



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Space Hub Yorkshire – Cluster Development Manager for FDI
Faculty of Environment



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

Reporting to: Professor Anna Hogg

Reference: ENVEE1884

Fixed term for 4 months until 30th November 2026 - to complete specific time limited work.

Part time (15 hours a week – 0.4 FTE)

Location: University of Leeds

We will consider job share/flexible working arrangements

Space Hub Yorkshire – Cluster Development Manager for FDI

School of Earth and Environment, Faculty of Environment

Are you a motivated and experienced cluster development manager with excellent commercial, inward investment, research and innovation knowledge, network building skills, and an interest in the Space sector? Do you want to take a leading role in growing a regional Space cluster in Yorkshire, leading Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) propositions and working with industry partners, research and government agencies across the UK?

We are looking for experienced and motivated applicants to apply for a position as a Space Hub Yorkshire (SHY) Cluster Development Manager for FDI, leading the implementation of the SHY development strategy. Hosted at the University of Leeds but working closely with all of our Combined Authorities, Yorkshire Universities and businesses, this is an exciting opportunity to take a leading role in growing a Space Hub in the UK. Key aspects of the role will be to:

- Identify opportunities to attract foreign direct inward investment into the Yorkshire & Humber region from the UK and overseas investors through the promotion of the commercial, industrial, research and skills assets of the region within the Space and Space adjacent sectors
- Develop, create, implement and promote inward investment propositions for the Yorkshire and Humber region.
- Engage with and Influence local, regional and national policy makers across a variety of stakeholders including Mayoral Combined Authorities and Space industry stakeholders
- Grow collaborative working between all 12 Yorkshire Universities' members and between businesses, to facilitate Knowledge Exchange from academia to Space industry businesses, and to grow the Space sector in Yorkshire.

You will have an excellent track record of foreign direct investment work, leadership, partnership working, experience of cluster development work, knowledge of the Space sector; and an enthusiasm for working closely with academics, businesses, 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. 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 few 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 Mayoral Combined Authorities, Yorkshire Universities, UKSA, and over 250 commercial companies.

The role will involve significant engagement with local governance, 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 affiliated organisations across Yorkshire.

What does the role entail?

As the SHY Cluster Development Manager for FDI your main duties will include:

- Work collaboratively with and report into the SHY management committee and other relevant governance structures to lead the delivery on the SHY regional development strategy;
- Engage with the 4 Mayoral Combined Authorities across the region to build and maintain relationships with decision makers, promoting the sector to senior leaders and influence regional policy related to regional economic growth;
- Work with SHY colleagues, its partners and stakeholders, to promote sector capabilities to a national and international audience to identify and attract Space sector Foreign Direct Inward (FDI) Investment into the Yorkshire and Humber region and generate and manage inward investment enquiries arising from these activities;
- Design, run and support a programme of events to deliver the SHY objectives;
- Report into the SHY management and steering committees, along with other governance structures;
- Identify funding sources, both private and public, to support the delivery of local Space sector development plans, and develop links between Yorkshire Universities and colleges and relevant funding agencies, e.g. UKSA, UKRI, ESA, etc;



- Identify market opportunities and broker partnerships and building relationships between local governance to transfer knowledge between businesses and academia, and work with local, regional and national Government to exploit these opportunities;
- Use the UK Space Agency and Satellite Applications Catapult's Space Enterprise Network and suite of support mechanisms to help broker partnerships, match businesses with opportunities or required expertise, comm and provide business development support to enable local businesses to maximise the potential of these addressable markets;
- Act as the voice and champion for Space within the region, contributing to or hosting events and workshops to support local business needs and to promote the cluster nationally and internationally;
- Represent SHY both internally within Yorkshire Universities, across Mayoral Combined Authorities and externally;
- Work with academia, local governance and businesses to develop and drive innovation and deliver knowledge exchange from academia into businesses, driving space sector growth in Yorkshire;
- Convene meetings with appropriate stakeholders, and document outcomes and recommendations;
- Lead on communicating SHY work through traditional and social media platforms;
- Report progress against clearly defined Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) focussed on increasing the number and quality of businesses engaging with the cluster;
- Willingness to travel within the UK and overseas, on occasion, as required by the needs of SHY;

What do you bring to the role?

As the SHY Cluster Development Manager for FDI you will have:

- A first or an upper second-class undergraduate degree;
- Significant experience of developing a relevant regional cluster: Stimulating and supporting new research and innovation ideas, as well as developing connections between academia and businesses through partnerships and product development;
- Experience of developing FDI propositions with local or national governance partners;



- Experience working in a Foreign Direct Investment or inward Investment environment and building and presenting compelling, place and capability-based proposals to potential investors in the UK and overseas;
- Experience working internationally and bring with you a network of overseas contacts that you can utilise for the aim of attracting Foreign Direct Investment – these to include relationships in UK Embassies or Consulates;
- Experience of working locally with the Department for Business and Trade to attract inward investment opportunities;
- Excellent leadership skills, with experience of providing guidance and direction to a wide range of stakeholders, to achieve project milestones and outcomes;
- Strong written and verbal communication skills and relationship building skills that enable effective engagement with a range of stakeholders;
- Excellent project management skills with experience of problem solving, facilitating stakeholder meetings, tracking and delivering progress on agreed objectives and managing the needs of multiple stakeholders;
- An innovative approach: Ability to work independently, be proactive, highly motivated, confident and to adapt to a dynamic working environment;
- Experience of managing budgets and working with financial information;
- Experience of running 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:

- A postgraduate degree or equivalent industry experience in a relevant subject;
- Experience in the development and operational delivery of knowledge exchange, accelerator or incubator programmes;
- Experience of working with the University's HR, finance and procurement services, and of the associated policies, processes and IT systems;
- 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;
- Experience of supporting the translation and commercialisation of research;



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

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Email: A.E.Hogg@leeds.ac.uk

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/spacehubyorks?lang=en>

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.

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.

