

# JBO in the SKA era

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AERIAL VIEW OF OBSERVATORY BUILDING  
AND NEW SKA HQ

# Welcome to Jodrell Bank!

- Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics.
- Jodrell Bank Observatory (JBO).
- SKA HQ
  - Prof. Philip Diamond.
- Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre
  - Prof. Teresa Anderson.



## JBO ambitions:

- Renovation and renewal of the JBO infrastructure,
- Excellence in Science, Engineering & Outreach,
- Prominent role in SKA R&D and Science Operations,
- Collaboration Hub - meeting place for scientists, engineers, students, industry & media,
- ...



JBO and new SKA HQ Buildings.



On UK Shortlist for UNESCO World Heritage site.



JBO Bluedot festival.

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- State-of-the-art Telescope / Observatory facilities.

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# JBO vision

- A **single integrated Observatory** combining together the LT and e-MERLIN - Jodrell Bank Northern Array (“JBNA”):
  - financial & technical integration (interferometry & phased-up)
  - SKA “compatible” or SKA “compliant”.



# JBO vision

- LT and e-MERLIN technical upgrades fuelled by ongoing SKA R&D developments,
- Increased level of scientific user support, expertise & training,
- Strong and transparent links to the EVN & African VLBI Network,
- Preparing UK community to play a prominent role in the long-term exploitation & support of the SKA.



## Funding (STFC):

- Currently operating within a flat budget environment.
- Ongoing “Balance of Programmes” exercise
- Need to consider alternative, non-traditional funding sources... (e.g. “Global Challenges” - developing countries).

Initial discussions suggest STFC welcome the JBO vision, and understand its strategic importance in terms of UK leadership of the SKA project.

# This meeting:

- Engagement essential - what does the community (really really) want ?
- What is the range of all possible upgrade scenarios?
- What is the impact on the science?
- What resources are required to realise a JBNA?
- Technical collaboration with other UK groups?
- Joint-funding opportunities?
- Where do we go from here - next steps...

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The University of Manchester

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