



SUPPORTED BY:



Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean

SPACE HUB SUTHERLAND DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the ninth newsletter from Space Hub Sutherland. Thank you for signing up to receive our updates. Please feel free to share this newsletter with anyone who may have an interest in the project. If you wish to receive paper copies to display or hand out, please email spacehubsutherland@hient.co.uk

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our supporters in the local community and wish everyone a merry Christmas and happy new year.

COMMUNITY

Community Liaison Group gets to work

The inaugural meeting of the SHS Community Liaison Group was held on 6 October 2020. Dave McLeod (Tongue Community Council) was appointed as chair, with Frances Gunn as deputy chair. Representatives include Tongue Community Council, UpNorth Development Trust, Melness Crofters Estate, MCE Grazing Committee, Chamber of Commerce, RSPB Scotland, The Highland Council and Farr High School. The group will also have the ability to co-opt individuals on a short-term basis as required. The next meeting will take place at the end of January 2021 where they will receive an update on the project and next steps.

STEM activities planned for young people

A programme of space-related STEM activities (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) for local school pupils was postponed due to COVID-19. The team is currently developing an exciting and informative STEM programme and aims to start sessions in spring 2021.

Programme

Planning

Space Hub Sutherland received planning approval from the Highland Council in August, becoming the first spaceport project in the country to achieve this. You may have seen media reports that Wildland Limited has lodged a petition for a judicial review of the council's decision and we are currently awaiting a decision on whether that review will go forward. In the meantime, there are a number of planning conditions that we are taking forward and the preparations for the development works will be getting underway at the earliest opportunity.

Scottish Land Court

After obtaining planning permission from the Highland Council, our next step was to submit an application to the Scottish Land Court as the proposed development is on crofting land. An advert was placed in the Northern Times on Friday 28 August and we issued a [news release](#) which is published on the HIE website.

Forward programme

The programme for construction activities continues to be developed and is being carefully reviewed during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. We are still working towards construction being able to commence during 2021. However, there is no fixed date at present and the timescale could be affected by various factors, including the request for judicial review.

OTHER INFORMATION

Media

- There was [fantastic news](#) from our launch partner, Orbex, which has secured \$24 million in a funding round led by **BGF** and **Octopus Ventures**. The new investments secure the roadmap for Orbex to fulfil its ambition to carry out the first launch from Space Hub Sutherland within the next few years.
- Well-known space blogger Scott Manley has posted a Youtube video entitled '[Can the New Scottish Rocket Companies Make it to Space?](#)' and talks about Sutherland Space Hub alongside launch company Orbex.

UK Space Agency

- The [TSA \(Technology Safeguards Agreement\)](#) agreed between the UK and USA was laid before Parliament and published on 16 October 2020.
- The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has opened a [consultation on statutory charges](#) and includes a section of spaceflight. The consultation, which runs until 4 February 2021, sets out proposals for

revisions to the existing CAA Charges Scheme.

- The UK Space Agency's annual [Space to Connect](#) Space Applications networking event will be held on 21 January 2021 and is now open for registration.

Orbex Space

Our launch partner Orbex continues to recruit and is currently looking to fill a number of positions. Further information on recruitment can be found at: [Work with us | Orbex](#)

Got questions? Check out our website

Our website is the best place to find information about the project, including frequently asked questions. You can access the information at www.spacehubsutherland.com.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Visit our website: spacehubsutherland.com or please get in touch: spacehubsutherland@hient.co.uk

Space Hub Sutherland

Tollemache House
Thurso
Caithness
KW14 8AZ
Scotland

spacehubsutherland@hient.co.uk

Connect with Space Hub Sutherland



[Follow us on Twitter](#)



[Connect on Facebook](#)

If you no longer wish to receive emails from www.hie.co.uk you can [unsubscribe here](#)