14320 Space Sector Skills Survey: Survey accessibility statement

This accessibility statement applies to the online Space Sector Skills Survey. The survey is being conducted by IFF Research on behalf of the UK Space Agency.

We want as many people as possible to be able to take part in the survey. We have designed and tested the survey with accessibility in mind. However, we are aware that some elements of the current online survey do not meet the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.2 Level AA standard.

How accessible the survey is

We want as many people as possible to be able to complete the survey independently and have taken steps to improve its accessibility. The survey can be navigated using a keyboard without requiring a mouse. Respondents can use the Tab key to move between elements, the Spacebar to select checkboxes, the arrow keys to select radio buttons, and the Enter key to activate links and navigation controls. Keyboard navigation has been tested following changes made to the survey.

The colour contrast used in the survey meets accessibility requirements. Alternative text is used for images that are not decorative (not applicable in the current survey), to support people using assistive technologies.

Most of the survey can be accessed using a screen reader. However, some more complex question formats, particularly grid questions and some free text fields, may not work reliably with screen readers (outlined next). These known limitations are explained in more detail below.

We will continue to review the survey's accessibility and address identified issues where possible.

Elements of the survey that are currently not fully accessible

We know that some parts of the online survey are not fully accessible to people who use screen readers. Testing identified two main types of issue.

Grid questions

Some questions are presented in a grid format. These questions may not work reliably with screen readers because the relationships between the question, statements and response options may not be communicated programmatically. This can make it difficult for a screen reader user to understand which response options relate to each statement. The survey team identified grid questions as the main question type that remained problematic for screen readers.

This does not meet **WCAG 2.2 Success Criterion 1.3.1 (Info and Relationships)**, which requires information, structure and relationships conveyed visually to be capable of being programmatically determined or available in text.

For future waves of the survey, we will review the design of these questions and, where necessary, replace grids with individual questions presented sequentially so that the relationship between each question and its response options can be interpreted by screen readers.

Free text ‘Other, please specify’ fields

Some questions include an ‘Other, please specify’ option with an associated free text field. Testing identified instances where the text displayed alongside the free text field is not programmatically associated with the field itself. Although the purpose of the field may be visually apparent, a screen reader may therefore not identify the relationship between the label and the text box when the user navigates to it.

This does not meet **WCAG 2.2 Success Criterion 1.3.1 (Info and Relationships)**, which requires relationships conveyed through presentation to be programmatically determinable or available in text. It is also relevant to **Success Criterion 3.3.2 (Labels or Instructions)**, which requires labels or instructions to be provided when content requires user input. W3C guidance notes that where a label is provided for an input, its relationship with that input must be programmatically determinable under Success Criterion 1.3.1.

We will review how these fields are implemented in future waves of the survey, including whether additional scripting is required to create the appropriate programmatic association between each field and its label.

Alternative ways to participate in the research

If you experience difficulties completing the online survey because of an accessibility issue, there are alternative ways to take part. You can complete the **survey by telephone** with an interviewer, who will read the questions and record your responses on your behalf. Alternatively, you can request an **accessible version of the questionnaire in Microsoft Word**, which can be used with screen reading software. This will be available to complete from the 24th of November 2026.

These options are available to ensure that people who are unable to complete some or all of the online survey can still participate. If neither option meets your accessibility needs, please contact the research team using the details provided below. We will discuss your requirements with you and, where possible, identify a reasonable alternative way for you to take part in the research.

To request any of the above, please reach out to the research team at spacesectorskillssurvey@iffresearch.com.

What we are doing to improve accessibility

We are reviewing the accessibility of the current survey and will address issues that can reasonably be corrected during the current fieldwork period.

For future waves of the survey, we will review the questionnaire design and scripting before fieldwork to improve compatibility with screen readers and other assistive technologies. This will include reviewing complex question formats, such as grids, and considering alternative question layouts where necessary.

Feedback and reporting accessibility problems

If you have difficulty using this survey, or find an accessibility problem that is not listed in this statement, please contact the research team at spacesectorskillssurvey@iffresearch.com

Please tell us what problem you experienced and, if possible, which question you were using. We will consider your request and see if there are any solutions available to improve the survey.

IFF Research is committed to making this survey accessible.

This online survey is **partially compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.2 AA standard**, due to the non compliance listed above.

Information about this document

This statement was prepared on 11/11/2026.

The survey's accessibility was assessed through automated checks using the WAVE (Web Accessibility Evaluation Tool), alongside manual testing.

This statement was last reviewed on 19/11/2026.