

## ANNEX A

### SSAC REPORT – Scotland’s Space Sector: Exploring potential future opportunities

#### INVITE LETTER AND QUESTIONNAIRE

15 January 2024

Dear colleague

#### Invitation to collaborate on Exploring Future Commercial Opportunities in Scotland’s Space Sector

We are contacting you on behalf of the Scottish Science Advisory Council (SSAC) – Scotland’s national independent scientific advisory body. The SSAC has recently established a Short-Life Working Group (SLWG) to engage with key stakeholders across Scotland. Our goal is to gather valuable insights to consider and assess the longer-term future opportunities within the global space sector.

This initiative is crucial for placing Scotland at the forefront of space industry advancements. It aims to ensure that our nation remains globally competitive and reaps both economic and societal benefits from a robust space sector. To this end, the SLWG has identified several key areas of focus, working with policy officials in the Scottish Government’s (SG) Division for New Market Clusters. These include:

- Identifying prioritised future opportunities in the global space sector over the next 10-20 years, aligning with Scotland’s research and industry strengths.
- Outlining actions to position Scotland’s research community to support and capitalise on these opportunities, including delineating the roles of industry, academia, and government.
- Addressing challenges across these opportunities and considering potential international collaboration partners.
- Assessing comparable international markets to derive key findings.

Our methodology encompasses gathering responses from a diverse range of stakeholders through an attached questionnaire, due no later than **31 January 2024**. Subsequently, we will host a virtual roundtable on **21 February 2024**, from 10:00 to 14:00, to further explore these topics and discuss findings from the questionnaire responses.

Further details on the roundtable will be issued to those completing the questionnaire in due course.

As an esteemed expert in this sector, your insights would be immensely valuable to this national initiative. We encourage you to share your perspectives by completing the attached open-ended questionnaire. Feel free to collaborate with colleagues in

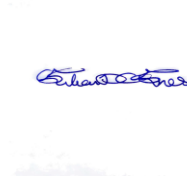
your institution or department for comprehensive responses. Please respond to the questions you are most comfortable with, if unable to address all sections.

Please note that questionnaire responses may be shared with the relevant policy team within the Scottish Government. Should you prefer to submit your responses anonymously, please indicate this in your reply, and we will ensure confidentiality.

Please send your questionnaire responses, and confirmation of your participation in the Roundtable, to [Christine.lawson@gov.scot](mailto:Christine.lawson@gov.scot) **no later than Wednesday 31 January 2024**. The insights gathered from the roundtable and questionnaire will be examined by the SLWG to inform a formal report, to be published on our website in Spring 2024 and shared with all respondents.

We appreciate your engagement in this important initiative.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Julian Jones  
SSAC Chair



Dr Graham Kerr  
SSAC Project Lead

## Questionnaire

### Respondent

Name:

Organisation:

Email:

### 1. Data protection

Please highlight how would you like your response to be considered:

- a. Kept confidential to the SSAC and used solely for informing this study.
- b. Quotes from your response could be used (in the Roundtable and/or report) but not attributed
- c. Quotes from your response could be used (in the Roundtable and/or report) and attributed to your organisation.
- d. Quotes from your response could be used (in the Roundtable and/or report) and attributed to you.
- e. Your response could be shared in whole or part with relevant policy officials in Scottish Government.

### 2. Questions for consideration

- i. What are the strengths of the Scottish Space sector? How can these strengths be consolidated and enhanced to maximise benefit to Scotland over the next two decades? (In your answer, please consider the strengths of the both the academic and industrial sectors).
- ii. Where are the greatest opportunities for Scotland in the Space Sector in the next 10-20 years and where should we focus our priorities?
- iii. What mechanisms and interventions are required to ensure Scotland maximises the benefits of the Space Sector for the Scottish economy?
- iv. Which countries are going to be the most important international collaboration partners for Scotland and what is required to enable these partnerships and to ensure that Scotland is at the forefront of the sustainable space agenda?
- v. Does Scotland have the skills needed to support the space sector in the next two decades? Are there sectors with transferable skills that can be retrained? How do we promote a steady conduit of graduates with the necessary skills?
- vi. How can Scotland's space sector align with and contribute to broader national and international goals in areas such as climate change, AI, technology innovation, and education?
- vii. What role do you see for public-private partnerships in advancing Scotland's space sector, and what models or examples could we look to for successful collaboration?
- viii. In which areas of the Scottish technology industry and research community is the Space Sector already an important customer and what are the key relevant technologies.