Our Action Plan

The Harwell Space Cluster will work together to deliver this ambitious strategy by 2030, prioritising delivery of the following actions:

1) Strengthen relationships across the UK and the World
   We will use our established brand, regional networks and global relationships, to enhance existing and forge new collaborative science, innovation and business relationships, to deliver even greater impact and benefit for the UK space sector.

2) Develop the gateway to the UK Space sector
   We will build on the profile, capability and diversity of the Cluster to develop the World’s most compelling front-door to the modern space age, by investing in shared visitor, office, education and innovation infrastructure.

3) Apply the Cluster’s capabilities to global challenges
   We will identify at least two complex economic, environmental or societal challenges a year that require a multi-disciplinary response and work with partners using the unique assets at Harwell Campus to deliver full solutions.

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5) Enable innovation at scale
   In addition to supporting innovation through start-ups, we will work with organisations looking to scale-up their activities at Harwell Campus. This will involve coordination with partners to help them enter new markets, develop new facilities and products and deliver at scale.

Contact

If you would like to be part of this exciting strategy or have ideas on delivering it or would like to engage with any of the organisations at Harwell Space Cluster, do get in touch:

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The Opportunity

Accelerating the delivery of the UK’s space ambition

The global space sector is expected to continue growing strongly with estimates forecasting $1 trillion in revenue annually by 2040 up from $350bn today. The declining cost of launch, recognition of the transformative potential of space, bold experimentation plans and an evolving security landscape are all driving sector expansion.

Space is a British success story, with 948 UK organisations active in space, up from 208 a decade ago, generating £14.8 billion in income2 at 2.6x the national average for productivity. Operating at the forefront of space science, innovation and enterprise for the last 60 years has equipped the UK with the experience and heritage to pursue bold future ambitions, targeting a 10% share of the global space market by 20303.

The UK’s Space Growth Partnership of industry, academia and Government, has identified where the transformative potential of space, bold exploration plans and an evolving security landscape are all driving sector expansion.

Space Cluster already has a leading role in enabling UK ambition, which can be built on to drive national aspirations and deliver a gateway to global opportunity.

As a globally recognised centre for innovation, research, commercialisation and excellence across the space value chain, Harwell Space Cluster has the potential to catalyse new market opportunities, global collaborations and national ambition.

Now is the time to act. International competition for the best ideas, entrepreneurs, investment and talent is on the rise and globally space investment is accelerating. Our strategy aligns with the wider strategy for Harwell Campus and leverages the Cluster’s unique co-location of facilities, expertise, national organisations and businesses to grow the UK’s competitive edge in a global marketplace.

Our Strategy

Focus on capturing global opportunities and delivering UK impact

Our Outcomes

We believe that our strategy will make Harwell Space Cluster the best place in:

• the world to explore a space-enabled solution to a real-world problem.
• Europe to develop a highly innovative space-enabled product or service.
• the UK to experience the capability and ambition of the UK space sector.
• the region to discover a career-defining space opportunity.

Other space companies and clusters across the UK will benefit from:

• Global connectivity enabling increased exports and inward investment.
• Open access to new facilities, networks and collaboration opportunities.
• Links to customers, collaborators and funders in other sectors.

Our Vision

Harwell Space Cluster: the most compelling global gateway to the space sector and a proven engine of growth, innovation and investment for the whole of the UK.

Our Strategic Approach

Focus on increasing the impact of the Cluster across four core areas:

• Inward to ensure Harwell Space Cluster is the most compelling global gateway to the space sector and an inspiring showcase of capabilities from across the UK.
• Apply the Cluster’s expertise and open access facilities to address complex challenges that require an open multi-disciplinary innovation ecosystem.
• Establish skills, facilities and business support pipeline to enable the cluster to innovate and grow to be successful global businesses.
• Engage globally to realise new opportunities for international collaboration and market access.

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• Establish skills, facilities and business support pipeline to enable the cluster to innovate and grow to be successful global businesses.
• Engage globally to realise new opportunities for international collaboration and market access.
Harwell Campus is home to a unique ecosystem of innovation and enterprise, with more space organisations and open access facilities located in walking distance than anywhere else on Earth.

**Significant Space Hub**

Harwell’s Space Cluster started as a handful of space organisations, anchored around the longstanding space instrumentation activities of STFC-RAL Space. With the arrival of the European Space Agency (ESA) in 2009, the launch of the Satellite Applications Catapult in 2013 and the ongoing support of the UK Space Agency, the cluster has matured into a globally significant space hub, home to a community of 105 space organisations, collectively employing a growing population of over 1,100 people.

Having so many capabilities and stakeholders provides a platform for the Harwell Space Cluster to work with partners to realise the Cluster’s potential as an open access facility located within walking distance than anywhere else on Earth.

**Unique Ecosystem**

As a maturing and globally recognised space hub, home to a community of over 1,100 space professionals and thousands more visitors per year, Harwell Space Cluster has the potential to accelerate the delivery of the UK’s growing ambition in space. By leveraging its brand, networks, global reach, expertise and facilities in service of national priorities, the Harwell Space Cluster will secure sustainable growth and maximise the potential of its unique space ecosystem.

This strategy sets out how the leading stakeholders and organisations of the Harwell Space Cluster will work with partners to realise the Cluster’s potential as an engine of growth, capable of securing new market and investment opportunities for the UK.

**The Opportunity**

The global space sector is expected to continue growing strongly with estimates forecasting $1 trillion in revenue annually by 2040 up from $350bn today.

The declining cost of launch, recognition of the transformative potential of space, bold exoplanet plans and an evolving security landscape are all driving sector expansion.

Space is a British success story, with 984 UK organisations active in space, up from 208 a decade ago, generating £14.8 billion in income¹ at 2.6x the national average for productivity.

Operating at the forefront of space science, innovation and enterprise for the last 60 years has equipped the UK with the experiences and heritage to pursue bold future ambitions, targeting a 10% share of the global space market by 2030².

The UK’s Space Growth Partnership of industry, academia and Government, has identified where the UK can capitalise on its strengths to realise a potential £75bn of market opportunities³ including:

• Combining UK capabilities in AI and space data to drive productivity and connectivity in space-enabled sectors and exports across the UK economy
• Making the UK a hub for new commercial space services attracting entrepreneurs, stimulating innovation and increasing investment
• Developing new global partnerships for science and exports to underpin new export campaigns and new opportunities for UK science & missions

As a globally recognised centre for innovation, research, commercialisation and excellence across the space value chain, Harwell Space Cluster has the potential to catalyse new market opportunities, global collaborations and national ambition.

This catalytic role is closely aligned with the region’s local industrial strategy, which sees Oxfordshire’s economy growing as a powerhouse of engineering and growth, commercialising transformative technologies and exporting benefits across the UK.

Harwell Space Cluster already has a leading role in enabling UK ambition, which can be built on to drive national aspirations and deliver a gateway to global opportunity.

**Our Strategy**

Focus on capturing global opportunities and delivering UK impact

Now is the time to act. International competition for the best ideas, entrepreneurs, investment and talent is on the rise and globally space investment is accelerating. Our strategy aligns with the wider strategy for Harwell Campus and leverages the Cluster’s unique collection of facilities, expertise, national organisations and businesses to grow the UK’s competitive edge in a global marketplace.

**Our Vision**

Harwell Space Cluster: the most compelling global gateway to the space sector and a proven engine of growth, innovation and investment for the whole of the UK.

As a globally recognised centre for innovation, research, commercialisation and excellence across the space value chain, Harwell Space Cluster has the potential to catalyse new market opportunities, global collaborations and national ambition.

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**Our Outcomes**

We believe that our strategy will make Harwell Space Cluster the best place in:

• the world to explore a space-enabled solution to a real-world problem
• Europe to develop a highly innovative space-enabled product or service
• the UK to experience the capability and ambition of the UK space sector
• the region to discover a career-defining space opportunity

And other space companies and clusters across the UK will benefit from:

• Global connectivity enabling increased exports and inward investment
• Open access to new facilities, networks and collaboration opportunities
• Links to customers, collaborators and funders in other sectors.

**Our Strategic Approach**

Focus on increasing the impact of the Cluster across four core areas:

• Invest to ensure Harwell Space Cluster is the most compelling global gateway to the space sector and an inspiring showcase of capabilities from across the UK.
• Apply the Cluster’s expertise and open access facilities to address complex challenges that require an open multi-disciplinary innovation ecosystem.
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Introduction to the Harwell Space Cluster

A global hub of Space Innovation and Enterprise

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Significant Space Hub

Harwell’s Space Cluster started as a handful of space organisations, anchored around the longstanding space instrumentation activities of STFC-RAL Space. With the launch of the Satellite Applications Catapult in 2013 and the arrival of the European Space Agency (ESA) in 2019, the cluster has matured into a globally significant space hub, home to a community of over 1,100 space organisations, collectively employing a growing population of over 1,100 people.

Having so many capabilities and stakeholders organisations providing space expertise, business support and technical facilities in one location organisations providing space expertise, business support and technical facilities in one location, the Harwell Space Cluster has the potential to accelerate the delivery of the UK’s growing ambition in space. By leveraging its brand, networks, global reach, expertise and facilities in service of national priorities, the Harwell Space Cluster will secure sustainable growth and maximise the potential of its unique space ecosystem. This strategy sets out how the leading stakeholder organisations of the Harwell Space Cluster will work together to realise the Cluster’s potential as an engine of growth, capable of securing new market and investment opportunities for the UK. In particular, the Harwell Space Cluster is aligned to the UK’s Space Growth Partnership of industry, academia and Government, has identified where the UK can capitalise on its strengths to realise a potential £75bn of market opportunities including:

- Combining UK capabilities in AI and space data to drive productivity and connectivity in space-enabled sectors and exports across the UK economy
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1 Morgan and Stanley, 2018, “Space Investing in the Final Frontier”
2 UK Space Agency Side Bar Health of the UK Space Industry 2018, London Economics
3 UKspace, 2010, “A UK Space Innovation and Growth Strategy”
4 UKspace, 2016 “Prospering from Space”
5 London Economics, 2019, “Profile of space on the Harwell Campus”

Image supplied by Earth-i Ltd, Data 2018 ©1AT All Rights Reserved

National Satellite Test Facility, Credit: STFC-RAL Space
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