Funding Agreement and responsible for the success of the project;
- UK Space Agency's relationship is always with the Prime, not the partner(s) or subcontractor(s). Other members of the partnership must be aware that all official communication goes between UK Space Agency and the Prime;
- The prime organisation has responsibility and accountability to resolve any issues which may occur between the project partners.

## 4. Mandatory requirements

- 4.1. Proposals must be technically feasible within the budget, range and timeframe offered, and demonstrate a high probability of successfully meeting the aims of the opportunity.
- 4.2. Proposals must include consideration of the commercial viability of the proposed SST technology/capability. This should demonstrate that the study activity would support development of a realistic and sustainable product for the global SST market.
- 4.3. Proposals must demonstrate that the investment sought from the UK Government represents clear value for the UK public, through measurable benefits for the UK economy.
- 4.4. All projects will need to demonstrate that they have an effective structure in place for managing the administration of the grant requested and demonstrate that they have a sound approach to planning to achieve their programme aims on time and within budget.
- 4.5. As part of the application for funding, applicants must review and accept the terms of the UK Space Agency's published grant agreement. Only minor amendments will be considered. This will enable projects to start soon after evaluation and selection has been completed.
- 4.6. To create a realistic and achievable project, it is expected that proposals will be developed with consideration to existing technologies.

## 5. Organisation eligibility

- 5.1. Grants are only available to organisations with a UK bank account. Project partnerships can be created involving any company.
- 5.2. There are a series of requirements for eligibility to receive grant funding, for either single organisations (also referred to as the Prime organisation) or those working as part of a team:
  - The Prime organisation will be responsible for project managing the project;
  - Prime organisations must be able to demonstrate the ability to effectively manage a project;
  - Prime organisations must be a UK company with a UK bank account and all grant payments will be made to that company (as per grant funding agreement);
  - Partnerships with companies based internationally are eligible for grant funding, providing the Prime is registered and based in the UK, and the benefit of the funding is felt within the UK;
  - All project members must have in place and provide detail of appropriate anti-bribery and anti-corruption internal policies;
  - All project members must provide evidence of a process for declaring and managing conflicts of interest;
  - All project members must be able to provide evidence that they are GDPR compliant;

- Projects cannot work in areas that are in active conflict and any travel to overseas locations must comply with FCO recommendations and be agreed upon with the UKSA prior to travel;
- Projects must pass due diligence checks on company viability (financial standing assessment, organisational structure and conflicts of interest). Due diligence checks will only take place on shortlisted companies and will be organised with the UKSA.
- The Prime must provide evidence upon request of due diligence checks on all proposed partners (financial standing assessment, organisational structure and conflicts of interest);
- Formal teaming agreements between project partners must be in place within 60 days of grant signature;
- Projects must comply to all rules stated in this guidance.

## 6. Funding

- 6.1. Following the evaluation process, successful bids will receive a maximum grant award of £250k. Only the highest-ranking applications that sit within the Agency's overarching funding and affordability envelope will be funded. All projects should aim to complete by the end of January 2021.
- 6.2. All projects must be match funded by the applicant and project partners. Match funding amounts differ depending on the activity completed and the size or type of organisation involved in the proposal. Further detail on the level of match funding required and the maximum UKSA contribution can be found in section 7 of this call document and Annex A.
- 6.3. The same financial checks will be undertaken on a small or micro company as we would with a medium or large company. All companies are expected to demonstrate sound financial and programme management procedures.
- 6.4. Grant payments will be made following successful completion of applicable milestones and will be made to the Prime organisation only. Milestone completion criteria will be agreed, linked to each milestone deliverable, with evidence required to demonstrate that each milestone has been completed successfully and costs have been expended in accordance with the principles set out in this document.

## 7. State Aid

- 7.1. Funding under this proposal will be considered via either de minimis state aid or via the General Block Exemption regulation. For a full explanation of state aid see Annex A.
  - **De minimis state aid.** The Government has published guidance on applying for de minimis state aid. The maximum amount of de minimis funding that one organisation can receive in a 3-year rolling period is €200,000. The conversion will be calculated using the European Commission's rate on the date the grant is awarded. Please ensure you do not exceed your

organisation's limit for de minimis funding. Further guidance on de minimis funding and the EC definition of company sizes is available at the following website: <http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/state-aid-the-basics>

In addition to the grant funding requested, which is subject to the €200k de minimis ceiling specified above, applicants must contribute their own finance or resources to maximise project outcomes. Applicants must provide a minimum of 20% of the total project cost from their own resources or funding. For the avoidance of doubt, a maximum of 80% of the total project cost can be grant funded. Further guidance can be found in Annex A.

- **General Block Exemption Regulation.** The Government has published guidance on the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) which covers a range of pre-approved types of state aid that do not require individual approval from the European Commission, or prior notification to the European Commission, in advance of being granted. We will only consider requests for funding which comply with the research, development and innovation exemption (Section 4) provided for in GBER. Further guidance is enclosed in Annex A, whilst a full guide is available at the following website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/state-aid-general-block-exemption-regulation>.

In their application, companies should seek to describe how their proposal complies with one of the available exemptions under the research, development and innovation GBER. Companies may rely on more than one exemption but should not be choosing 'fundamental research'.

- 7.2. Companies seeking funding will be required to provide a clear indication in their application of how their proposal is compliant with one of these state aid exemption criteria. Proposals cannot be made under both criteria.

## 8. Mandatory eligibility and scope

- 8.1. After the deadline for application submission, valid applications will be sent for assessment. Only applications that meet the following mandatory eligibility criteria and scope of the call will be sent for assessment:

- Alignment with the aims of the 'Purpose' of the Space Surveillance and Tracking call;
- Proposals which do not rely solely on government equipment or capabilities;
- Alignment with State Aid regulations as detailed in Annex A;
- Alignment with page counts and information requested in the Application Form as detailed in Annex B;
- Proposal made by a single lead organisation, acting alone or as the Prime of a group of organisation'
- Evidence of the requirements as set out in this call document have been met;

- Acceptance of the terms and conditions of the UK Space Agency’s published grant agreement (only minor amendments will be considered).

8.2. The UK Space Agency reserves the right to declare applications as out of scope.

## 9. Evaluation Criteria

9.1. Applications that meet the mandatory criteria above will be assessed by an independent advisory panel. This panel will consist of independent UK Space Agency approved reviewers drawn from academia, industry or government. This panel will assess the proposals according to a scoring system on a set number of criteria. Bidding teams may be invited to present their proposal to the advisory panel, on a date to be set by the UK Space Agency if this is established to be a requirement. Following these presentations (if required) the assessors may modify their scoring, taking into account both the written and verbal information.

9.2. Proposals will be assessed against a range of criteria, with criteria weighted to reflect their relative importance to the final score. A copy of the scoring system and weighting can be found in Annex C. The criteria to be assessed will include:

- Technical feasibility;
- Commercial sustainability;
- Benefit to the UK;
- Sound management and planning.

9.3. Assessors will provide scores for each question in the application. All applications are assessed on individual merit. The UK Space Agency will make the final decision regarding funding, using the panel’s recommendations and wider relevant legal, policy and financial considerations.

9.4. To aid our consideration, Annex B provides guidance for a proposal and sets out the minimum information that all submissions must include.

## 10. Schedule

10.1. The below table outlines the full timetable for this call for grant funding. This call will open on **26 May 2020 and will close on 10 July 2020 at 12 noon (GMT)**. Bidders will be notified separately of the results of their bid in July, and where possible feedback will be provided on all proposals.

Bidding for Grant funds opens	26 May 2020
Bidding window ends	10 July 2020
Interviews with bidders (if necessary)	w/c 13 July 2020
Successful bids announced from	31 July 2020
Funding made available from (earliest)	31 July 2020

10.2. Projects are expected to complete before the end of January 2021.

- 10.3. Any questions should be submitted to the following email address; [sst@ukspaceagency.gov.uk](mailto:sst@ukspaceagency.gov.uk). The final deadline for any questions is 03 July to enable all potential applicants to consider our answers. A live Q&A log will be maintained and hosted alongside with the call documentation.

## 11. Confidentiality

- 11.1. The procedure for handling and assessing the bids and notifications will be as follows:
- Final proposals must be submitted to the SST Programme team, using the following email address; [sst@ukspaceagency.gov.uk](mailto:sst@ukspaceagency.gov.uk)
  - All proposals and notifications will be held in confidence by the UK Space Agency, except to be shared with BEIS and evaluation panellists;
  - Information relating to the proposals may also be shared with other UK government departments, agencies and arm's length bodies;
  - For those bids not recommended by the panel for funding, documentation will be retained by the UK Space Agency for reference. The proposals will not be visible to any others, and the names of any unsuccessful bidders will not be published;
  - Summary information on all successful proposals who receive grant funding will be made public, including the nature of the proposal and the identities of companies involved;
  - All other documentation relating to bids selected for funding will remain confidential within the UK government.
- 11.2. Information submitted as part of a proposal, or subsequent commercially sensitive information submitted as part of the grant agreement, will not be disclosed by us save for in so far as we consider necessary, in our absolute discretion, to comply with our legal obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Environmental Information Regulations 2004 or any other legal act, requirement or obligation. Where permitted by law we will attempt to notify you of any such disclosure.

## 12. Finance policy

- 12.1. All successful applicants must use a separate, project-specific, bank account for project funds to enable clear audits.
- 12.2. UKSA will only pay on actuals therefore we expect invoices to differ from forecasts. Any changes to your forecast values will be subject to the change control process.
- 12.3. Grant funding is outside the scope of VAT so you cannot charge output VAT on top of your submitted costs. If you incur non-recoverable **input** VAT costs, you cannot pass this on to the UK Space Agency.



## 13. Staff Costs

- 13.1. Staff costs for the prime organisation and their partners must be calculated on a cost recovery basis only and be broken down by pay/labour costs and overheads separately. This may be subject to an internal UKSA review to ensure value for money.
- 13.2. Labour costs should be calculated based on your actual payroll costs. They should include gross salary, employer National Insurance (NI) or equivalent contributions, and employer pension contributions. Pay costs must **not** include:
- Any profit margins
  - Commercial charge-out rates
  - Allowances for bonuses and benefits in kind
  - Business development
  - Travel & Subsistence
- 13.3. When making grant claims against labour costs, actual costs claimed must be supported with timesheets of those individuals who have worked on the project.
- 13.4. In the budget breakdown, you are asked to provide a pay cost per day. Using actual gross monthly payroll costs, please assume 260 working days in the year.
- 13.5. Overheads should be stated separately from the pay costs, charged at no more than 20%. This 20% overhead should be recorded in the overhead column in the budget breakdown, this allows you to claim 20% of your pay costs as overhead. This includes both direct and indirect overhead. Contingent workforce / consultants' overhead rates should be recorded within their daily rate and not added on as extra.
- 13.6. The funds from Grant funding are on a cost recovery basis only. Grants are solely intended to cover the cost of delivering the agreed activity or goal. Any surplus funds not spent will be lost to the project unless there are alternative arrangements agreed.
- 13.7. The principles set out within 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.4, 13.5 and 13.6 also apply to project partners (not sub-contractors) and grant recipients will be required to provide assurance that their project partners are compliant with the funding principles.
- 13.8. Grant recipients cannot receive any funding from other grants/contracts to undertake the same activities.
- 13.9. Grant funding cannot be rolled over between financial years.

## 14. Grant Funding Agreement

- 14.1. A grant for the full project costs minus match funding will be given to the Prime organisation only using a standard grant funding agreement. The grant funding agreement template is

included as a separate document. Applicants must sign up to the terms as set out in the grant funding agreement (with any minor changes agreed in advance with the UKSA). Grants agreements must be signed by a Chief Finance Officer or someone with appropriate delegated authority. The Grant will be paid into a separate (project-specific) bank account in the name of the Grant Recipient which must be an ordinary business bank account. Grantees must abide by the UK government Code of Conduct for Grant Recipients:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/771152/2019-01-15 Code of Conduct for Grant Recipients v. 1.01.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/771152/2019-01-15_Code_of_Conduct_for_Grant_Recipients_v.1.01.pdf)

## 15. Other

- 15.1. For the avoidance of doubt, the issue of this Announcement of Opportunity is not a commitment by the UK Space Agency to take forward or support any application. Any expenditure, work or effort undertaken prior to an offer of support and acceptance thereof is a matter solely for the commercial judgement of your company, and the Government will not be held liable for any costs incurred by participants in connection with the application process.
- 15.2. For the avoidance of doubt, the UKSA will be under no obligation to continue to provide funding beyond the terms of any resulting grant award, nor purchase or promote use of any resulting IP or product developed using grant funding.
- 15.3. The UK Space Agency will monitor any funded projects through regular project reports and updates, with payment milestones accompanied by a series of formal reviews.
- 15.4. The UK Space Agency reserves the right in its absolute discretion to:
  - waive or change the requirements of this Announcement of Opportunity from time to time through a formal amendment, initiated by the Agency;
  - seek clarification in respect of a participant's proposal;
  - disqualify any participant that does not submit a compliant proposal in accordance with the instructions in this Announcement of Opportunity.
  - disqualify any applicant that is guilty of misrepresentation in relation to its proposal or the proposal process;
  - withdraw this Announcement of Opportunity at any time, or to re-invite proposals on the same or any alternative basis;
  - disqualify applicants where support may conflict with the government's foreign policy and international commitments or may pose a threat to national security;
  - choose not to support any proposal as a result of this proposal process.

## Annex A - State aid exemption criteria

Enterprises must ensure their proposal is compliant with either De minimis state aid or GBER. A full explanation of the state aid exemption criteria chosen should be accounted for in section 4 of the application.

### **De minimis state aid:**

The De minimis regulation allows Member States to give comparatively small amounts of support up to a certain limit.

De minimis aid can be given for most purposes, including operating aid, and is not project-related:

1. The maximum De minimis funding any single recipient can receive is €200,000 over a 3-year fiscal period. You must take steps to ensure the limit is not exceeded and that you can demonstrate this;
2. The sterling equivalent is calculated using the commission exchange rate applicable on the written date of offer of the De minimis funding;
3. The above ceilings apply to the total amount of De minimis aid to a single recipient from all sources of De minimis aid;
4. De minimis aid cannot be given towards the same costs that are being supported under another block exemption or notified scheme if it means that the total aid would exceed what is allowed under the block exemption or notified scheme. De minimis aid could be given for separate costs however.

Enterprises must keep record of any De minimis aid for a period of 3 years. On written requests, Member States must provide the Commission, with all the information that the Commission considers necessary for assessing whether the conditions of the Regulation have been complied with.

### **GBER:**

The General Block Exemption Regulation covers a range of pre-approved types of State aid that do not require individual approval from the European Commission in advance. The Commission allows State aid to enterprises for technology R&D activities, with intervention rates (i.e. maximum % grant offered) depending on the type of activity, the type of organisation, and the size of the company as follows:

1. 'Industrial research' means the planned research or critical investigation aimed at the acquisition of new knowledge and skills for developing new products, processes or services or for bringing about a significant improvement in existing products, processes or services. It comprises the creation of components parts of complex systems, and may include the construction of prototypes in a laboratory environment or in an environment with simulated interfaces to existing systems as well as of pilot lines, when necessary for the industrial research and notably for generic technology validation.
2. 'Experimental development' means acquiring, combining, shaping and using existing scientific, technological, business and other relevant knowledge and skills with the aim of developing new or improved products, processes or services. This may also include, for example, activities aiming at the conceptual definition, planning and documentation of new products, processes or services.

Experimental development may comprise prototyping, demonstrating, piloting, testing and validation of new or improved products, processes or services in environments representative of real life operating conditions where the primary objective is to make further technical

improvements on products, processes or services that are not substantially set. This may include the development of a commercially usable prototype or pilot which is necessarily the final commercial product, and which is too expensive to produce for it to be used only for demonstration and validation purposes.

Experimental development does not include routine or periodic changes made to existing products, production lines, manufacturing processes, services and other operations in progress, even if those changes may represent improvements.

- 'Feasibility study' means the evaluation and analysis of the potential of a project, which aims at supporting the process of decision-making by objectively and rationally uncovering its strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats, as well as identifying the resources required to carry it through and ultimately its prospects for success.

The following table summarises the GBER categories and maximum allowable level of support:

State Aid Category	Level of support available		
	SME	ME	LE
Fundamental Research	100%	100%	100%
Feasibility study	70%	60%	50%
Industrial research	70%	60%	50%
Industrial research projects involving collaboration/ dissemination*	80%	75%	65%
Experimental development	45%	35%	25%
Experimental development projects involving collaboration/dissemination*	60%	50%	40%

\*Collaborations between businesses and research organisations where the research organisation bears at least 10% of the costs and have the right to publish their own research, or business to business collaborations which involve more than one-member state of the EU/ EEA or involve at least one SME, provided that no one business partner carries more than 70% of the project costs. Procurement/supplier relationships do not qualify.

The following table summarises the European Commission definition of what constitutes an SME:

Company category	Staff headcount	Turnover	or	Balance sheet total
Medium-sized	< 250	≤ € 50 m		≤ € 43 m
Small	< 50	≤ € 10 m		≤ € 10 m
Micro	< 10	≤ € 2 m		≤ € 2 m

Anything above the limits for a medium sized company is designated as a large company.

Academic partners will be funded in all cases at 80% of Full Economic Cost (FEC).

## Annex B - Application form guidance

These Guidance Notes complement the Announcement of Opportunity and are designed to help with completing the Application Form (Annex D). Please note:

1. The application form template has been provided. No adjustments to the formatting, size, or other parameters are permitted;
2. All sections of the application form are mandatory;
3. Should any part of the application overrun the specified page or word limit, we will only consider material up to the designated page limit that is in the correct format;
4. All applications forms must be completed in Arial font, size 11, and submitted as an A4 single document, in line with the template.

### **Application Process**

Please note the following information regarding this Announcement of Opportunity:

1. All applications will be treated in confidence in accordance with the confidentiality section of the Call Document;
2. The application process for this competition requires completion of the Application Form (Annex D) and the Budget Template;
3. These 2 documents must be submitted via email to [sst@ukspaceagency.gov.uk](mailto:sst@ukspaceagency.gov.uk) ;
4. Any suggested minor amendments to the Grant Funding Agreement should be included with your covering email;
5. Applications must not exceed 10MB and all documents must be attached electronically and submitted on the templates provided. For avoidance of doubt we expect each email to contain 2 attachments – a completed application form (including the State Aid declaration), and a completed Budget Template. Additional information provided beyond that requested will not be evaluated;
6. We strongly advise that the accompanying Application Guidance notes below are read prior to submission;
7. Upon receipt of an application, you will be issued with a receipt note within the same working day. If you do not receive this, please contact the SST team;
8. If you wish to submit several applications, each of these must be emailed separately;
9. Only use acronyms where a term is mentioned frequently throughout the proposal. If you do choose to use an acronym, do not assume that the reader knows what it means, and be sure to define it, bearing in mind that individual sections of the application may be read separately during the selection process;
10. Annexes A, B and C are provided as supporting documentation and are not to be submitted with the application (Annex D).

Below is a summary of the sections required in any proposal alongside a maximum number of pages for each section. Information provided over the number of pages specified below will not be considered by the advisory panel when proposals are scored. Each application should not exceed 19 pages in total.

Section 1: Main details	As per the template layout	A fully completed template summarising the main details of the proposal
Section 2: Project summary	Max half a page	A summary of the proposed project, suitable for public release
Section 3: Company and organisation	As per the template layout	Detail of parties involved in the project, including a description of the primary project delivery team
3a) Details of lead organisation		
3b) Details of project lead		
3c) Other organisations significantly involved in the application		
Section 4: State aid	Max half a page	
Section 5: Technical feasibility	Max 3 pages	A description of how your proposal is technically feasible within the budget, range and timeframe
Section 6: Commercial sustainability	Max 3 pages	A description of how your proposal demonstrates commercial understanding, knowledge and viability
Section 7: Benefit to the UK	Max 3 pages	A description of how your proposal will provide measurable benefits to the UK economy
Section 8: Sound management and planning		Demonstrate how you will effectively manage the project with consideration for the timeframe, value for money and success of the proposal
8a) Effective management	Max half a page	
8b) Risk management	Max half a page	
8c) Rationale for grant funding	Max half a page	
8d) Milestones and deliverables	As per the template layout	
Section 9: Declaration	As per the template layout	Final declaration

## **Guidelines for completing an application form**

### **Section 1: Main details**

This section should be completed as per the template provided, with the following details:

1. Please confirm the full registered name of the single lead organisation making this proposal, to which any funding will be paid;
2. The project duration, specified in months;
3. Please specify the exact grant requested from the UK Space Agency. Costs should be to the nearest one pound and should be in GBP currency;
4. Please specify the total project cost to the nearest one pound, and percentage of grant funding being requested compared to this total;
5. Please specify which strand of the call you are applying under by checking the appropriate box.

### **Section 2: Project summary**

Please provide a summary of your proposal that can be used in publications, for example on the UK Space Agency website or in a press release if the project is funded.

### **Section 3: Company and organisation**

This section should be completed with the following details:

1. Please confirm the nationality, employee count and estimated annual income of the lead organisation for this proposal, representative of the organisation.
2. Please identify the name of the person who will be the primary contact for the duration of the project.
3. Please identify any other organisations who are significantly involved in the application. In addition, a description of their expertise and role within the project should be provided. This may include:
  - Any organisations who are already committed to this project and will form part of the project delivery team.
  - All other organisations who are involved in the project, either forming part of the project delivery team or otherwise supporting the project.

### **Section 4: State aid**

Please complete either Option A or Option B, in accordance to the guidance in Annex A.

### **Section 5: Technical feasibility**

This section should give a clear description of the technology you propose to examine, and how the project will assess technical viability. In particular, please specify;

1. Which of the relevant SST challenges, as outlined in the call document under 'invitation to submit grant proposals', your proposal intends to address;
2. For proposals under the low-cost LEO surveillance and tracking theme, how your proposal meets the criteria of a 'low-cost' solution;
3. For proposals under the AI and machine learning theme, how your proposal will improve specific data task(s) of SST, and if applicable how you will source the data needed to demonstrate your approach.
4. Consideration given as to how your proposal works with current and existing technologies whilst offering a novel technology or technique.

### **Section 6: Commercial sustainability**

This section should give a clear description of the market you wish to consider serving, and how your proposal meets the current demand and expertise of the market. In particular, please specify:

1. How your project will assess commercial viability;
2. The sources of investment your project will consider (or approach);
3. Any current understanding you possess of competitors or other market forces;
4. What customers you wish to consider serving, and any estimates of the price they may pay for your proposed service.

### **Section 7: Benefit to the UK**

Please describe how your proposal will bring benefits to the UK space sector or grow the expertise available in the UK and benefit the UK economy. In particular, please specify:

1. How your proposal will benefit the UK economy;
2. How the investment sought from UK government represents value for the UK public;
3. Consideration of the UK-based employment and contract opportunities that will arise from your proposal.

### **Section 8: Sound management and planning**

Please describe your approach to managing the project, and any relevant financial information relating to delivery of the project. In particular, please:

1. Describe the programme management, governance and oversight arrangements you will use to assure your time, cost and quality specifications;
2. Identify and explain any key risks, constraints or uncertainties that you anticipate, alongside any processes or measures in place to manage or mitigate these risks. This should make particular reference to delivery risks arising from the COVID-19 pandemic;
3. Complete the milestone proforma, clearly showing the milestone title, date of completion, associated grant value requested, the deliverables as evidence of completion, and the success criteria for each deliverable.



**Section 9: Declaration**

Please complete all of the check boxes and sign the declaration. Proposals will only be accepted if all the check boxes have been completed.