



Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean

BACKGROUND

- In 2014, the UK Government announced its commitment to enable access to space from the UK.
- Their vision is to have small satellite or sub-orbital spaceflight operations from the UK in the early 2020s.
- An independent assessment of potential sites for vertical launch of small satellites identified Sutherland as optimal when judged against a range of criteria.
- The Moine (A'Mhoine), near Tongue, features assets including:
 - Access to low earth orbits
 - Proximity to skilled labour
 - Low density of population
 - Commitment from leading launch companies.
- In July 2018, the UK Space Agency announced £2.5m grant funding to support the development of Space Hub Sutherland by Highlands and Islands Enterprise.
- Industry partners – Orbex and Lockheed Martin – were also awarded grant funding from the space agency.

WHAT IS A SPACEPORT?

- The vertical launch site and associated infrastructure at Space Hub Sutherland will include capability for:
 - Safe transport and preparation of vehicles to launch small satellites into Earth orbit
 - Launch pad infrastructure
 - Satellites
 - Fuel storage and associated services
 - Appropriate security measures
 - Other infrastructure for use as a multi-user site.
- The design will offer affordable range operations and services that are capable of supporting a variety of small launch vehicles.
- Plans do not include:
 - Horizontal launch capability (such as space shuttles)
 - Space travel (for people)