

Written evidence submitted by Alba Orbital (SSS0027)

Re: visa changes, right to work in the UK, removal of engineers from shortage labour lists

Since the committee meeting at the House of Parliament, we have been negatively affected by the removal of all design engineers on the 4th of April from the Shortage Occupation List (now immigration salary list) and the near doubling from 27k to 50k minimum salary threshold for software and similar for electronics engineers which are vital to design a satellite. There is special dispensation for boat builders at 32.4k in Scotland, I think the committee should consider adding satellite builders if the sector is a priority in Scotland.

We may have to explore starting to hire engineers to our Berlin office for the first time, unless the regulations revert to pre 4th of April. It would be a huge national shame to lose all the positive momentum in the Scottish space sector built up in the last 10 years due to short sighted immigration changes.

No engineers = no space industry

No industry = no tax base

Tom Walkinshaw

Founder/CEO
Alba Orbital Ltd

<https://www.techuk.org/what-we-deliver/events/how-will-sweeping-uk-immigration-changes-affect-the-talent-available-to-the-tech-sector.html>

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