



Ny-Ålesund. Photo: Vidar Arnesen/NP



Ministry of Education and Research

Strategy

Strategy for Ny-Ålesund Research Station

Contents

1	Introduction	3
1.1	Purpose	3
1.2	Background and scope	3
2	Objectives for Ny-Ålesund Research Station	5
3	Norwegian research management – overall framework and principles for research and higher education at Ny-Ålesund Research Station .	6
3.1	Building on Ny-Ålesund’s natural advantages	6
3.2	High scientific ambitions	7
3.3	UNIS – the sole provider of higher education in Svalbard	7
3.4	Overriding consideration for the environment – field activities subject to application	8
3.5	Ny-Ålesund Research Station as the base for research activities.....	8
3.6	Good logistics support, security management and safety training	9
3.7	Coordination and mutual access to infrastructure	9
3.8	Sharing of project information and coordination of field activities	10
3.9	Sharing of research results and data	10
3.10	Radio restrictions	11
4	Actors and Policy Instruments	12
4.1	Actors	12
4.2	Policy Instruments	13
4.2.1	Registration and Overview	13
4.2.2	Cooperation Forums	14
4.2.3	Regulations	14
4.2.4	Landowner management	15
5	Consequences if the strategy is not followed	16

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

Norwegian authorities have high ambitions for research in Svalbard. Ny-Ålesund is a research station under Norwegian research management, which facilitates climate and environmental monitoring and international cooperation in the natural sciences. Researchers from a wide range of institutions contribute to international cooperation and the development of new high-quality knowledge in environmental, climate and polar research. Cultural heritage research and management also form part of the research station's activities.

In this strategy, the Government sets out objectives, principles and frameworks for Ny-Ålesund Research Station. *Strategy for Research and Higher Education in Svalbard* (2026), Meld. St. 26 (2023–2024) Report to the Storting (white paper) *Svalbard (the Svalbard White Paper)* and Meld. St. 14 (2024–2025) Report to the Storting (white paper) *Secure knowledge in an uncertain world* and *National Security Strategy* (2025) provide the overall framework for this strategy. This strategy is an update of *Ny-Ålesund Research Strategy* from 2019 and replaces it.

The purpose of the strategy is to further develop Ny-Ålesund as a research station for international scientific collaboration in the natural sciences. The strategy defines the conditions, frameworks and ambitions for research activities in Ny-Ålesund and is based on principles of research security and responsible international cooperation. The strategy also describes the expectations of Norwegian authorities regarding scientific quality and relevance, cooperation, openness, the sharing of equipment and data, and the coordination of research activities.

1.2 Background and scope

Since the 1960s, Norwegian authorities have facilitated Norwegian and international natural science research and environmental monitoring at Ny-Ålesund Research Station.

Norwegian authorities have made significant investments in research infrastructure, including specialised research buildings, shared laboratories and data communications via a fibre-optic cable from Longyearbyen, as well as costly projects to upgrade key buildings. Norwegian authorities also finance a large part of the operation of Ny-Ålesund through an annual grant from the national budget, benefiting all users of Ny-Ålesund. This funding is a prerequisite for maintaining Ny-Ålesund as a platform for international cooperation in the natural sciences.

Ny-Ålesund Research Station is one of the world's northernmost year-round research communities, with easy access to well-established research infrastructure in an Arctic natural environment that is largely unaffected by local activity. This

makes the station particularly well suited for Arctic research and observations. Several research actors have invested substantially in advanced scientific equipment and extensive field activities. Taken together, this has contributed to developing one of the world's most advanced Arctic research stations.

Temperatures in Svalbard have increased more than anywhere else on Earth. Ny-Ålesund research station therefore has great value for climate and environmental monitoring. Ny-Ålesund has global significance as a reference area for climate change research and for measurements of greenhouse gases and airborne pollutants. Several Norwegian and international actors maintain long-term measurement series in Ny-Ålesund that provide important data for scientific research and international monitoring programmes and networks. Data from Ny-Ålesund contribute new and unique knowledge about a changing world.

The scope of this strategy encompasses all research activities based in Ny-Ålesund, including the entire Brøggerhalvøya and Kongsfjorden. The presence of researchers from many countries and institutions forms the basis for extensive international cooperation in the natural sciences, with particular emphasis on climate and environmental research. Research relevant to Norway's environmental management and management is also conducted and is important for Norwegian authorities.

2 Objectives for Ny-Ålesund Research Station

The Government's objectives for research and higher education in Svalbard are set out in Meld. St. 26 (2023–2024) Report to the Storting (white paper) *Svalbard* (the Svalbard White Paper) and Meld. St. 14 (2024–2025) Report to the Storting (white paper) *Secure knowledge in an uncertain world* and form the basis for *Strategy for Research and Higher Education in Svalbard* and this *Strategy for Ny-Ålesund Research Station*. All activities must be carried out in accordance with the frameworks and principles set out in these documents, as well as in the *National Security Strategy* (2025), and relevant Norwegian legislation and regulations.

Ny-Ålesund Research Station shall strengthen its role as a leading research station for Arctic polar research and continue to facilitate internationally leading polar research of high quality, global significance and relevance.

Research shall build on the area's unique character as a natural science laboratory in a largely undisturbed Arctic natural environment, where local environmental impacts and disturbance from human activity shall be kept to a minimum.

Research activities shall be of such a nature that they can only, or best, be carried out in Ny-Ålesund. It is also important that other activities in the area, particularly travel and tourism, do not compromise research activities or the quality of research data.

The development of the research station shall promote increased coordination, sharing and further development of common research infrastructure and logistics. Access and use shall be open and managed within clear and coherent frameworks under Norwegian management rather than through separate or institution-specific solutions.

3 Norwegian research management

– overall framework and principles for research and higher education at Ny-Ålesund Research Station

Specific provisions for Ny-Ålesund Research Station described in this chapter must be viewed in relation to the frameworks and principles set out in *Strategy for Research and Higher Education in Svalbard*.

The Norwegian Polar Institute manages Ny-Ålesund Research Station and has primary responsibility for implementing and following up this research strategy locally. This work must be viewed in relation to the Svalbard Research Office, which is responsible for implementing the overarching strategy for research and higher education in Svalbard.

Kings Bay AS owns the land and most of the buildings in Ny-Ålesund. The company is responsible for operating, maintaining and developing research infrastructure in Ny-Ålesund for shared use, as well as providing other facilities and services necessary for research activities.

Norwegian authorities expect all research activities in Ny-Ålesund to be conducted in accordance with the principles of responsible international cooperation, including openness, academic freedom, integrity and research security. All actors shall contribute to strengthening the ability to identify, assess and manage risks in a manner that safeguards these principles.

To conduct research in Ny-Ålesund, the following requirements apply:

- Research and environmental monitoring must be within the natural sciences or cultural heritage and must build on the established infrastructure and field opportunities available in the area.
- Research projects must be registered in *Research in Svalbard* (RiS) before arrival in Ny-Ålesund.
- Everyone conducting research in Ny-Ålesund must have sufficient proficiency in English or Norwegian to communicate with Kings Bay AS and the Norwegian Polar Institute. Failure to meet this requirement may result in Kings Bay AS declining to provide accommodation and board in Ny-Ålesund, for safety and emergency preparedness reasons.

3.1 Building on Ny-Ålesund's natural advantages

Ny-Ålesund is an almost pristine High Arctic natural environment that provides a unique basis for research on climate, the environment and global processes. Unique long-term climate and environmental monitoring timeseries have been established in Ny-Ålesund. It is important to maintain and continue these long-term measurement series.

Ny-Ålesund and its surrounding area are a limited resource, and several research and monitoring activities depend on an environment that remains largely unaffected by local activities. The historic environment is an important cultural heritage area in Svalbard. Consequently, cultural heritage research is also conducted in Ny-Ålesund.

3.2 High scientific ambitions

Norwegian authorities expect that research conducted in Ny-Ålesund is consistent with research ethics principles, is of high quality, and is relevant in terms of benefits to society and science. Knowledge generated through environmental monitoring and research at Ny-Ålesund Research Station is also important for Norwegian environmental management.

Research in the Arctic is of global importance because the region serves as an early indicator of the global consequences of climate change, including impacts on Arctic ocean currents, ice melt and permafrost. Research conducted in Ny-Ålesund can make important contributions to addressing shared global challenges, and cooperation among leading international institutions and research communities is essential to achieve this. It is a clear ambition of the Norwegian authorities that international natural science research in Ny-Ålesund remains at the forefront of global research.

It is expected that:

- research projects maintain a high scientific standard
- cooperation is established with the best international partners in Ny-Ålesund and elsewhere in order to strengthen scientific quality
- results are published in English in open, international peer-reviewed journals
- research provides important contributions to Norwegian environmental management and/or the international research frontier.

In the owner's management of land and property, research management, and the development of Ny-Ålesund Research Station, as well as in the prioritisation of research activities, these expectations may be taken into account.

3.3 UNIS – the sole provider of higher education in Svalbard

There is a need to recruit future polar researchers. Ny-Ålesund Research Station provides an excellent arena for the training of new polar scientists. Master's and doctoral students may therefore undertake parts of their education in Ny-Ålesund in connection with ongoing research projects. However, teaching and course activities shall not become a dominant activity in Ny-Ålesund.

The Svalbard White Paper states that the University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS) shall be the sole provider of higher education in Svalbard. UNIS provides higher education on behalf of the mainland Norwegian universities and may use facilities in Ny-Ålesund for teaching at all levels. For educational and course activities in

Ny-Ålesund, the following criteria must be met:

- The teaching is research-based.
- The courses make use of research infrastructure or unique field opportunities available at the site.
- The courses fall within the natural sciences.
- Sufficient station capacity is available.
- Due consideration is given to the protection of both the cultural heritage environment and the natural environment.

3.4 Overriding consideration for the environment – field activities subject to application

Many field-based research activities require permission from the Governor of Svalbard, pursuant to the Svalbard Environmental Protection Act and associated regulations. All research and educational activities shall take into account the need to minimise the footprint and overall impact on the environment. This also applies to the valuable cultural heritage environment of the former mining settlement of Ny-Ålesund.

This can be achieved through coordination of activities and the sharing of infrastructure, data and fieldwork results, in accordance with the principles outlined in this strategy. In Ny-Ålesund, institutions cooperate through the flagship programmes (see Section 3.8) and the shared use of research facilities in order to reduce this impact.

Activities in Ny-Ålesund shall be carried out in accordance with the Ny-Ålesund land-use plan. It is very important that activities not related to the operation of the research station remain limited.

3.5 Ny-Ålesund Research Station as the base for research activities

Ny-Ålesund has a history as a mining town, with an established building stock and extensive infrastructure. Following the closure of mining activities, the settlement was gradually and carefully transformed into a modern research station. Buildings and infrastructure have been assigned new functions, while the entire settlement is maintained and preserved as a cultural heritage site. The research station offers excellent accessibility and is highly suited to research activities in a near-pristine natural environment.

The Svalbard White Paper states that research in Svalbard shall primarily be conducted from established communities and research stations. Ny-Ålesund Research Station shall therefore serve as the base for field research activities in the surrounding region. In accordance with this principle, further development and the establishment of major permanent infrastructure shall, as a general rule, take place within the land-use planning area and within the framework of Ny-Ålesund Research Station.

3.6 Good logistics support, security management and safety training

Research institutions are responsible for complying with legislation and HSE requirements applicable to their operations. Pursuant to *Regulations relating to safety in field etc. in Svalbard* (Field Operation Safety Regulations), all activities must be planned and carried out in a manner that safeguards the personnel and the environment. Research institutions are responsible for ensuring compliance with the regulations.

Institutions are also responsible for sound logistics arrangements, documented safety training, and systematic safety management based on plans and risk assessments. Field activities shall be conducted in accordance with current regulations in Svalbard and must be thoroughly planned, including the necessary risk assessments, preparedness measures and appropriate competence.

Documented completion of a safety course is a prerequisite for renting firearms in Ny-Ålesund. All personnel must comply with rules and principles for polar bear safety and, when required, complete the relevant safety training.

All research involving the use of boats shall comply with applicable regulations in Svalbard. Individual research institutions are responsible for ensuring that researchers operating boats obtain the necessary training and certification.

3.7 Coordination and mutual access to infrastructure

Ny-Ålesund Research Station offers unique facilities, well-developed infrastructure and a comprehensive observation system for interdisciplinary research. The area available for new buildings in Ny-Ålesund is limited. It is therefore important that existing buildings are used efficiently.

Kings Bay AS has established several thematic buildings and laboratories associated with prioritised scientific disciplines, including Veksthuset (terrestrial research), Gruvebadet (atmospheric research) and the Marine Laboratory. In order to improve the utilisation of laboratories and buildings, these may be made available for interdisciplinary use. Kings Bay AS also provides the research vessel Teisten for shared use.

Atmospheric measurements are carried out at the Zeppelin Observatory, which is operated by the Norwegian Polar Institute. This research infrastructure is available to all research actors in Ny-Ålesund through agreements with the Norwegian Polar Institute.

Kings Bay AS's coordination, development and operation of shared research infrastructure and logistics are essential to efficient use of capacity and reducing environmental impacts. Further development of buildings and infrastructure shall be carried out within the framework of operations of Kings Bay AS or Norwegian governmental institutions.

A gradual transition is envisaged whereby research institutions make greater use of shared research laboratories. At the same time, conditions shall continue to facilitate observation programmes and long-term time series that provide data to pan-Arctic and global observation networks that are important for maintaining the shared international knowledge base. Research institutions may, when necessary, contribute research infrastructure. This is subject to approval by Kings Bay AS in consultation with the Norwegian research management. All research instruments and installations shall be labelled with the name of the owner institution, a unique object identifier linked to a register containing information about the type of instrument and the parameters measured, and the project identification number registered in the RiS database.

3.8 Sharing of project information and coordination of field activities

The sharing of information is essential for establishing communication among ongoing projects and initiatives. The RiS database is the primary tool for registering projects and obtaining information about research activities in Ny-Ålesund.

Four flagship programmes have been established and serve as scientific networks for discussion, information exchange and coordination within atmospheric research, glaciological research, marine research and terrestrial ecosystem research. The scientific activity in Ny-Ålesund is primarily organised through these flagship programmes. Changes, such as the establishment of new flagship programmes, shall be consistent with the framework of this strategy. Proposals for change shall first be discussed in the Ny-Ålesund Science Managers Committee (NySMAC), after which the Norwegian research management will make the final decision.

3.9 Sharing of research results and data

A central objective for research in Ny-Ålesund is a high degree of openness and sharing of research results and data, in accordance with Norwegian policies on open science, and the FAIR principles.¹ Data and results sharing are prerequisites for quality assurance, reuse and international cooperation, and are particularly important given the complex climate and ecosystem processes studied in the area and for advancing the research frontier.

Svalbard shall be a leading area for open publishing and data sharing. Norwegian authorities expect researchers and institutions in Ny-Ålesund to:

- have a data management plan for all research projects describing the handling, storage, sharing and any restrictions associated with data
- prepare research data for reuse, including relevant metadata, in accordance with the FAIR principles

¹ The acronym FAIR refers to the principles that research data should be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable.

- store research data securely at their home institution or in appropriate national or international repositories
- make research data and metadata available as soon as possible, while allowing a limited period of exclusive use when scientifically justified
- contribute to open publishing of scientific results in accordance with current open science guidelines
- assess the need for export licences when sharing data outside Norway or with foreign nationals.

Data collected in Ny-Ålesund should, whenever possible, be shared and made available through the Svalbard Integrated Arctic Earth Observing System (SIOS) in accordance with SIOS data management practices. This facilitates standardisation, quality assurance and comparability across projects and time series.

In the owner's management of land and property, research management, and the development of Ny-Ålesund Research Station, as well as in the prioritisation of research activities, these expectations may be taken into account.

3.10 Radio restrictions

Certain important scientific instruments, such as the VLBI radio telescopes at the Norwegian Mapping Authority Geodetic Observatory, require specific radio restrictions in order to function optimally. Radio frequency interference reduces data quality and may invalidate entire measurement series. Ny-Ålesund is therefore an area subject to both general and specific radio restrictions, and it is an objective to avoid all unnecessary radio transmissions within the area.

The Norwegian regulations concerning general authorisations for the use of radio frequencies (General Authorisations Regulations) do not apply to the frequency range 2-32 GHz within a radius of 20 km from Ny-Ålesund, except where usage is required for maritime or aeronautical safety equipment. Technologies using this frequency range require approval from the Norwegian Communications Authority (Nkom).

Ny-Ålesund is internationally unique due to its infrastructure and logistics for large-scale research installations combined with radio restrictions. Greater efforts should be made to limit radio transmissions in general.

In cases where research requires a certain frequency range and it cannot be conducted elsewhere, the station's research management may provide guidance on frequencies for which Nkom has granted exemptions and which are currently in use in Ny-Ålesund.

4 Actors and Policy Instruments

This chapter describes the institutions responsible for research management, coordination and operations, as well as key cooperation forums.

4.1 Actors

Norwegian Polar Institute

The Norwegian Polar Institute is a directorate under the Ministry of Climate and Environment and leads Ny-Ålesund Research Station. The Institute is responsible for implementing and following up this research strategy locally. In Ny-Ålesund, the Institute has a research coordinator who serves as a contact point and coordinator for the research communities. The Norwegian Polar Institute is also responsible for local planning of Norwegian and foreign visits in accordance with the guidelines for official visits to Svalbard and Ny-Ålesund.

Kings Bay AS

Kings Bay AS is wholly owned by the Norwegian State and owns most of the buildings in Ny-Ålesund. Ownership is managed by the Ministry of Climate and Environment. The purpose of Kings Bay AS is to operate, maintain and develop research infrastructure in Ny-Ålesund for shared use, as well as to provide other facilities and services necessary for research activities. Kings Bay AS delivers key infrastructure and services, including power supply, water and wastewater services, harbour facilities, airport operations, air transport, accommodation and catering and research facilities. Kings Bay AS is responsible for safety and emergency preparedness in Ny-Ålesund and serves as the contact point for the Governor of Svalbard in matters relating to safety. The company is also responsible for safeguarding the cultural heritage of Ny-Ålesund.

Research Council of Norway

The Research Council of Norway funds polar research and research infrastructure and administers dedicated funding schemes for Svalbard-related research. The Research Council is responsible for the Svalbard Science Advisory Forum (SSAF). The Council owns the Research in Svalbard (RiS) database, which is operated in cooperation with the Governor of Svalbard, Kings Bay AS and the Norwegian Polar Institute.

Svalbard Research Office

The Svalbard Research Office, consisting of resources from the Research Council of Norway and the Norwegian Polar Institute, plays a key role as a contact point for research communities and authorities in Svalbard. The Office serves as a coordinating and advisory body for research activities and contributes to effective cooperation, efficient use of resources, and compliance with common frameworks and priorities. Through guidance and dialogue, the Svalbard Research Office supports the further development of Ny-Ålesund as a Norwegian research station for leading international research cooperation in the Arctic.

4.2 Policy Instruments

4.2.1 Registration and Overview

Research in Svalbard (RiS-portal)

Registration of all research projects involving activities in Ny-Ålesund in the Research in Svalbard (RiS) database is mandatory. The database is also used to order services from Kings Bay AS (travel, accommodation and the use of infrastructure in Ny-Ålesund) and to apply to the Governor of Svalbard for permits under the Svalbard Environmental Protection Act. The database is a tool for coordinating research activities in Svalbard and is developed and updated as required.

Through the database, users obtain information about projects and participating researchers and institutions. The database facilitates the identification of cooperation partners and the coordination of fieldwork and logistics. RiS also provides information on other project-related activities, such as field operations and field installations. All instruments at Ny-Ålesund Research Station shall be labelled with the project identification number registered in the RiS database. Information relating to projects is quality assured before publication.

Information about Ny-Ålesund Research Station

The Ny-Ålesund Research Station website is an important channel for communicating relevant and up-to-date information to researchers and others regarding:

- The unique opportunities for research and long-term environmental monitoring offered by the research station.
- Current guidelines, procedures and requirements for planning and conducting activities in Ny-Ålesund.
- Frameworks and restrictions applicable to activities in Ny-Ålesund, including environmental, safety and technical considerations.
- Available research infrastructure, services and logistics support for the implementation of projects.
- Cooperation structures and coordination mechanisms (such as NySMAC and joint research programmes).
- Practical information concerning access, accommodation, transport and points of contact.
- Ongoing information regarding activities, news and events at the research station.

Information on research and research infrastructure in Svalbardkartet

A dedicated thematic map (GIS layer) in Svalbardkartet² provides an overview of the location of research instruments, installations and research areas in the Ny-Ålesund region. The thematic map is a useful tool for planning new activities, as it enables

² Website: svalbardkartet.npolar.no

actors to identify where activities are already taking place and to select suitable locations for new installations, thereby avoiding mutual interference.

The Ny-Ålesund Research Station website also provides an overview of ongoing environmental monitoring activities in Ny-Ålesund.

4.2.2 Cooperation Forums

Ny-Ålesund Science Managers Committee (NySMAC)

The coordinating forum Ny-Ålesund Science Managers Committee (NySMAC) was established by researchers in Ny-Ålesund in 1994 to strengthen cooperation and coordination among research projects. The Norwegian Polar Institute serves as the secretariat for NySMAC. Scientific institutions conducting long-term programmes based in Ny-Ålesund, and/or maintaining significant research activities in Ny-Ålesund, may become members of NySMAC.

Svalbard Science Advisory Forum (SSAF)

The Svalbard Science Advisory Forum (SSAF) shall provide input and advice to the Svalbard Research Office and contribute to increased cooperation, coordination and information sharing regarding research activities in Svalbard. The Research Council of Norway is responsible for SSAF. Representatives from the research communities in Ny-Ålesund participate in the forum.

Svalbard Integrated Arctic Earth Observing System (SIOS)

The Svalbard Integrated Arctic Earth Observing System (SIOS) is a Norwegian-initiated international research infrastructure partnership within Earth system science in Svalbard. All institutions with relevant research infrastructure in Svalbard are encouraged to participate in SIOS.

A significant proportion of the infrastructure included in SIOS is physically located in Ny-Ålesund. SIOS has observer status in NySMAC. SIOS is administered by the SIOS Knowledge Centre (SIOS KC), which is partly funded through the Research Council of Norway's National Financing Initiative for Research Infrastructure programme.

4.2.3 Regulations

All research activities in Svalbard shall be in accordance with Norwegian legislation applicable to activities in Svalbard. For activities in Ny-Ålesund, regulations relating to the environment and field safety are particularly relevant. In addition, legislation relating to national security applies, including the Security Act, the Export Control Act and the Sanctions Act, with associated regulations.

The Svalbard Environmental Protection Act regulates, among other things, travel, interventions and pollution. Strict regulations apply to motorised traffic in Svalbard. Within the planning area, all activities shall be consistent with land use and provisions established in approved plans.

The Field Operation Safety Regulations establish requirements regarding travel and activities in the field. The purpose is to ensure that activities are planned and conducted in a manner that guarantees the safety of all participants.

The Act relating to national security (Security Act) aims to prevent, detect and counter security-threatening activities. The Security Act establishes requirements for preventive security measures to protect entities and functions of significance to national security. Research and development of significance to national security are defined as a Fundamental National Function (FNF). Ministries may determine that entities of decisive importance for such functions shall be subject to the Security Act.

The Act relating to Control of the Export of Strategic Goods, Services, Technology, etc (Export Control Act) and associated regulations govern the transfer of certain goods, technologies and services from Norway. This also includes certain research data. Such transfers, whether physical, electronic or oral, require a licence from the Norwegian Agency for Export Control and Sanctions (DEKSA). Assessments are based, among other things, on Norwegian national security considerations. The regulations apply to both Norwegian and foreign natural and legal persons.

Research activities in territorial waters may require permits or approvals under regulations other than those applying to land-based research.

The Svalbard Research Office may be contacted for guidance concerning laws and regulations that affect specific activities in Ny-Ålesund and can direct enquiries to the appropriate authority.

4.2.4 Landowner management

The landowner must approve the development and use of land and buildings. Kings Bay AS must approve significant modifications or the installation of new research infrastructure and instrumentation in Ny-Ålesund, both indoors and outdoors.

Lease agreements

Kings Bay AS rents out a number of buildings in Ny-Ålesund. Lease agreements shall facilitate compliance with the principles set out in this strategy. Breaches of lease agreements with Kings Bay AS may result in termination of the lease or other appropriate measures undertaken by the company.

5 Consequences if the strategy is not followed

Each individual research actor is responsible for ensuring that activities are consistent with information registered in the RiS database, the frameworks and principles established in the *Strategy for Research and Higher Education in Svalbard* and the *Strategy for Ny-Ålesund Research Station*, as well as other relevant regulations governing research activities in Svalbard.

The Svalbard Research Office has overall responsibility for implementing and following up the *Strategy for Research and Higher Education in Svalbard*. The Norwegian Polar Institute has overall responsibility for implementing and following up the *Strategy for Ny-Ålesund Research Station*. The Norwegian Polar Institute assesses whether proposed activities are consistent with the strategy (see Chapter 3), whether such activities may be carried out in Ny-Ålesund, and how the strategy is otherwise being followed.

Laws and regulations are enforced by the relevant authorities, which supervise compliance and may issue orders where breaches occur. If research actors do not operate in accordance with the frameworks and principles set out in this strategy, this may have consequences for their access to Norwegian research resources in Ny-Ålesund. Lease agreements with Kings Bay AS may contain provisions under which breaches of this strategy may have consequences for tenancy arrangements.

There may be situations where the management and governance of research activities in Ny-Ålesund require prioritisation among activities, based on the objective of preserving a natural environment that is as undisturbed as possible as a basis for research and climate and environmental monitoring.

In the owner's management of land and property, research management, and the development of Ny-Ålesund Research Station, as well as in the prioritisation of research activities, due consideration may be given to the ambitions and expectations for research activities at the station as described in Sections 3.2 and 3.9 of this strategy.