



Department for
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& Technology

Rt Hon Peter Kyle
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Dame Chi Onwurah MP
Science, Innovation and Technology Committee
House of Commons
London
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10th July 2025

Dear Dame Chi,

Eutelsat Investment Update

The Government will be joining Eutelsat Group's capital increase today with a UK investment of €163 million.

Eutelsat announced the €1.35bn capital increase, led by the French state and other existing shareholders on 19 June 2025. The Government has announced its participation in the capital increase, taking it to a total of €1.5bn, as part of the UK-France Summit.

Satellite connectivity is strategically important to the UK. The investment in Eutelsat is a demonstration of our commitment to this important low Earth orbit technology, alongside commitments from the French Government and other existing shareholders.

The government's objectives for this investment are three-fold. First, there are strategic security and resilience benefits to a competitive low Earth orbit market for satellite communications. Second, there is an opportunity for a company, with key technology developed and delivered from the UK, to be successful in future and support the growth of the UK space sector. Since HMG made its earlier investment in 2020, the global satellite communications market has evolved, and the importance of resilient space capabilities and services has grown. Third, this investment will establish a closer security and defence collaboration between the UK and France. Based on these objectives, the investment is value for money.

This investment means that the UK will retain its 10.89% shareholding in Eutelsat Group and it will support the company to extend its ambitious low Earth orbit services into the future. The UK retains its rights negotiated in 2023 as part of the merger between OneWeb and Eutelsat to form Eutelsat Group, and the company has made commitments to provide certain benefits to the UK including opportunities for university students, guaranteeing a number of jobs and providing government with priority access to services in certain contracts.

The Government will continue working closely with Eutelsat Group, and the French Government, to ensure the company's commercial success as part of strong UK space sector.

I am copying this letter to Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.



Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter J. Kyle', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rt Hon Peter Kyle
Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology