**Announcement of Opportunity**

**National Space Technology Programme (NSTP3-ST) Round 1**

**Call for Space Technology Proposals - Fast Track and Pathfinder Projects**

As part of the National Space Technology Programme, the UK Space Agency invites full proposals for space technology research and development projects in the next phase of NSTP funding (NSTP3-ST, Round 1), which is aligned with the updated Innovation and Growth Strategy (IGS)[[1]](#footnote-2).

# INTRODUCTION

**National Space Technology Programme**

This Call aims to develop the growth of the UK space sector as embodied in the Space Innovation and Growth Strategy. Proposals are sought for space technology research and development projects that align with the National Space Technology Strategy and the related technology roadmaps covering the 5 main themes;

* Telecommunications
* Sensing
* Position, Navigation and Timing
* Exploration and Robotics
* Access to Space

Proposals are expected to relate to, and align with, the revised NSTP Strategy, Technology Roadmaps and IGS. Proposals addressing technology areas that fall outside the roadmaps will be considered, but will be expected to provide further significant justification.

Industrial co-funding will be required for the selected projects in accordance with the EU State Aid Regulations[[2]](#footnote-3). We welcome bids from a variety of organisations including academia, industry and government research institutes.

# NSTP3-ST Space Technology Call (Round 1)

The total budget available for Round 1 of the NSTP3-ST Call is £5000K with additional private venture (PV) funds required from industrial bidders. This budget includes Grants for Exploratory Ideas; however the call for these will be announced separately in late 2016/early 2017.

Two sizes of projects are available in this first Call:

**Table 1 - Round 1 project types**

| **Grant Type** | **Funding and Duration** | **Eligible Activities[[3]](#footnote-4)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| NSTP Technology Fast Track Grants | Grant value of £100K to £200k, expected to be of 12 months duration | * Industrial research * Feasibility studies * Experimental development |
| NSTP Pathfinder Grants | Grant value of £50K to £75k, expected to be of 6 months duration | * Fundamental research * Feasibility studies * Industrial research |

The Call is open from 1st September 2016 and will close to **Fast Track proposals** on 17th October 2016 **at noon** and **Pathfinder proposals** on 20th October 2016 **at noon.**

The Call for proposals for **Grants for Exploratory Ideas** will open in late 2016/early 2017. This Call will remain open on a rolling basis with new applications being reviewed at 4 month intervals. Details for these will be provided in a follow up announcement of opportunity in late 2016/early 2017.

The overall schedule of events for Round 1 of the NSTP3-ST Call is outlined in the table below:

**Table 2 - Round 1 schedule**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Event** | **Fast Track**  **Projects** | **Pathfinder Projects** |
| Call closes | At noon on 17th Oct 2016 | At noon on 20th Oct 2016 |
| Project selection | during Nov 2017 | during Nov 2017 |
| Project should start on or after | 1st Jan 2017 | 1st Jan 2017 |
| Projects should complete before | 31st Jan 2018 | 31st July 2017 |

This funding opportunity is open to UK Higher Education Institutions, other research organisations and industry. Industry-industry and industry-academia collaborations are encouraged and there is no restriction on which type of organisation can lead.

We also encourage organisations (industry and academia) new to space technology to participate and welcome enquiries from all potential bidders for clarification of any aspect of the Call.

Grants will only be awarded to proposals which are judged to be of sufficient quality. The UK Space Agency reserves the right to re-issue the Call in a revised form if all the allocated funds are not utilised.

**Technology Fast Track and Pathfinders Projects**

For Technology Fast Track grants, preference will be given to proposals of the highest technical quality that accelerate the development of scientific or commercial technologies for space.

Proposals for Pathfinder Grants should be highly innovative and have strong enabling potential for future space activities.

From this budget, the UK Space Agency would expect to fund around 10-15 Technology Fast Track grants and 20-25 Pathfinder grants. It should be noted that value for money will be a major evaluation criterion.

Projects developing instrumentation for commercial applications are encouraged and the UK Space Agency welcomes proposals that exploit the facilities and capabilities of the Satellite Applications Catapult.

Proposals for projects which are from collaborative teams will be given preference and the UK Space Agency encourages combined industrial/academic teams (any organisation type can lead). Note that there are PV concessions for collaborative activities (see Annex A, which also defines eligible collaborations). We will also consider collaborative proposals that form part of a larger activity funded by one or more other organisations, provided that the proposed work falls fully within NSTP objectives.

We will also consider proposals from single bidders, either academia or industry if sufficient funding is available.

Projects will be considered which introduce technologies that offer ‘disruptive’ or enabling potential to existing concepts, e.g. to improve performance, and/or improve system parameters such as cost, mass and resource requirements. Such technology-led projects must show a credible benefit to future commercial, operational or scientific mission objectives. Proposals that include elements of technology demonstration would be welcome.

Technology Fast Track projects which are conceived as the first stage in a multi-stage development should outline the activities which may follow.

In all cases it is critical that the proposal shows how the grant will make a difference to UK space technology capability, including the value to the bidder.

The UKSA would particularly like to encourage organisations (industry, academia and SMEs) new to space technology to participate in this element of the Call.

Acceptable activities are:

* Early TRL innovation
* New technology concepts
* Knowledge transfer
* Skills development
* Refining an idea
* Undertaking a market survey
* Proof of concept (which could include previously submitted NSTP Pathfinder bids that were rejected on the basis this was required)

Out of scope activities include funding of CASE students, training courses and outreach.

Applicants should contact the UK Space Agency if they are unsure if an activity is likely to be in scope for the Call.

**Grants for Exploratory Ideas**

As noted above, the Call for Grant for Exploratory Ideas will open in late 2016/early 2017 where more information will be provided.

# NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO BID

Applicants for Fast Tack and Pathfinder projects are required to notify the UK Space Agency of their intention to bid, by sending an email to the UK Space Agency NSTP team email, [nstp@ukspaceagency.bis.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:nstp@ukspaceagency.bis.gsi.gov.uk), using the intention to bid pro-forma document on the UK Space Agency website, by **noon on Friday 30th September 2016** for Pathfinder projects and **noon on Monday 3rd October 2016** for Fast Track Projects.

The purpose of this is to enable the UK Space Agency to gauge the expected number of responses and to guide the selection of proposal reviewers. The notification documents and all information therein will be held in confidence as described in Section 9.

# GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING AN APPLICATION

**Bid format and content**

Applications should take the form of a proposal in single-spaced typescript (minimum font size 12 point Arial, minimum 1.5 cm margins all round, including diagrams and tables). The required financial information and other supporting information detailed in the table below should also be attached (not included in the page limit).

**Table 3 – Information required**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Section** | **Description** | **Maximum Page Count** | |
|  |  | **Fast Track** | **Pathfinder** |
| Cover letter | See below | 3 | 3 |
| Project Summary | A summary of the project, suitable for publication on the UK Space Agency website and for use in a press release if the project is funded. Text including picture or diagram | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Technical proposal | Technical case as described below | 8 | 4 |
| Outline business plan (for commercial projects only) | Description of potential and accessible market, as described below, including a simple Return on Investment model | 2 | 2 |
| Finance Table | Excel spreadsheet | Yes | Yes |
| Financial and management information | Project cost information and management details as described below, including key staff to be deployed and their position in the organisation(s) | 2 | |
| Company and organisation background | Track record and company/organisation background. | 2 | |
| Eligibility information | Eligibility and financial viability information (see section 8) | 1 page plus any appended information | |
| CVs | Brief CVs of key personnel within the consortium | As needed ( 1 page each) | |

**The Covering Letter**

To ensure ease and speed of placing the contract if successful, the bids must include a covering letter[[4]](#footnote-5) containing:

* A clear indication of the type of grant applied for (Fast Track or Pathfinder) and State Aid Category (see Annex A);
* A committing offer to the UK Space Agency who will contractually administer the grants;
* A firm fixed price for the work to be carried out;
* A statement of acceptance of the standard UK Space Agency/BIS Terms and Conditions (T&Cs). A copy of these T&Cs is available on the UK Space Agency website with the call documents;
* Nominated Referee (for both Fast Track and Pathfinder applications): Details of at least one referee who may be approached for assessment of the tender. Please give name, address, Email, telephone number. The bids will be assessed by the Review Panel (see Section 6), but the UK Space Agency reserves the right to seek the opinion of one or more external expert referees, which will be taken into account by the Panel;
* Reference (Industry only, for Fast Track and Pathfinder): The name of at least one customer contact in the UK who may be approached, with whom you have recently undertaken similar work. The bids will be assessed by the Review Panel (see Section 6), but the UK Space Agency reserves the right to seek a customer reference, to be considered by the Panel.

**The Project Summary**

The project summary should be brief and contain no confidential or sensitive Intellectual Property (IP) material. The intention is that this summary will be suitable for publication on the UK Space Agency website and updated during the project, to keep the website information current.

**The Technical Case** must be no more than the indicated page limit and should contain:

**For Technology Fast Track Grants – 8 pages maximum**

* A description of the work to be undertaken, highlighting the innovative aspects of the project;
* Identification with justification of the European State Aid General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) work category (see Table A1 at Annex A);
* An exposition of the science, commercial and/or operational need and drivers for the project, showing the relationship of the work to the UKSA Civil Space Strategy, the IGS 2014 and/or the NSTP Roadmaps;
* Justification for why this technology should be developed and the benefits it offers over alternative solutions;
* A description of how the proposed work takes advantage of UK strengths, and further positions the UK for increased involvement in space and future growth.
* A description of any system-level benefits expected (e.g. cost, mass, size, resource requirement)
* Identification of one or more potential flight opportunities;
* A technology roadmap showing heritage, future evolution and also the start and end TRL of the proposed work.
* A summary of the subsequent stages of development and outline of the work required to take the technology to ‘flight ready’ status. Teams may be invited to bid for additional work at a later stage if their project is successful.
* A project plan, including a summary of the work, a project schedule/Gantt chart, work break down structure, brief work package descriptions and clearly defined deliverables for each work package.
* The deliverables should be clearly identified as to their scope and delivery schedule, and where possible linked to payment milestones.
* The project plan should also include a summary risk analysis table, identifying any anticipated risks and mitigation. A template version is available on the UK Space Agency website with the call documents.
* Information on collaboration between partner organisations and exploitation of Intellectual Property Rights.
* A list of the individuals involved and the resources required, identifying precisely which institutions and individuals will be performing which functions and the respective resources requested.

**For Pathfinder Grants – 4 pages maximum**

* A description of the work to be undertaken, highlighting the innovative aspects of the project;
* The GBER work category with justification (see Table A1 in Annex A);
* A brief exposition of the scientific or commercial drivers underlying the project, showing the relationship of the work to the UKSA Civil Space Strategy, the IGS 2014 and/or the NSTP Roadmaps;
* A brief assessment of the likely disruptive effect of the proposed technology, including the likely effect on the commercial status quo.
* For very new and unfamiliar concepts, you should provide references to any relevant and preferably peer-reviewed publications.
* An outline project plan, including a work breakdown structure, a project schedule/Gantt chart, work break down structure, and clearly defined deliverables for each work package.
* The deliverables should be clearly identified as to their scope and delivery schedule, and where possible linked to payment milestones.
* The project plan should also include a summary risk analysis table, identifying any anticipated risks and mitigation. A template version is available on the UK Space Agency website with the call documents.
* The start and end TRL of the proposed work, and possible exploitation routes.
* Information on collaboration between partner organisations and Intellectual Property Rights.
* A list of the individuals involved and the resources required, identifying which institutions and individuals will be performing which functions and the respective resources requested.

**Outline Business Plan**

* For those projects targeting commercial missions, the project description should be supported by a business plan, of sufficient detail to enable a viable assessment by the reviewers, which clearly indicates the potential accessible market size and estimated time to break even and enter profit, where applicable.
* Any benefits to science, society or the economy should be described and where possible an explanation of how those benefits will be captured.

**Financial and Management Information** – also see section 5 below.

Please include financial information as follows:

* The completed Finance Table;
* A justification of the resources requested, including travel plans and other expenditure;
* A clear statement of the Private Venture (PV) investment offered, and its relationship to the State Aid mandatory limits under GBER exclusions (see below and Annex A)

Should any part of the application overrun the specified page limit, the Assessment Panel will only consider material up to the designated page limit, in the correct format, for each proposal.

# FINANCIAL AND CONTRACTUAL INFORMATION

Each award will take the form of a grant agreement between the UK Space Agency and the project’s lead organisation. Bidders should note that the UK Space Agency will not refund any costs associated with preparing proposals.

This UK Space Agency activity has been assessed by HMRC as outside the scope of VAT, because no taxable supply is taking place and the IPR will not in the normal course of events pass to UK Space Agency or from the UK Space Agency.

Bidders should note that grants cannot be given to companies in financial difficulties.

Bidders are reminded that proposals will also be judged on the basis of value for money.

Financial information must be provided in a summary table, using the template available on the UK Space Agency website.

### Payment plans – Fast Track and Pathfinder Projects

Payment plans should be constructed so that no more than 25% is paid at Milestone 1, and no less than 20% at the final review acceptance. Other milestone payments should be included, which should reflect major project stages and intermediate deliverables.

It should be noted that under the procurement rules for BIS/UKSA, milestone payments cannot be made in advance of need, and therefore will only be paid on successful completion of technical deliverables.

### 'PV' (Private Venture) Contribution

For **Fast Track and Pathfinder Grants**, industry is required to provide a PV contribution to eligible project costs in accordance with the BEIS guidance to the European State Aid General Block Exemption Regulations (GBER).

Bidders must identify the category of work proposed, and this must be consistent with the work programme described in the technical case. Note that the type of activity and company size defines the maximum ‘Intervention’ rate (and hence the minimum required PV level) that is permitted for that activity (see Annex A), and that there are concessions for collaborative activities. Bidders will be expected to justify the category of work selected.

Bidders must ensure that they supply the correct information that allows the UK Space Agency to award grants within the scheme and it is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure compliance with the relevant State Aid legislation. Further guidance is available on the BEIS website.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/state-aid-general-block-exemption-regulation

EC grants awarded on related projects or other public funding are not eligible for inclusion as a PV contribution.

### Academic Funding

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

### Type of Award

The award will be made on a firm fixed price basis.

# ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSALS

The Selection Panel will consist of independent UKSA approved reviewers drawn from academia, industry, Government or the Research Council Review Colleges. It will assess the proposals according to the criteria listed below, taking into account the commitment of the organisations involved, in particular the lead organisation, to the success of the project and the financial viability of the organisations involved.

**Assessment criteria: Fast Track and Pathfinder**

* **Strategic *or* Commercial Relevance (30%) *Why is the work necessary?*** Potential scientific impact and/or potential for contribution to economic growth and job creation;
* **Technological Excellence (30%) *What is the unique selling point*?** Novelty, originality and suitability of the work proposed, including assessment of risk and benefits;
* **Rationale for the development of technology (20%) *What are the advantages of this technology and why do it now*?** The need for this technology development, its potential applications and the benefits it offers over alternatives technologies, including a justification for the timeliness of the proposed work in relation to external factors;
* **Quality of project planning and management arrangements (20%) *What qualifies your team for NSTP funding?*** Including the capability and track record of the team members, quality of staff, and value for money. The level of PV commitment and justification of the level of PV must also be included.

# PROJECT MONITORING AND REPORTING

Following an award and completion of contractual formalities, the UK Space Agency will assign a Programme Manager to the project. The Programme Manager will oversee the projects with the following methodology:

**For Technology Fast Track Grants**

* The Programme Manager will initiate each project, by preference at a face-to-face meeting at the lead contractor’s site. For continuation projects, or if a timely face-to-face meeting cannot be arranged, the kick off meeting may take place through a telephone conference;
* The lead contractor’s project manager will report on progress at six-weekly intervals to the Programme Manager using the UK Space Agency two page report template. Any issues arising will be addressed by the Agency Programme Manager via a telephone conversation;
* The six-weekly reports will include an expenditure forecast for the following quarter using the UK Space Agency finance report template, as required;
* There will be a progress review every 3 months, with one of these designated as the mid-term review, held at an appropriate site. Where feasible, the reviews should occur immediately prior to a major manufacturing or integration step which will result in the achievement of major project objectives;
* At the end of the project, a final report will be produced (including an IP free Executive Summary) and there will be a formal project final review;
* There will also be a project final presentation day in which each of the projects will be invited to present a summary of work and achievements to the UK Space Agency and other project teams. The presentation at this event should not contain any confidential information. Such events provide an opportunity to network and share knowledge amongst the wider community and support future collaboration opportunities.

**For Pathfinder Grants**

* There will be a face-to-face meeting with the UK Space Agency Programme Manager to initiate the project, or if a timely face-to-face meeting cannot be arranged, the kick off meeting may take place through a telephone conference;
* The lead contractor’s project manager will report on progress to the Programme Manager using the UK Space Agency one page report template at the end of the six-weekly interval by email. Any issues arising will be addressed by the Agency’s Programme Manager via a telephone conversation;
* The six-weekly reports will include an expenditure forecast for the following quarter using the UK Space Agency finance report template, as required;
* There will be a progress review at the project mid-point, which would normally be conducted via teleconference;
* At the end of the project, a final report will be produced (including an IP free Executive Summary). A formal final review may be held if necessary;
* There will be a project final presentation day in which each of the projects will be invited to present a summary of work and achievements to the UK Space Agency and other project teams. The presentation should not contain any confidential information. Such events provide an opportunity to network and share knowledge amongst the wider community and support future collaboration opportunities.

# ELIGIBILITY

We welcome bids from a variety of organisations including academia, industry and government research institutes. The details of some organisations may not be known to the UK Space Agency especially for newer entrants to NSTP. Such applicants should provide brief and relevant company background information, including areas of expertise and company contact information including registration and official address.

Following receipt of bids and before award of any contract, new entrants may be required to provide additional eligibility details:

* Evidence of company legitimacy and financial solvency, supported by e.g. company Annual Reports;
* Details of company quality processes and accreditation;
* Track record, supported by reputation or by statements from referees and customer testimonials.

It is possible that some consortia bidding for projects may need to involve non-UK entities. This is allowable in principle subject to the following conditions:

* The UK must lead the consortium;
* The UK work must represent a substantial proportion of the whole project;
* The consortium must demonstrate that the proposed non-UK capability is essential and not available in the UK;
* The rules can be relaxed if the non-UK entity is supplying PV or capability, and resources on a no-exchange-of-funds basis.

Full details of the non-UK participation must be provided in the bid, appended to the eligibility statement.

# CONFIDENTIALITY

The procedure for handling and assessing the bids and notifications will be as follows:

* Bids and notifications will be submitted to the UK Space Agency. The NSTP Project Officer will hold all bids in confidence within the Agency and will not share the information elsewhere;
* Copies of the notifications of intention to bid sheets will be provided to the UK Space Agency Programme Managers, who will retain these as confidential information;
* When the bid period closes, electronic copies of the bid documents will be distributed to the appropriate independent assessment panel members - UKSA confidentiality rules will apply;
* For those bids not recommended by the Panel for funding, all associated documentation will be destroyed. They will not be visible to any others and names of any unsuccessful bidders will not published;
* All bids recommended by the Panel for funding will be visible to the UK Space Agency NSTP Programme Managers, one of whom will be the appointed by the Agency to act as the interface with the project manager;
* All documentation relating to bids selected for funding will remain confidential and will only be visible to the NSTP Programme Management team.

The UK Space Agency appointed Programme Manager will monitor the funded project through regular project reports and reviews. The UK Space Agency preference is that this be done without disclosure of any confidential information. Any requests for the exchange of information to be covered by a Non-Disclosure Agreement will be considered by the UK Space Agency.

# COLLABORATION AGREEMENT

Should an award be made, the contracted consortium will be required to establish a Collaboration Agreement (CA) between its members, prior to the commencement of work. The CA should establish agreements regarding how the results of the work, including IPR and spin-outs, will be exploited by the consortium members. A template version is available on the UK Space Agency website with the call documents.

# SUBMISSION AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Only the lead institution should submit an application. Bids should be submitted to the UK Space Agency NSTP Project Officer, as follows:

* Electronically in PDF or Microsoft Word format. **The summary and technical bid should be contained in a separate file, as this will be sent to the assessment panel**.
* In addition, a single printed and signed copy of the full bid should be posted on or before the closing date. Note: The date of the postmark or other proof of posting will be considered sufficient to prove that it was posted on time.

The electronic submission should be sent by email to the UK Space Agency NSTP dedicated mailbox at [nstp@ukspaceagency.bis.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:nstp@ukspaceagency.bis.gsi.gov.uk)

The printed copy of the proposal, including the financial information and a formal signed financial offer to the UK Space Agency should be sent to:

Karen Pembridge

NSTP Project Officer

UK Space Agency

Room c204, Polaris House

North Star Avenue

Swindon

Wilts

SN2 1SZ

Email: [nstp@ukspaceagency.bis.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:nstp@ukspaceagency.bis.gsi.gov.uk)

# The following NSTP templates are available on the UK Space Agency web site:

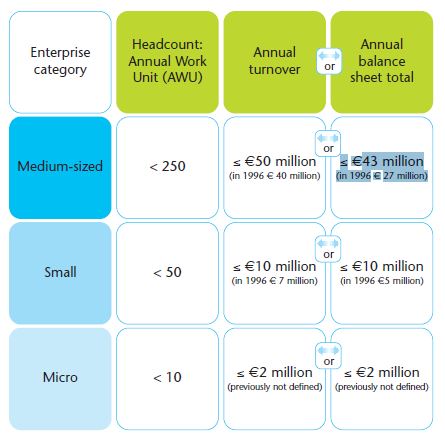
* **Notification of Intention to Bid Form**
* **Application Form**
* **Finance Template**
* **Risk Analysis Template**
* **Grant Agreement**
* **Model Technology Collaboration Agreement**

# Annex A - State Aid intervention levels

Bidders should ensure their proposal is compliant with the relevant State Aid legislation. European regulations allows State Aid to companies for technology R&D activities via the General Block Exemption Regulations (GBER), 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:

* **Fundamental research**: defined as “experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundations of phenomena and observable facts, without any direct practical application or use in view”.
* **Technical feasibility studies:** evaluation and analysis of the potential of a project to support decision making.
* **Industrial research**: defined as “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”.
* **Experimental development**: pre-competitive development category defined as “the acquiring, combining, shaping and using of existing scientific technological business and other relevant knowledge and skills for the purposes of producing plans and arrangements or designs for new, altered or improved products, processes or services”. This category extends to the development of commercially usable prototypes and pilot projects where they would be too expensive to produce only for experimental purposes; where there is subsequent commercial use of the prototype any revenue generated has to be deducted from eligible costs. This category does not cover routine or periodic changes to produces and services.

The EC definition of the various company types is as follows[[5]](#footnote-6):



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).

**Table A1 GBER Definitions of State Aid Categories**

This table provides the GBER definitions and allowable intervention rates.

| **State Aid Category** | **GBER Definition** | **Intervention rate** | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SME** | **ME** | **LE** |
| Fundamental Research | Experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundations of phenomena and observable facts, without any direct practical application or use in view. | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Feasibility study | Evaluation and analysis of the potential of a project to support decision making | 70% | 60% | 50% |
| Industrial research | 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. No collaboration. | 70% | 60% | 50% |
| Industrial research projects involving collaboration/ dissemination **2** | As above with collaboration or the dissemination of results. | 80% | 75% | 65% |
| Experimental development | Pre-competitive development category defined as “the acquiring, combining, shaping and using of existing scientific technological business and other relevant knowledge and skills for the purposes of producing plans and arrangements or designs for new, altered or improved products, processes or services”. This category extends to the development of commercially usable prototypes and pilot projects where they would be too expensive to produce only for experimental purposes; where there is subsequent commercial use of the prototype any revenue generated has to be deducted from eligible costs. This category does not cover routine or periodic changes to produces and services. No collaboration. | 45% | 35% | 25% |
| Experimental development projects involving collaboration/dissemination**2** | As above with collaboration or the dissemination of results. | 60% | 50% | 40% |

Note 2 Collaborations between businesses and research organisations where the research organisation bears at least 10% of the costs & 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.

1. See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/space-growth-action-plan>

   and <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-response-space-growth-action-plan> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. <https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/325465/bis-14-943-state-aid-general-block-exemption-guidance.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. These are the definitions of R&D activities that are used by the European Commission to determine the maximum allowable intervention rates mandated by State Aid regulations. See Annex A for more details. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Applicants should note that, in a change from previous calls, the UK Space Agency will now be administering the grant funding for this and all future NSTP-ST calls and hence proposals are to be made to the UK Space Agency. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/files/sme\_definition/sme\_user\_guide\_en.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-6)