

UK Space Agency
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
**Non-qualifying regulatory provision assurance
statement: confirmed**

The Regulatory Policy Committee (RPC) is content that, on the basis of the summary information provided, none of the measures or activities covered in the summary document should be considered as qualifying regulatory provisions for the purposes of the business impact target. The RPC has not been asked to provide a detailed view on any specific activity in this statement or comment on any activities not covered in either this summary document or a separate assessment of a qualifying regulatory provision.

Comments on the non-qualifying regulatory provision summary

To improve the clarity of the summary document, the regulator should explain that the Outer Space Act is a qualifying regulatory provision which has been assessed separately.

The NQRP summary would benefit from including a statement in the education, communications and promotion section that attendance at educational and promotional events is not compulsory and that none of the material produced creates a new regulatory standard that businesses will be expected to follow.

The RPC notes the activities referred to in the policy development section regarding small satellites. Should this work lead to policy proposals or determinations, the RPC will expect to see these assessed or discussed further in future.



Michael Gibbons CBE, Chairman

Regulator: UK Space Agency

Business Impact Target Reporting Period Covered:

Excluded Category*	Summary of measure(s), including any impact data where available**
A – EU and International	
B – Economic Regulation	
C – Price Control	
D - Civil Emergencies	
E – Fines and Penalties	
F – Pro-Competition	
G – Large Infrastructure projects	
H – Misuse of Drugs/National Minimum Wage	
I – Systemic Financial Risk	
K – Industry Codes	
L1 – Casework	<p>The Outer Space Act is the legal basis for the regulation of activities in outer space carried out by organisations or individuals established in the UK or one of its Crown Dependencies or Overseas Territories. The Act confers licensing and other powers on the Secretary of States for Business, Innovation and Skills, which are carried out through the UK Space Agency. The aim of the Act is to ensure the UK meets its obligations under UN Space Treaties and that activities do not pose risks to public health and safety or UK national security.</p> <p>We have granted 13 Outer Space Act licences during the reporting period. We have also written to 11 space operators to check they are complying with their licence conditions. There has been no non-compliance notices issued. Separately the UK Space Agency obtains satellite orbital location details from other sources (not licensees). There have been no changes in policy and practice.</p>
L2 – Education, communications and promotion	<p>An amendment to cap the previously unlimited liability for operators licensed under the Outer Space Act came into force on 1st October 2015. A consultation was undertaken, an impact assessment was produced and validated and all relevant procedures were followed. The UK Space Agency is an Executive Agency of BIS and as such this measure will feature in the relevant BIS Business Impact Target report. We wrote to two space industry trade associations and published details on our web site highlighting when the change would come into force.</p>

	In addition we have co-chaired a Regulatory Advisory Group with representatives of the space industry, which considered, amongst other things, the competitiveness of the UK's space regulatory regime. Furthermore, we presented aspects of our regulatory regime at various fora, for example at the Satellite Finance Network regulation and legal briefing, where we chaired one of the sessions and presented examples of small satellite regulation.
L3 – Activity related to policy development	We have conducted a review to evaluate how our regulatory approach might be tailored for small satellite systems. The outcome of the review was a series of recommendations. Comments on these recommendations and associated observations/suggestions were invited from industry via our website. This work is ongoing.
L4 – Changes to management of regulator	

*Delete categories that do not apply in the reporting period

** For certain excluded categories - such as A, B, C, F and I, it is good practice to provide narrative description of any significant measures. This will help provide greater transparency and assurance that BIT exclusions are being applied consistently and appropriately