



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

## **CANDIDATE BRIEF**

**Space Hub Yorkshire – UKSA Space Ecosystem Champion  
Faculty of Environment**



**Salary: Grade 8 (£51,753– £59,966 p.a.)**

**Reference: ENVEE1856**

**Full Time, 3 month fixed term contract, ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026**

**We will consider job share/flexible working arrangements**



## **Space Hub Yorkshire – UKSA Space Ecosystem Champion School of Earth and Environment, Faculty of Environment**

**Are you a motivated and experienced Champion of the UK Space Ecosystem excellent research and innovation knowledge, network building skills, and an interest in the Space sector? Do you want to take a leading role in growing the UK Space Ecosystem nationally in the UK, working with research and education institutes, businesses and government agencies across the UK?**

We are looking for experienced and motivated applicants to apply for a position as the Space Hub Yorkshire (SHY) UKSA Space Ecosystem Champion. Hosted at the University of Leeds but working closely with all Yorkshire Universities and businesses, this is an exciting opportunity to take a leading role in growing the UK Space Ecosystem nationally in the UK. The Space Ecosystem Champion will provide clear and expert business support advice to a wide range of organisations, primarily those based within the local space cluster. This will include guidance on the most appropriate business support programmes for their growth ambitions, as well as information on how to access them and broader funding and commercial opportunities across the UK's Space Ecosystem. The individual will also collaborate with other Champions across the UK Cluster Network to map these opportunities and develop a consistent approach to engaging with them that will endure beyond their fixed-term deployment.

You will have an excellent track record of leadership, partnership working, experience of cluster development work, knowledge of the Space sector; and an enthusiasm for working closely with academics, Space industry and international Space agencies.

**Space Hub Yorkshire (SHY) is supporting the growth of the UK's Space industry in Yorkshire.** The SHY consortium brings together universities, colleges, local authorities, government agencies, and commercial partners covering a geographic area across the Yorkshire (and Humber) region, and building links with other clusters across the UK. SHY has now won three rounds of UK Space Agency (UKSA) funding for development of our regional Space hub, which we do in close collaboration with Space agency and the Satellite Applications Catapult. The UKSA grant is part of national programme to grow the UK's Space sector through the development of other regional Space hubs across the UK.

Over the past five years SHY has grown from a new spin out to an established cluster, with a track record of running national events to showcase our regions world-leading Space expertise, including Satellite Earth observation and environmental monitoring, high performance manufacturing and robotics, and RF technology. SHY stakeholders



include the Satellite Applications Catapult, the 4 Yorkshire LEPs, Mayoral Combined Authorities, Yorkshire Universities, UKSA, and over 250 commercial companies.

The role will involve significant engagement with universities, businesses, policy makers and industry and third-sector partners. You will be based in the School of Earth and Environment at the University of Leeds, but will work closely with all Yorkshire Universities, local colleges and other affiliated academic organisations across Yorkshire, along with the UKSA Space Ecosystem Champion network.

## **Main duties and responsibilities:**

As the SHY UKSA Space Ecosystem Champion your main duties will include:

- Being responsible for promoting open and upcoming space funding opportunities to relevant audiences, managing and overseeing progression for ensuring the delivery and planned outputs and target benefits. This can include programmes delivered by the UK Space Agency, European Space Agency, UKRI, Horizon Europe, and the Defence and Security Accelerator.
- Forging and maintaining impactful collaborations with external partners and providers to build a shared understanding and engagement with deliverables;
- Providing strategic business advice to local space organisations on the most appropriate support mechanisms and growth opportunities for them. This can include guidance on funding eligibility criteria, timelines, and application processes, and options to pursue private investment.
- Working collaboratively with other Space Ecosystem Champions and business support experts (including the ESA BASS Regional Ambassadors) to manage the creation of national and local business support programmes and guidance.
- Collaborating with key partners to develop and implement strategies for sharing insights and business support opportunities across the UK Space Cluster network to help build a profile, sharing new opportunities, ensure efficiencies and business delivery.
- Providing professional and expert advice and guidance to support local space cluster activity when it aligns with either of the two areas above.
- Managing multiple networks to engage with selected local events to maintain visibility and accessibility for businesses seeking funding support, as well as promote the UK Space Agency, local space cluster, and breadth of support available across the UK Space Ecosystem.
- Working collaboratively with the SHY management committee to lead the delivery on of the UKSA Space Ecosystem Champion role, this will include attending and presenting at steering and management committees;



- Be accountable to the SHY management and steering committees, along with other governance structures, advising the boards on operational effectiveness against strategic objectives;
- Reporting progress against clearly defined Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) focussed on increasing the number and quality of businesses engaging with the role;
- Representing SHY and the UKSA Space ecosystem both internally and externally;
- Convening meetings with appropriate stakeholders, and document outcomes and recommendations;
- Leading on communicating work through traditional and social media platforms.

## What do you bring to the role?

As the SHY UKSA Space Ecosystem Champion, you will have:

- A postgraduate degree or commensurate industry experience in a subject area relevant to the Space sector;
- Knowledge of the UK funding landscape relevant to the Space sector;
- Cluster development experience: Stimulating and supporting new research and innovation ideas, as well as developing connections between academia and businesses through partnerships and product development;
- Excellent leadership skills, with experience of providing guidance and direction to a wide range of stakeholders, to achieve project milestones and outcomes;
- Strong communication and relationship building skills: Excellent skills of consultation, collaboration and influence in order to engage effectively with a range of stakeholders;
- The ability to solve complex problems and resolve difficult situations, using your own initiative and good judgement whilst following policy;
- Excellent project management skills with experience of facilitating stakeholder meetings, tracking and delivering progress on agreed objectives and managing the needs of multiple stakeholders;
- Experience of engaging with industry and/or business development;
- Experience of running or participating in a range of events, from small local events to large national/international events;
- Excellent IT skills, including word processing, spreadsheets, website management and MS Teams for collaborative working.





You may also have:

- Experience of working international funding landscape relevant to the Space sector;
- An understanding of public research and innovation funding bodies along with their associated funding mechanisms;
- Ability to mobilise Higher Education long and short-term projects/academic programmes, and the setup and management of back-end and front-end operations.

## How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised closing date.

## Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

**[Prof. Anna Hogg](#)**, Founder of Space Hub Yorkshire

Tel: +44(0)113 343 5842

Email: [A.E.Hogg@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:A.E.Hogg@leeds.ac.uk)

Website: <https://spacehubyorkshire.org/>

## Additional information

Find out more about the [Faculty of Environment](#) and our [School](#).

Find out more about [Athena Swan](#) in the Faculty.

Find out more about our [Research and associated facilities](#).

### A diverse workforce

The Faculty of Environment has received a prestigious Athena SWAN silver award from [Advance HE](#), the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector. This award represents the combined efforts of all schools in the Faculty and shows the positive actions we have taken to ensure that our policies, processes and ethos all promote an equal and inclusive environment for work and study.



## **Working at Leeds**

You can find out more about our generous benefits package and more about what it is like to work at the University and live in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

## **Candidates with disabilities**

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at [disclosure@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk).

## **Criminal record information**

### **Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974**

A criminal record check is not required for this position, however, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be, in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information.

