

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT

Thanks [REDACTED] – I'll add that.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 October 2019 15:16
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@hient.co.uk>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot ; [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Space Hub Sutherland - STV tonight

CAUTION: This email was sent from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

[REDACTED]

I'm content with all of this. For the last question, I suppose you could try and make a distinction between LMSS and the rest of LM, but splitting hairs really.

[REDACTED] – Mr McKee phoned for a pre-brief just as this came in so he's aware that something will be running on STV tonight.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@hient.co.uk>
Sent: 30 October 2019 15:03
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED]>
Subject: Space Hub Sutherland - STV tonight
Importance: High

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] of STV is planning to run a piece on tonight's 6 o'clock bulletin on Space Hub Sutherland. We're providing written answers to questions as staff who could have given an interview today are all away.

[REDACTED] questions and our responses are below. I need to get back to him shortly, so please let me know if you have any comments a.s.a.p.

What stage is the project?

We are at pre-planning consultation stage, currently hosting public events to share information on our plans and listen to feedback.

When will the planning application be submitted to Highland Council?

The design team is making excellent progress. We expect to submit a formal application within the next few months - ideally before Christmas.

One local crofter has left. A number of other residents say they will, if the project is approved because of claimed 'division' within the community over the project and because of environmental damage they claim would be caused by the development and its mission. Does that concern you?

The overwhelming majority of local people who have shared their views with us have expressed very strong support for this project. The Space Hub will bring tangible benefits to Sutherland – including new investment, high quality jobs and opportunities for young people, including apprenticeships. We are taking robust measures to protect the environment. A core activity of Space Hub users is expected to be Earth observation which, of course, plays a vital role in understanding and addressing the effects of global climate change.

We do not accept that our plans have sown division.

Why is public money is being invested in a project that could easily be financed by private companies.

This is a major strategic project for the UK. By investing in developing Space Hub Sutherland we will help stimulate the development of Scotland's growing space sector and capture jobs and other economic benefits for the Highlands and Islands.

Is Lockheed Martin an investor?

One crofter interviewed believes so. It prompted the question: Is there a military element to the project?

There is no military element. We are developing Space Hub Sutherland solely for the launch of small commercial satellites. Lockheed Martin is not an investor, although the company has expressed interest in using the site, as has Orbex.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

DD: +44 (0)1463 [REDACTED] | Mob: +44 (0) 7867 [REDACTED] | Reception: +44 (0)1463 [REDACTED]



Highlands and Islands Enterprise | Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean
An Lòchran, 10 Inverness Campus, Inverness, IV2 5NA

