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## SPRINT GUIDE

# SPRINT Guide – everything you need to know about the Programme



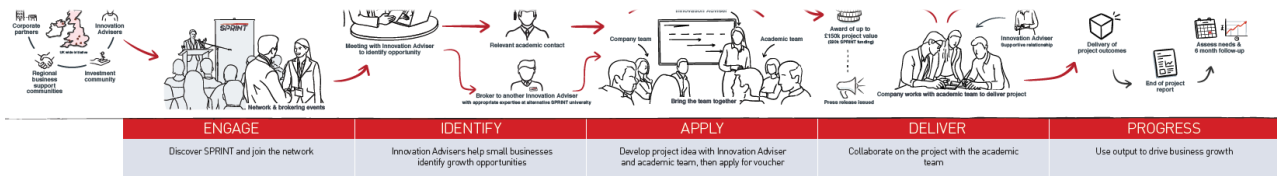
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The UK has a world-leading and growing space sector. In our modern society, space is integral to how we go about our daily lives, our understanding of how to protect and benefit the world we live in and pushes the boundaries of scientific discovery and technology development. The UK Government has set an ambitious target to the UK space sector to capture 10% of the global market by 2030 and you, supported by SPRINT, can help to make this a reality.

It's not all about the space sector, however. Technologies developed for space, and the data that is beamed back to Earth from satellites in orbit can have profound effects and benefits for products and services destined for other sectors. From agriculture to tourism, financial services to healthcare, space data and technologies can play their part in enabling innovation in the non-space sectors and SPRINT university partners have decades of experience in supporting these cross-sectoral initiatives.

This guide describes your journey through the SPRINT programme.



## ENGAGE – discover SPRINT and join the Network

At its heart, SPRINT is a network of universities, businesses, government agencies, business support organisations and the investment community all working towards the goal of growing the UK space sector, and economy as a whole, through the commercial exploitation of space data and technologies.

As you are here, you've already discovered SPRINT and it is free and easy for you to become part of the Network. Simply by providing your contact details [here](#) and joining our mail list you will receive monthly newsletters showcasing our latest news and features, informing you of up-coming events and workshops and highlighting some of the world-leading expertise and facilities that you can access through SPRINT.

You can also investigate this website at anytime for all your SPRINT information needs and follow us on social media via [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) to keep up-to-date with all the latest.

## IDENTIFY – SPRINT Innovation Advisers help SMEs identify business growth opportunities

Once you have joined the Network the next stage in your SPRINT journey is to find out how SPRINT can help your business. This is best achieved by getting on touch with one of our SPRINT Innovation Advisers.

### SPRINT Innovation Adviser

Your SPRINT Innovation Adviser is your key liaison for accessing the benefits of SPRINT. They will spend some time with you to understand your business, its products and services, the market(s) it operates in and your business growth needs. Your SPRINT Innovation Adviser will assess this information and then, working with you, try to identify expertise and capabilities from across the SPRINT partner universities and wider network that could benefit your business growth needs. It does not matter which SPRINT Innovation Adviser you first speak to as they are trained to represent all the SPRINT university partners. SPRINT support may come from more than one SPRINT university partner and so you may be referred to an additional/alternative SPRINT Innovation Adviser at another SPRINT partner university depending on your business need and identified SPRINT-enabled solution(s).

Your SPRINT Innovation Adviser will also work with you, and their academic colleagues at the SPRINT university partner, to develop the idea of your

guide you through the application process to apply for a SPRINT collaborative project.

Find out more about our SPRINT Innovation Advisers [here](#).

### **Confidentiality and publicity**

We understand the need for confidentiality when discussing your developing technologies and business needs with your SPRINT Innovation Adviser. For your SPRINT Innovation Adviser to be able to identify the most appropriate form of SPRINT support however some non-confidential business information and personal information may be shared with the SPRINT Innovation Advisers at other SPRINT university partners, non-university partners and the SPRINT Management Team at the University of Leicester. If your engagement with the SPRINT Innovation Adviser and/or academic expert requires the sharing of confidential information then non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) can be put in place.

SPRINT is a publicly funded innovation programme and as such we have reporting obligations to our [funders](#), and a need to maintain a public presence. As a participant in the Programme your company should expect this to be public knowledge (and publishable).

Full details of what data we collect and how we use it can be found in our data protection privacy notice [here](#).

If you have any queries on how we use the information you share with us, please direct them in the first instance to your SPRINT Innovation Adviser.

## **APPLY – develop project idea with SPRINT Innovation Adviser and academic and then apply for a SPRINT Funded – Collaborative Project**

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When you have identified a way for you to collaborate with a SPRINT university partner on a collaborative project to support your business growth you can apply for a SPRINT [Innovation Voucher](#) or a [Strategic Commercialisation Partnership](#) to help fund the project. Your SPRINT Innovation Adviser will supply the necessary application form and guidance and will help you and the academic team from the SPRINT university partner to complete and submit the form.

### **Intellectual Property**

SPRINT has been designed to support activities that leads to business growth in the UK. Intellectual Property, its development and its commercial exploitation is an important factor in achieving this. Due to the breadth and diversity of the SPRINT capability portfolio and company business need, the consideration of Intellectual Property rights arising from collaborative projects funded by SPRINT Innovation Vouchers is on a project-by-project

It is advised that you discuss and agree early on with your SPRINT Innovation Adviser any Intellectual Property considerations prior to submitting an application for a SPRINT Innovation Voucher or a Strategic Commercialisation Partnership.

### **Subsidy Control**

SPRINT supports UK businesses to invest in research, development and innovation through collaboration with SPRINT university partners. Some of the support we provide operates under the UK's subsidy control regulations.

SPRINT collaborative projects are awarded under the *de minimis* subsidy control regulations of the EU-UK Trade Cooperation Agreement. Under these regulations, companies cannot accept subsidies totalling more than 325,000 SDR (the current value is £333,000) in any rolling 3 yr. period. The Special Drawing Rights (SDR) value can vary and that the latest SDR rate can be found here:

[https://www.imf.org/external/np/fin/data/rms\\_five.aspx](https://www.imf.org/external/np/fin/data/rms_five.aspx)

Applicants can find more information on the .gov.uk website. The relevant links are:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/subsidy-control-bill>

[Guidance on the UK's international subsidy control commitments – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/on-the-uk-international-subsidy-control-commitments)

It is the responsibility of the applicant to accurately declare all relevant previous funding received under *de minimis* regulations as part of the application process.

### **What happens after you have submitted your application?**

Applications are submitted for review by your SPRINT Innovation Adviser. From time-to-time SPRINT reserves the right to change these deadlines, your SPRINT Innovation Adviser will inform you of this should it occur.

#### **How your application is assessed?**

After the deadline, applications will be sent for assessment. All applications are assessed on individual merit and are assessed against the same set of scoring criteria. Your application is reviewed and assessed by a panel of [SPRINT Innovation Advisers](#) and independent advisers. Once your application has been assessed, you will be informed of the final decision by your SPRINT Innovation Adviser, normally within 3 weeks of application.

#### **What happens if you are successful?**

If your application is successful then you will need to enter into the

Adviser will facilitate this and you should expect, and aim, to enter into this Agreement within one month of receiving notification of the success of your application.

Once the Agreement is signed, SPRINT will seek to make a public announcement about the commencement of the project. This will either take the form of the 'public description of the project' supplied in the application via social media and the SPRINT website or a more considered press release written by the SPRINT communications team. The latter option is by agreement with the company and the SPRINT university partner, both having full editorial and approval oversight.

### **What happens if you are unsuccessful?**

We appreciate the time and effort you will have put into your application and understand the frustration if your application is unsuccessful. We will however provide constructive feedback on your application and suggestions for you to consider how your application could be enhanced.

## **DELIVER – collaborate on the project with the academic team**

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Once the SPRINT Collaboration Agreement is in place then you are free to commence the project with your SPRINT university partner and should do so following the project schedule set out in the Agreement. The project lead from the SPRINT university partner will be expected to complete a brief monthly progress report to help your SPRINT Innovation Adviser monitor the progress of the project. Any challenges, and successes, encountered should be reported to your SPRINT Innovation Adviser.

### **Publicity**

Once the funding is awarded you will be expected support communications activity publicising the award, however we try to make this as easy and quick as possible. You will be contacted by the SPRINT communication lead who, following a short telephone conversation with yourself, will write a press release about the project. This will then be reviewed and approved by yourself and the partner university prior to going public. Examples of this activity for other SPRINT projects can be found [here](#).

### **At the end of the project**

At the end of the project you will receive the outputs from the work done by the academic team. You will also be asked to sign the '[SPRINT Project Completion Form](#)' – which confirms you have received the outputs of the project and confirms the contributions made to the project by the company.

## PROGRESS – use output to drive business growth

We hope that your SPRINT collaborative project with your SPRINT university partner helps to accelerate the development of your new products and services. But that’s not the end of the journey. Remaining in the Network will ensure that SPRINT can continue to signpost you to the support you need to further develop you business and launch new products and services to market. This could be in the form of grant funding from UK and European agencies or examining investment opportunities. Through your Innovation Adviser we’ll remain in periodic contact to monitor your business progress and offer support. The SPRINT communication lead will also remain in contact with you to support the development of a case study on the project and capture details about the (hopefully) positive impact the collaboration is making on your business growth. Examples of this activity for other SPRINT projects can be found [here](#).

## SPRINT – JOIN US NOW AND TRANSFORM YOUR BUSINESS GROWTH THROUGH SPACE

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