

## Press release: Four companies awarded grant funding to develop commercial range control services



The successful applicants Telespazio VEGA UK Ltd, Deimos Space UK Ltd, Heliag UK Ltd and Inmarsat Global Ltd will use the funding to develop a business plan and initial concept of operations to offer range services from the UK on a commercial basis.

The 2018 Space Industry Act enables companies to use cutting edge technology while also safeguarding public safety. Range control services are vital to this and include activities such as tracking rockets and spaceplanes in flight, as well as notifying users of airspace when launches are taking place.

Organisations submitted grant applications to undertake studies into range control services and the successful companies were awarded grants on their ability to meet robust selection criteria.

Claire Barcham, UK Space Agency's Director of Commercial Space said:

Public safety is at the heart of our efforts to enable spaceflight from the UK, and range services are an essential part of this work.

The commercial provision of range services presents a new opportunity for businesses and, through the government's modern Industrial Strategy, the UK Space Agency is advancing these exciting developments.

As part of its work to ensure the safety of spaceflight, the UK Space Agency today [published a report from the Health and Safety Laboratory \(HSL\)](#), outlining a potential method of calculating risk in the area around the launch site and spaceflight path to ensure public safety. HSL provides health and safety expert advice to government and industry in the UK and internationally.

- Telespazio VEGA UK Ltd, together with its partner organisations QinetiQ Ltd, GTD sistemas de información SAU and Commercial Space Technologies Ltd have been awarded £165,166 to develop a Commercial Range Control Service to support multiple UK Launch Sites, Launch Systems and Service Operators, with the potential to also address the global launch export market.
- Deimos Space UK Ltd, together with its partners Orbital Express Launch Ltd, UK Launch Services Ltd, QinetiQ Ltd, Helios Ltd and HeliAQ Ltd have been awarded £131,901 of funding to study the provision of a low-cost commercial range to cover vertical spaceflight from the A'Mhoine spaceport in Sutherland.
- HeliAQ UK Ltd, together with its partners Spaceport Cornwall, UK Launch Services Limited, Deimos, Reutech Radar Systems and Alden Advisers have been awarded £56,576 to develop a business plan and initial concept of operations for commercial range control services in support of orbital space launches from Spaceport Cornwall. The project will analyse applicable UK regulations, vehicle trajectories, and other inputs in order to derive top-level requirements for the range control services.
- Inmarsat Global Ltd, together with its partner organisation Deimos UK Limited, has been awarded £63,328 to conduct a feasibility study and business case assessment to investigate providing a bespoke satellite communications (satcom) service for launch providers with a satcom terminal integrated on the launch vehicle itself.

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Last updated 5 March 2019 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 5 March 2019 Inmarsat Global Ltd added to list of grant winners, becoming the fourth company to be awarded grant funding to develop commercial range control services.
2. 21 February 2019 First published.

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## [News story: January 2019 Transaction Data](#)



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In January:

- HM Land Registry completed more than 1,797,030 applications to change or query the Land Register
- the South East topped the table of regional applications with 412,262

HM Land Registry completed 1,797,037 applications in January compared with 1,274,031 in December and 1,782,088 last January, of which:

- 398,058 were applications for register updates compared with 306,302 in December
- 909,149 were applications for an official copy of a register compared with 578,979 in December
- 212,934 were search and hold queries (official searches) compared with 199,533 in December
- 23,040 were postal applications from non-account holders compared with 18,104 in December

## Applications by region and country

Region/country	November applications	December applications	January applications
South East	442,882	289,089	412,262
Greater London	441,362	230,749	338,286
North West	204,499	145,147	203,371
South West	174,105	125,765	169,585
West Midlands	157,744	109,261	156,126
Yorkshire and the Humber	140,167	104,949	144,169
East Midlands	131,654	95,112	131,926
North	85,231	60,968	83,163
East Anglia	74,312	53,130	73,402
Isles of Scilly	62	69	48
Wales	86,231	59,740	84,618
England and Wales (not assigned)	95	52	81
Total	1,938,344	1,274,031	1,797,037

## Top 5 local authority areas

Top 5 local authority areas	November applications	Top 5 local authority areas	December applications	Top 5 local authority areas	January applications
Hounslow	71,338	Birmingham	20,015	Birmingham	30,192
Richmond upon Thames	41,992	City of Westminster	15,677	City of Westminster	23,156
Birmingham	28,388	Leeds	15,669	Leeds	21,625
Windsor and Maidenhead	27,253	Cornwall	13,531	Cornwall	17,981

Top 5 local authority areas	November applications	Top 5 local authority areas	December applications	Top 5 local authority areas	January applications
City of Westminster	24,887	Manchester	13,468	Manchester	17,818

## Top 5 customers

Top 5 customers	November applications	Top 5 customers	December applications	Top 5 customers	January applications
WSP Management Services Ltd	114,339	Enact	39,404	Enact	14,622
Enact	52,463	Infotrack Limited	25,145	Optima Legal Services	8,994
Infotrack Limited	36,291	Optima Legal Services	21,820	O'Neill Patient	8,153
SupportaTerraquest	27,451	O'Neill Patient	21,302	Infotrack Limited	7,454
Optima Legal Services	27,179	Eversheds Sutherland	14,877	My Home Move Limited	4,878

[Access the full dataset on data.gov.uk](#)

## Next publication

Transaction Data is published on the 15th working day of each month. The February data will be published at 11am on Thursday 21 March 2019.

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[News story: New DVLA campaign highlights consequences for drivers who evade vehicle tax](#)



The message is clear to motorists – if you don't tax your vehicle on time, DVLA will take action: tax it or lose it.

The 11 areas of the UK have been targeted where vehicle tax evasion is highest (based on the number of enforcement actions that took place in 2018).

Area	Clamped	Fines or Penalties	Totals
London	27,605	94,550	122,155
Northern Ireland	5,516	67,944	73,460
Birmingham	5,076	50,045	55,121
Manchester	7,573	26,214	33,787
Glasgow	2,666	29,705	32,371
Sheffield	3,987	25,291	29,278
Cardiff	3,021	24,598	27,619
Nottingham	3,507	21,346	24,853
Bristol	3,496	20,412	23,908
Leicester	3,344	19,196	22,540
Coventry	1,257	18,193	19,450

The advertising campaign focuses on the consequences of not taxing your vehicle – from financial penalties to court action to clamping and finally the loss of a car.

A giant clamp at the centre of the campaign image reflects the fact that DVLA take enforcement action against untaxed vehicles on streets across the country and it will happen to you if you don't tax your vehicle on time.

DVLA Head of Enforcement Tim Burton said:

This campaign has a clear message for anyone who flouts the law in this way – tax it or lose it.

It's never been easier to tax your car, so there really is no excuse. We would rather not have to clamp or remove vehicles, but this campaign highlights the consequences of not taxing a vehicle. Having your vehicle clamped is expensive and inconvenient – and you could end up losing your car.

Motorists can go online, 24 hours a day, to [tax a vehicle](#) or [check whether their vehicle tax is up to date](#). You can even check by asking Amazon Alexa or Google Home – all you need is your vehicle registration.

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1. 27 February 2019 Added translation
2. 21 February 2019 First published.

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## [Press release: UK to invest up to £30m through partnership with African Union](#)

Minister of State for Africa Harriett Baldwin has announced a funding package for projects across Africa following the signing of a new strategic partnership

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## [Press release: UK to invest up to £30m through partnership with African Union](#)

The UK is set to inject up to £30 million into prosperity and security projects across Africa as it steps up its investment in the continent, Minister of State for Africa Harriett Baldwin has announced today (Thursday 21 February).

The funding boost comes as Britain signs a new strategic partnership with the African Union, strengthening the engagement between the continent and the UK Government.

**Speaking ahead of the signing of the partnership at the African Union Commission Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Mrs Baldwin said:**

From our support to observers ensuring free and fair elections in Nigeria and Senegal this weekend, to the crucial training our Armed Forces provides to security forces in Kenya, the UK's partnership with African countries continues to help empower and upskill people across the continent, and this funding will allow us to boost those efforts.

Our new partnership will also cement our relationship with the African Union, building on growing economic ties to forge new opportunities for young people and reinforce our close bonds.

The partnership will strengthen cooperation on security and prosperity, and support a joined up approach to tackle climate change.

The funding, which forms part of the partnership agreement, and will be spread over three years, will be used to train peacekeepers in Kenya, assist free and fair elections, and support the next phase of negotiations for the African Continental Free Trade Area.

The signing of the strategic partnership also allows the UK to support African-led ambitions with British expertise, to create more opportunities and more jobs.

Mrs Baldwin's visit to Ethiopia comes after Prime Minister Theresa May visited Nigeria, Kenya and South Africa in August to set out her vision for the UK's future partnership with Africa and the UK's aim to be the largest G7 investor in Africa by 2022.

It also follows the rapid expansion of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's diplomatic network in the region, including plans to open new embassies in Djibouti, Chad, Niger, Eswatini and Lesotho, and recruit more diplomats with new skills-sets, including in trade and investment.

## **Further information**