



A Guide to Science in Parliament and Government 2009-10

A Publication of the
Parliamentary and Scientific Committee

3rd Edition

Compiled and Edited by Dr David Dent

www.scienceinparliament.org.uk

I am delighted to have this opportunity to announce the launch of the 3rd edition of this by now well-established web-based *Guide to Science in Parliament and Government* prepared by Dr David Dent, Vice President of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee.

The two earlier editions of the *Guide*, which were placed for maximum exposure to all-comers on the Committee's website and freely available without charge to anyone who visits this site, have provided a unique and valuable source of information, unavailable elsewhere, concerning the manner in which Science is managed by both Parliament and Government.

The extent to which the *Guide* has been accessed has also been continuously monitored to ensure that it is meeting the needs it is designed to address and in a form that also addresses the requirements of those with a need to know.

Important decisions which are made by Government and in Parliament are increasingly dependent on the receipt of accurate and reliable sources of information concerning both science and engineering. The recommendations are prepared and presented by those best qualified to do so, to the highest international standards, whether or not the Government subsequently decides to act on or partially or completely ignore this advice when making policy decisions that affect us all. If Ministers decide to reject the advice of expert scientific bodies, it is hugely important that they spell out the reasons – something that has not always happened in the past.

It is therefore increasingly important in a democracy that the mechanism by which such specialist advice is received and translated into policy becomes as transparent as possible, partly in order to be able to understand any policy-based reasons given for ignoring the advice from specialists.

There are currently some seventy-five groups which exist to provide Government with specialist advice on science and engineering and it is therefore very important for all concerned in a democracy that the existence, working methods and importance of this relatively invisible, but vitally important network becomes as accessible as possible for the ultimate benefit of everyone concerned.

I have no hesitation in recommending the *Guide* to you all.

Patrick Jenkin

The Right Honourable Lord Jenkin of Roding
President of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee

AGM	Annual General Meeting
AHRC	Arts and Humanities Research Council
APEG	Associate Parliamentary Engineering Group
BBSRC	Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council
BIS	Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
CRD	Central Research Department
CS	Chief Scientist
CSA	Chief Scientific Adviser
CSAC	Chief Scientific Adviser's Committee
CSO	Chief Scientific Officer
CST	Council of Science and Technology
DCSA	Departmental Chief Scientific Adviser
DECC	Department of Energy and Climate Change
DEFRA	Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DFES	Department for Education and Skills
DFID	Department for International Development
DfT	Department for Transport
DGSR	Director General of Science and Research
DH	Department of Health
DHFETE	Department of Higher and Further Education, Employment and Training, Northern Ireland
DIF	Data Information Fusion
DSAC	Defence Scientific Advisory Council
DSTL	Defence Science and Technology Laboratory
DTC	Defence Technology Centre
ED(SI)	Ministerial Committee on Economic Development (sub-committee on Science and Innovation)
EEF	Engineering Employers Federation
EMRS	Electro Magnetic Remote Sensing
ESPRC	Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council
ESRC	Economic and Social Research Council
FCO	Foreign and Commonwealth Office
FSA	Food Standards Agency
FST	Foundation of Science and Technology
GO-Science	Government Office for Science
GM	Genetically Modified
GSIF	Global Science and Innovation Forum
HEFCE	Higher Education Funding Council of England
HEFCW	Higher Education Funding Council of Wales
HFI	Human Factors Integration

HO	Home Office
HoSEP	Head of Science and Engineering Profession
HPA	Health Protection Agency
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
ISTA	Independent Scientific and Technical Advice
IUSC	Innovation, Universities and Skills Committee
ISIU	International Science and Innovation Unit
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MRC	Medical Research Council
NDPB	Non-Departmental Public Body
NESTA	National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts
NIHR	National Institute for Health Research
NHS	National Health Service
OSI	Office of Science and Innovation
OST	Office of Science and Technology
P&SC	Parliamentary and Scientific Committee
PITCOM	Parliamentary Information Technology Committee
POST	Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology
RAE	Research Assessment Exercise
RSC	Royal Society of Chemistry
RTS	Research and Technology Strategy
R&D	Research and Development
R4D	Research for Development
SAC	Science Advisory Council
SCI	Ministerial Committee on Science Policy
SEBG	Science and Engineering Base Group
SEAS	Systems Engineering for Autonomous Systems
SET	Science, Engineering and Technology
SHEFC	Scotland Higher Education Funding Council
SiG	Science in Government
S&I	Science and Innovation
SIN	Science and Innovation Network
S&T	Science and Technology
STFC	Science and Technology Facilities Council
SoS	Secretary of State
TDSTG	Trans Departmental Science and Technology Group
TSO	The Stationery Office
UKAS	UK Accreditation Service
WHO	World Health Organisation

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Preface to the 1st and 2nd Editions

Science, technology and innovation are important to everyone's daily life. Whether through global communications, health care, energy and transport, science and technology has an impact influencing the way we lead our lives and the quality with which we live it. Science and innovation shapes the world we live in affecting economic prosperity, social development and providing the means and the solutions to problems faced by humanity; new products, techniques and solutions are developed through the process of scientific research and innovation, which is fostered by government policy and legislation.

The UK Government is pursuing policies that create a knowledge-based economy, increasing innovation as a means of securing growth and prosperity for the country. However, UK S&I cannot operate and perform in a vacuum, it is a significant and important part of a global community of scientists. For the UK to position itself as a leading knowledge economy it needs to address the international dimension of S&I, an important vehicle of both political and economic influence. Building strategic alliances with international parties, fostered through agencies of government is essential for building meaningful long-term partnerships that will benefit all parties; partnerships addressing global issues such as terrorist threats, poverty reduction, disease management, climate change impacts and energy supply.

The UK Parliament interacts with science and innovation in many ways. It passes legislation that may support or regulate science and its applications. Select Committees scrutinise government's policy having a scientific and technological dimension and government is increasingly concerned with

developing evidence-based policy. Most Parliamentarians do not have a technical background however science and innovation issues frequently arise in debates or questions to Ministers. Hence there is a need and demand for appropriate information and dialogue between Parliamentarians and the scientific community. Similarly for scientists to fully engage with Parliamentarians and Government there is a need for scientists to understand the structures, functions and processes of Parliament and Government that relate to and have an impact on science. Hence scientists need to be aware and knowledgeable of the process in which they can play a part, know who and how to contact relevant Parliamentary or Government science bodies.

The following information has been collated as a guide to science in Parliament and Government in the UK.

David Dent
Vice President of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee
August 2007

Preface to the 3rd Edition

Science and innovation continue to play a key role in UK politics, society, industry and our nation's economy. With pressing issues of financial security influenced by human behaviour, climate change and potential plant, animal and human pandemics, global terrorism; the need to unite Parliament with our scientific community has never been greater since WW II. The updated guide will hopefully play a small part in making this possible.

David Dent
Vice President of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee
November 2009

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank the following people for taking the time to read through the Guide and provide advices and editorial suggestions: Gavin Costigan, Anne Holloway, Joanna Dally, William Elsom and Rhona McDonald. However, I take responsibility for any errors within the document, but with the knowledge that amendments may easily be made to this web-based publication. Please inform me of any editorial changes or revisions by email: david.dent7@ntlworld.com

Thank you
David Dent

The means by which science is addressed across Parliament and Government is complex, involving a range of individual expertise, structures and bodies. This introduction seeks to provide an overview and a framework for the more detailed information that follows.

Parliament, Government and the Civil Service

In order to understand how science inter-relates with Parliament, Government and the Civil Service it is first important to understand the role and functions of each. Parliament does not govern. The nature of Parliament's powers lie in its "legislative supremacy". The UK does not have a basic charter or constitution; Parliament has the sole constitutional right of establishing and altering the laws, other than the willingness of the people to obey, or their power to resist. It is not possible in the UK to challenge an Act of the UK Parliament in the courts on the grounds that it is unconstitutional. One of the consequences of Parliament's legislative supremacy is that one Parliament cannot bind its successor Parliaments, which of course have equal claim to legislative supremacy.

Government conducts the business of the state, often acting within the powers and resources that have been granted by Parliament, and claiming its authority to govern by virtue of its ability to command a majority of the House of Commons. Hence, Parliament may try to influence the actions of government but it cannot micro-manage the affairs of the state. Parliament influences the actions of Government through a process of scrutiny, provision of information and advice. This is achieved for science in Parliament through the activities of the Select Committees; the Parliamentary & Scientific Committee

(P&SC) and a number of other associated parliamentary bodies and the Parliamentary Office of Science & Technology (POST).

The Civil Service answers to government and not to Parliament. There is little Parliamentary oversight of appointments to public office or of the control of the processes and procedures – the machinery of government. The Government, by royal proclamation summons, prorogues and dissolves Parliament.

Government is managed by Ministers, headed by the Prime Minister and supported by the civil service, which is independent of the party of government. There are three levels of Ministerial rank. A Secretary of State is the top-ranking Minister in a Department and is always a member of cabinet. A Minister of State is the second rank of minister and a Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State is the most junior ministerial position.

Since the Government does not have a science ministry, the highest ranking minister with direct responsibility for science is the Minister of State for Science & Innovation in the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills. Within other government departments, responsibility for science may fall to Ministers of State or the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, depending on the extent of the use of science by the different departments.

The senior officials responsible for science at the departmental level are the Chief Scientific Advisers (CSA). The Government Chief Scientific Adviser has direct access to, and advises the Prime Minister on science, but has no direct line management responsibility for Department CSAs.

Science at Prime Minister Level

The Prime Minister is advised on science, engineering and technology by the Government Chief Scientific Adviser (to whom he has direct access) and the Council for Science & Technology (CST). The CST is the Prime Minister's top-level advisory body on medium to long-term strategic issues concerning government policies and a framework for ensuring that science and innovation meets the needs of the Nation.

Science at Cabinet Level

The Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills has overall responsibility for Government science policy and support for science and innovation in the cross-departmental role as Cabinet Minister for Science and Innovation. The Secretary of State is supported in this role by the BIS Minister for Science and Innovation and the Government Office for Science.

Science at Cross Departmental Level

The Ministerial Science Group is chaired by the Minister of Science and Innovation, and its members comprise of Ministers from those Departments having a significant interest in science and innovation, including the devolved administrations. The Ministerial Science Group is an informal committee promoting a co-ordinated and coherent approach to science policy across government.

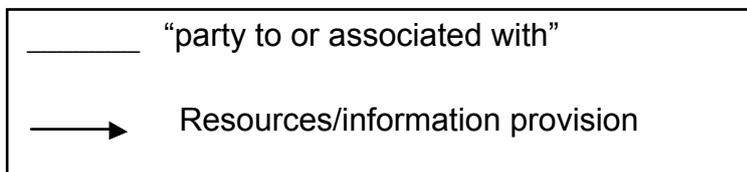
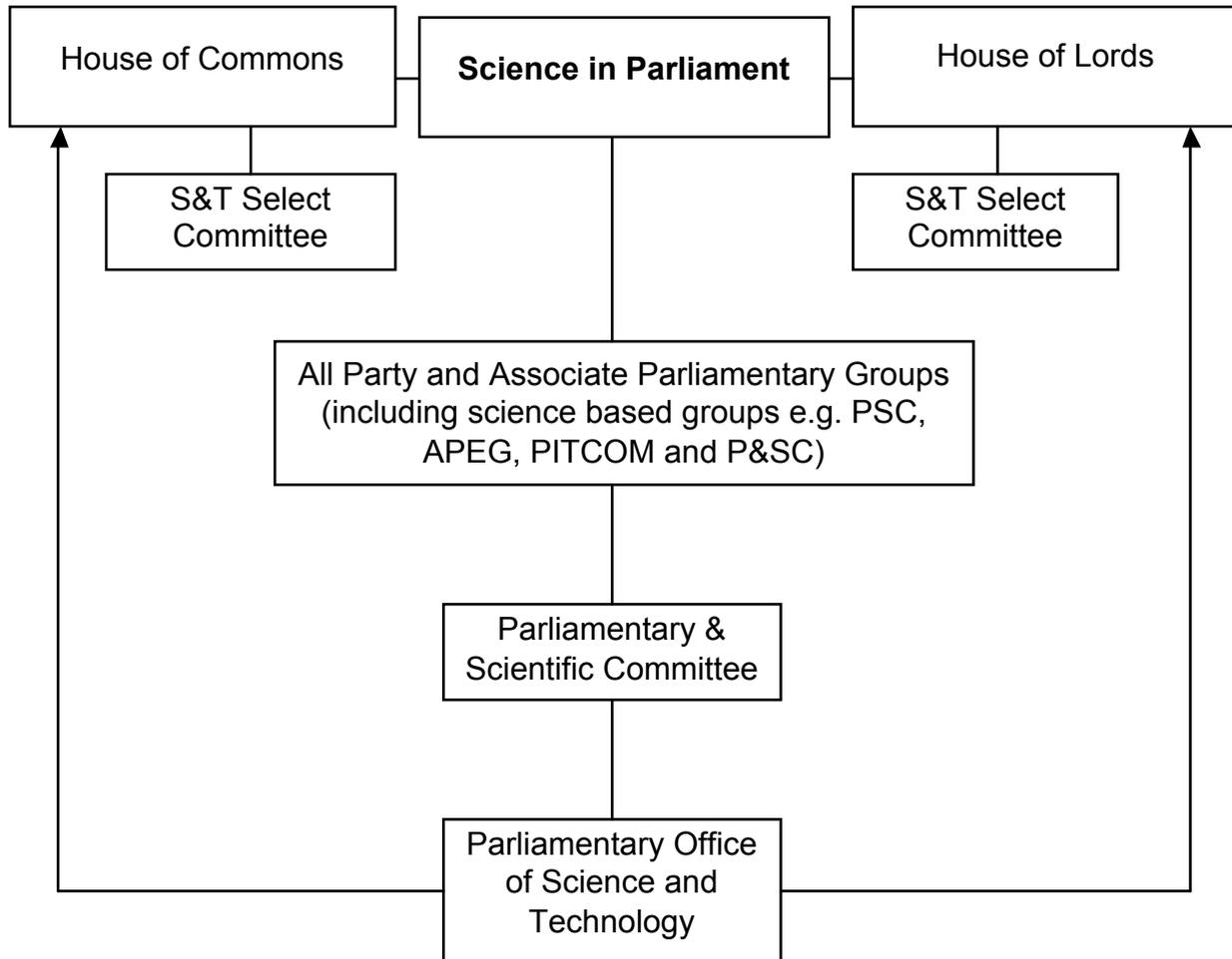
The Government Chief Scientific Adviser chairs the main official-level, cross-departmental forum for discussion of science, engineering and innovation the Chief Scientific Advisers Committee (CSAC). There are now Chief Scientific Advisers in every major science and engineering using department, all of whom attend CSAC.

Science at the Government Department Level

The Department with overall responsibility for science and innovation within Government is the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS). An Office of Science and Technology (OST) was first established in 1992 as part of the Office of Public Service and Science under the auspices of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. After re-organisation of government departments in 1995 the OST moved to the DTI and later was renamed the Office of Science and Innovation (OSI). In 2007 the OSI moved to form a significant part of the Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills where it was renamed the Government Office for Science (GO-Science). In 2009 BIS was created and the focus for science, engineering and innovation were once again bound together with industry but this time including the skills element of the University sector.

Departments having a significant interest in science and innovation include Defence, the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, the Home Office, Transport, International Development, Health and Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Energy and Climate Change. The Cabinet Office and HM Treasury also have significant interests – the former through its social science research programme in support of policy, and the latter through the financing of science and innovation by Government. The increasing importance and relevance of science in government policy has been reflected in the appointment of Chief Scientific Advisers in each of the major Departments, although as yet with one omission, in HM Treasury.

SCIENCE IN PARLIAMENT



THE HOUSE OF COMMONS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SELECT COMMITTEE

Parliamentary Select Committees are independent of government and provide a means by which Parliament scrutinizes the work of Government. There are 18 Departmental Select Committees in the House of Commons. The Science & Technology Committee differed from the other Select Committees in that it previously monitored the activities of the Office of Science and Innovation rather than Departmental activities. However, with the re-organisation and inclusion of science and innovation within the Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills in 2007 the Science and Technology Committee was replaced with an Innovation, Universities and Skills Committee (IUSC) which took effect from the State Opening of the 2007-08 session of Parliament. With the Government reshuffle in Spring 2009 and creation of the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, the Select Committee for Science and Technology was reinstated and is effective from 1st October 2009, until then the IUSC Committee continued to complete its business.

The Science and Technology Select Committee has the role of examining the expenditure, administration and policy of the Government Office for Science (GO Science) and its associated bodies. These included the Research Councils UK, the individual Research Councils and their Institutes, The Royal Society and The Royal Academy of Engineering.

The Committee consists of eleven Members of Parliament one of whom was elected as Chairman. The political party balance of members reflected that in the House of Commons.

The Committee decides on topics for inquiry and works through a process of inviting and taking written evidence, informal visits, briefing meetings and public evidence sessions. Reports of the Committees and recommendations are published.

The Government then responds to the Committee's reports, normally within two months, which sometimes lead to a debate in the House of Commons.

The Committee publishes an annual report on the GO-Science and conducts inquiries into each of the Research Councils activities in the course of a Parliament. In addition, the Committee holds introductory hearings with major new appointments to the GO-Science and its associated public bodies.

The Committee has the power to examine draft legislation and White Papers and by doing so, has the potential to influence legalisation.

The Committee is supported by the Clerk of the Committee, a Second Clerk, a Committee Assistant, Secretary, a Senior Office Clerk, and two Committee Specialists. The Clerks and Specialists manage enquiries and assist the drafting of briefing materials and reports.

Website	www.parliament.uk/s&tcom/
Address	7 Millbank, House of Commons, London, SW1P 3JA
Telephone	020 7219 2793/ 020 7219 2794
Email	scitechcom@parliament.uk

THE HOUSE OF LORDS SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Science and Technology Committee was established in 1979 and is one of the main investigative committees in the House of Lords. It represents a major forum of independent expertise, drawing on the wide experience of members of the House. Unlike MPs, Lords do not lose their seats at general elections and, although a "rotation rule" ensures that membership is regularly refreshed, there is a strong element of continuity which helps ensure that issues and recommendations are followed up and a longer term strategic approach is taken.

The Committee's broad remit is to consider science and technology. It works principally through inquiries undertaken by two Sub-Committees, constituted afresh for each inquiry. Each inquiry leads to a report, published together with the evidence on which it is based, setting out the Committee's findings and making recommendations to the Government though they may also have implications for industry, the professions and others.

The Committee investigates activities across the whole range of Government:

- Public policy areas which ought to be informed by scientific research: e.g. health effects of air travel, complementary and alternative medicine, legal status of cannabis.
- Technological challenges and opportunities - existing and future - which Government faces: e.g. resistance to antibiotics, management of nuclear waste, human genetic databases, innovations in micro-processing, and the implications of digital imaging for the law of evidence.
- Public policy towards science itself, e.g. as it affects Research Councils, schools and universities, public sector research

establishments and industrial research and development.

The Committee seeks to balance life sciences and physical sciences across its programme; it does not normally undertake inquiries based purely on social science or economics. The Committee has around 15 members, re-appointed by the House for each Session of Parliament. Members have included distinguished scientists and members with medical backgrounds, as well as lawyers, economists and politicians. The Chairman of the Committee is appointed by the House.

Like other parliamentary committees investigating policy issues, Sub-Committees are formed which may employ external Specialist Advisers, take written and oral evidence, and visit relevant places and organisations. Inquiries sometimes last as long as a year. A report, based on the evidence received, is then presented to the main Committee, published and later debated in the House of Lords.

Website	www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/Lords_s_t_select.cfm
Address	Science and Technology Select Committee, Committee Office, 2 Millbank, House of Lords, London, SW1A 0PW
Telephone	020 7219 6075
Email	hlscience@parliament.uk

ALL PARTY AND ASSOCIATE PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS

All party groups are established to address specialist interests and are usually comprised of backbench Members of the House of Commons and Lords and non-parliamentarians. Groups are classified as either an "All-Party Parliamentary Group" or as an "Associate Parliamentary Group"; the former allowing only Parliamentarians to vote whereas the latter allows for non-parliamentarians to also vote at meetings and the AGM. Groups are further classified either as subject groups (relating to a particular topic e.g. mining, forestry, men's health) or country groups (relating to a particular country, continent or region). There are currently 120 Country groups and 318 Subject Groups currently registered on the approved list administered by the Committee on Standards and Privileges. The longest standing and lead Associate Parliamentary Group on Science, Engineering and Technology is the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee (P&SC). A number of other significant groups are relevant to science and technology, the most prominent are mentioned on the following pages. For a full list visit the Parliament website (see below).

Website www.parliament.uk
(click on "A-Z Index" then the letter
"A" then "All-Party Groups - register")

THE PARLIAMENTARY AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Established in 1939, the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee (P&SC) is the primary focus for scientific and technological issues providing a long-term liaison between Parliamentarians and scientific bodies, science-based industry, academia and organisations representing those significantly affected by science. The main aim is to focus on those issues where science and politics meet, informing members of both Houses of Parliament by indicating the relevance of scientific and technological development to matters of public interest and to the development of policy.

The P&SC has a long and distinguished history providing a dynamic and influential forum for driving change relating to science within Parliament and Government. The P&SC established the Parliamentary Office of Science & Technology (POST), the Parliamentary IT Committee (PITCOM) and was a progenitor of the Select Committees of Science & technology in both the House of Commons and the Lords. Today the P&SC carries forward this proud tradition in addressing science issues relevant to Parliamentarians and the scientific community; always looking for new ways to improve this dialogue and partnership for the benefit of the Nation.

The Committee meets once a month when Parliament is sitting to debate a scientific or technological topic and its relationship with political issues. These debates take place in the Palace of Westminster, starting at 5.30pm and are usually followed by informal receptions. Attendance is typically 60-80.

The Committee publishes *Science in Parliament*, which presents a record of science and technology within the House of Parliament and the European Community. It provides for the scientific community an insight into the information and briefings

supplied to Members of Parliament on scientific subjects. Each issue includes reports on authoritative addresses to the P&SC, reports on the activities of the Science and Technology Committees in both House and a summary of the briefings provided for MPs by the Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST) and the Science and Environment Section of the House of Commons Library. The journal also contains digests of debates and Parliamentary Questions in the Parliament. A Science Directory provides a source of expert advice on scientific and technological subjects.

The activities of the P&SC are managed by 40 council members consisting of MP's, Peers and representatives of Academia, Industry and Science and Technology Organisations.

In 2009 the P&SC took responsibility for the Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) for Britain awards for early career scientists, an open scientific poster competition held in the Houses of Parliament every Spring.

Website	www.scienceinparliament.org.uk
Address	The Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, 3 Birdcage Walk, London, SW1H 9JJ.
Telephone	020 7222 7085
Email	lloyda@pandsctte.demon.co.uk

THE ASSOCIATE PARLIAMENTARY ENGINEERING GROUP (APEG)

The Associate Parliamentary Engineering Group is the only parliamentary group dedicated solely to the promotion of engineering in Parliament. APEG was established in February 1986 with a representative membership of ca. 100+ MPs and Peers, 40+ non-Parliamentary individuals and some 100+ engineering companies, consultancies, universities and other corporate bodies.

The Group acts as a forum for the exchange of information and views on engineering development. It operates on an all-party basis within and outside Parliament in order to:

- Promote positively a clear understanding of the contribution of engineering to national prosperity in the context of the world economy.
- Highlight topical issues, which are of concern to engineering industry and to the profession.
- Encourage a climate in which engineering can thrive.
- Emphasise the importance of high quality education and training to engineering and for engineers as business managers.
- Work with The Royal Academy of Engineering, the EEF (Engineering Employers' Federation), the Engineering & Technology Board, the Engineering & Marine Training Authority, the engineering institutions and other bodies in achieving these aims.

Its main means of promotion is a programme of meetings in the House of Commons while Parliament is in session.

APEG publishes a twice-yearly Newsletter, *Engineering in Parliament*, which seeks to keep Members informed of issues relating to engineering in Parliament and the groups activities.

Website	www.apeg.org.uk
Address	Associate Parliamentary Engineering Group, 3 Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1Y 5DG
Email	Contact through website

THE PARLIAMENTARY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE (PITCOM)

The Parliamentary Information Technology Committee (PITCOM) was established in 1981.

ICT has become pervasive in society and most legislation has an ICT content. PITCOM provides a forum for MPs, Peers, senior civil servants, academics and ICT professionals to exchange information and opinions. The remit of IT ranges from computers, computer systems, telecommunications, data protection, broadcasting, the Internet, plus education and employment issues. PITCOM addresses the public policy issues generated by ICT and their application across the public and private sectors of the UK economy.

Website	www.pitcom.org.uk
Email	Admin@pitcom.org.uk

PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST) is Parliament's in-house source of independent, balanced and accessible analysis of public policy issues related to science and technology. POST aims to inform Parliamentary debate.

During the 1980's, the P&SC recognised the need for an organisation to help examine and present impartial information on S&T issues. POST was established in 1989 as a charitable foundation and became an internal office of both Houses in 1993. POST reports its activities in the P&SC Annual Report.

POST assists Parliament in the following ways:

- Publishing POSTnotes (short briefing notes) and longer reports. Both focus on current science and technology issues and aim to anticipate policy implications for parliamentarians
- Supporting Select Committees, with informal advice, oral briefings, data analyses, background papers or follow-up research. Committees may approach POST for such advice at any stage in an inquiry
- Informing both Houses on public dialogue activities in science and technology;
- Organising discussions to stimulate debate on a wide range of topical issues, from small working groups to large lectures
- Horizon-scanning to anticipate issues of science and technology that are likely to impact on policy

A Parliamentary Board guides POST's choice of subjects and a team of highly qualified advisers conduct analyses, drawing on a wide range of external expertise. All reports and POSTnotes are externally peer reviewed, and scrutinised by the Board before publication.

POST covers four general areas and themes have included:

- Biological Sciences and Health: human genetics, reproductive technologies and public health
- Physical Sciences IT and Communications: digital convergence, nuclear energy and space exploration
- Environment and Energy: energy policy, climate change and biodiversity
- Science Policy: science education, science and society, and research funding

POSTnotes are free and are available in the Publications section of POST's website. Longer reports can be purchased from The Parliamentary Bookshop. To receive POST's publications by email, please email post@parliament.uk, with 'Join POST mailing list' as the subject.

Website	www.parliament.uk/post
Address	The Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology, 7 Millbank, Westminster, London, SW1P 3JA
Telephone	020 7219 2840
Email	post@parliament.uk

MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND INNOVATION (ED(SI))

The Minister for Science and Innovation chairs ED(SI) which was created in October 2008 to improve traction across government on science and innovation issues and to maximise the impact of government investment in science and innovation.

ED(SI) focuses mainly on delivery with a remit to consider issues relating to science and innovation and to challenge departments on progress and outputs. The Chair of the Committee reports regularly to the Prime Minister.

The Committee focuses on areas including:

- Promoting and ensuring innovation, for example, through procurement
- Developing promoting and taking decisions on cross-cutting initiatives, policies and strategies as determined by the Committee
- Managing and using science and engineering effectively to support and improve policy and delivery
- Managing and using research budgets effectively and coherently
- Considering cross-cutting issues which are, or may in future be, of particular interest to society (e.g. environmental change, nanotechnologies, food security and human identity)
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects and skills supply

The composition of the sub-committee is as follows:

- Minister of State for Science and Innovation (Chair)
- Minister of State for Business, Innovation and Skills
- Minister of State, Home Office
- Minister of State for Environment,

Food and Rural Affairs

- Minister of State for Children, Schools and Families
- Minister of State for Communities and Local Government
- Minister of State for Energy and Climate Change
- Minister of State for Health
- Minister of State for Defence
- Minister of State for Transport
- Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills
- Economic Secretary to the Treasury
- Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for International Development

The Government Chief Scientific Adviser (GCSA) may also be invited.

Website

www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/secretariats/committees/edpse.aspx

COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Council for Science and Technology (CST) is the UK government's premier independent advisory body on science and technology policy issues. The CST advises the Prime Minister and the First Ministers of Scotland and Wales on medium to long-term issues that cut across the responsibilities of individual government departments. The CST secretariat is housed within the Government Office for Science (GO-Science) which is located within the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS).

The CST addresses the strategic policies and framework for:

- Sustaining and developing science, engineering and technology in the UK, and promoting international co-operation
- Fostering the practice and perception of science, engineering and technology as an integral part of the culture of the UK
- Promoting excellence in science, engineering and technology education
- Making more effective use of research and scientific advice in the development and delivery of policy and public services across Government
- Promoting science and engineering-based innovation in business and the public services to promote the sustainable development of the UK economy, the health and quality of life of UK citizens, and global sustainable development

The Council works on cross-cutting issues of strategic importance, taking a medium to longer term approach. In developing its advice it takes into account the cultural, economic, environmental, ethical and social context of developments in science,

engineering and technology.

The 15 members of the Council are respected senior figures from across science and engineering, and are appointed by the Prime Minister. The Council has two Chairs - one is the Government Chief Scientific Advisor and the other is appointed from its membership.

The CST work programme is developed by its members in discussion with government. Advice may be delivered to government by published reports, confidential written advice, and discussions with ministers, officials and special advisers.

Website	www.cst.gov.uk
Address	Council for Science and Technology, Second floor, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0TE
Telephone	0207 215 1101
Email	cstinfo@bis.gsi.gov.uk

THE DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS, INNOVATION AND SKILLS (BIS)

The Department of Business, Innovation and Skills brings together universities, innovation, science, intellectual property and technology as well as supporting evidence based policy making across government – all of which is essential to national prosperity. By supporting the science and research base, and encouraging innovation in all sectors, the intention is to improve quality of life in the UK through new technologies and improved public services.

The Government's aim is to make the UK the leading place in the world in which to be an innovative business, public service or third sector organisation - an Innovation Nation in which innovation thrives at all levels whether, individuals, communities or regions; A Nation in which an environment exists in which researchers and businesses can work together to turn their ideas into high-value products and services.

The Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills is supported by the Minister for Business, Innovation and Skills, The Minister for Science and Innovation (jointly with the Ministry of Defence), Minister of State for Higher Education and Intellectual Property, the Minister for Regional Economic Development and Co-ordination (jointly with the Department for Communities and Local Government), the Minister for Trade, Investment and Business (jointly with Foreign and Commonwealth Office) the Minister for Further Education, Skills, Apprenticeships and Consumer Affairs, the Minister for Business and Regulatory Reform and the Minister for Economic Competitiveness, Small Business and Enterprise (jointly with the Cabinet Office).

The Minister for Science and Innovation (jointly with the Ministry of Defence) is responsible for innovation, a low carbon economy, science policy and wealth creation from

science, Research Councils, Foresight programme – science and society issues, Space, Technology Strategy Board, National Measurement Office, Design Council, National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA), Energy Technologies Institute, Commission for Environmental Markets and Economic Performance, British Standards Institution, UK Accreditation Service, Life Sciences (including Office for Life Sciences and pharmaceutical sector).

The Department's science and engineering activity is overseen by the BIS Chief Scientific Adviser who is also the CSA for the Department for Transport. The BIS Chief Scientific Adviser works closely with the Chief Economic Adviser and the Director General for Science and Research to provide advice to Ministers. He reports to the Permanent Secretary and also supports the Government Chief Scientific Adviser.

BIS and its agencies have a network of scientists, technologists and engineers who help ensure both strategic and policy related activities are informed by the best available evidence (including trends in technology development and innovation activity in the private sector) and that the Government can meet ongoing commitments in its role as a regulator (for example, specialist inspectors). The Chief Scientific Adviser is Head of Profession for scientists and engineers in BIS, ensuring that the department maintains and develops the in-house

science and engineering expertise necessary to meet current and future challenges.

Website	www.bis.gov.uk
Address	1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET
Telephone	020 7215 5000
Email	Through the website

THE DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS, INNOVATION AND SKILLS (BIS) - UNIVERSITY AND SKILLS GROUP

The Minister of State for Higher Education and Intellectual Property, within BIS supported by the Director General University and Skills, has responsibility for the higher education that is central to the nation's research capability.

Core public funding for such higher education research is provided through the "dual support" system". One stream is through the Higher Education Funding Councils in England (HEFCE) Scotland (SHEFC), Wales (HEFCW) and the Department of Employment and Learning in Northern Ireland. This stream supports the underpinning research capability of the universities with the strategic aim to develop and sustain a dynamic higher education research capability of international standing contributing to economic prosperity, national well being and the expansion and dissemination of knowledge. The funding is distributed on a selective basis of dependence on performance of research as measured by the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE).

The other stream of funding is provided through the Research Councils under the responsibility of the Director General of Science and Research who is responsible to the Minister of State for Science and Innovation.

Website	www.bis.gov.uk
Address	1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET
Telephone	020 7215 5000
Email	Through the website

THE DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS, INNOVATION AND SKILLS (BIS) - SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

The Minister of State for Science & Innovation is responsible for the Science and Research Group and the Innovation and Enterprise Group.

The Minister for Science and Innovation responsibilities cover:

- Science policy and wealth creation from science
- The Research Councils
- The Foresight Programme – science and society issues
- The Technology Strategy Board
- Space
- National Weights and Measures Laboratory
- British Standards Institution
- UK Accreditation Services (UKAS)
- The Design Council. Liaising with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport
- The National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA), liaising with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport
- Energy Technologies Institute
- Low carbon economy
- Life Sciences (including Office for Life Sciences and pharmaceutical sector)
- Commission for Environmental Markets and Economic Performance

BIS is responsible for the allocation of the Science Budget into research via the seven Research Councils who are the main public investors in fundamental research in the UK.

The Science and Innovation Investment Framework 2004-2014: Next Steps sets out the Government's thoughts on the long-term challenges facing UK science and innovation.

Website	www.bis.gov.uk
Address	1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET
Telephone	020 7215 5000
Email	Through the website

THE DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS, INNOVATION AND SKILLS (BIS) - GOVERNMENT OFFICE FOR SCIENCE

The Government Office for Science (GO-Science), headed by the Government Chief Scientific Adviser (GCSA) is located in the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) but is professionally independent of it and reports to the Prime Minister and Cabinet. GO-Science exists to ensure that Government policy and decision-making is underpinned by robust scientific evidence and long-term thinking.

The GCSA is responsible for:

- Providing scientific advice personally to the Prime Minister and members of Cabinet (in consultation with Departmental Chief Scientific Advisers when appropriate)
- Advising the Prime Minister and Cabinet on aspects of Government policy on science and technology
- Ensuring and improving the quality and use of scientific evidence and advice in Government
- Heads the science and engineering profession in government

The principal role of GO-Science is to support the GCSA in carrying out his functions. It consists of two main Management Units; Science in Government (SiG) and Foresight.

Science in Government (SiG)

- Covers the frameworks for the management and use of science in Government
- Supports the cross-Government community of Departmental Chief Scientific Advisers (CSAs)
- Undertakes science and engineering assurance exercises of departments
- Supports the GCSA on specific issues e.g. climate change, food

and civil contingencies and in his role as Head of Science and Engineering Profession (HoSEP) in Government.

- Hosts the secretariat for the Council for Science and Technology.

Foresight

Foresight and its Horizon Scanning Centre are a part of GO-Science within BIS. Foresight projects apply cutting-edge science and futures techniques to assess potential long-term challenges and opportunities. The Horizon Scanning Centre undertakes and maintains cross-cutting scans, as well as supporting departments in specific horizon scanning projects and in developing their own horizon scanning capacities.

Chief Scientific Advisers Committee (CSAC) and CSAC Core Issues Group (CIG)

The GCSA works closely with the network of Departmental Chief Scientific Advisers. Under the leadership of the GCSA, CSAs both support each other and work together to address and advise on cross-cutting issues. They do this primarily through the Chief Scientific Advisers Committee (CSAC), which meets regularly to discuss issues relating to science and engineering across government. In particular, it:

- Provides collective advice to Ministers
- Discusses and facilitates implementation of policy on science and engineering
- Identifies and promulgates good practice on science and engineering, including their use in policy making
- Facilitates communication on particular high profile science, engineering and technology

issues and those posing new challenges for government

The CSAC Core Issues Group (CIG) is a committee initiated by the current GCSA to identify and drive progress on key priority issues to which CSAs acting jointly can expect to add value.

It is a crucial feature of the role of CSAs that they are able to maintain their professional independence while working as civil servants. This demonstrates that there is no political interference with the scientific advice given to government. The corollary of this professional independence is that CSAs are not bound by Ministerial collective responsibility to defend each and every government policy and can have an independent profile in the media.

Global Science and Innovation Forum

The Global Science and Innovation Forum, (GSIF) is chaired by the GCSA (supported by the International Science and Innovation Unit (ISIU) and GO-Science). The GSIF co-ordinates and exchanges information on overseas science and innovation strategies, and coordinates the implementation of the UK's global and innovation strategy. The GSIF has the following members:

- Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (including trans-departmental research base and innovation areas)
- Foreign & Commonwealth Office
- Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
- Department of Energy and Climate Change
- Department for International Development
- UK Trade and Investment
- Technology Strategy Board

THE DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS, INNOVATION AND SKILLS (BIS) - GOVERNMENT OFFICE FOR SCIENCE

- Regional Development Agencies (represented by the South East England Development Agency)
- British Academy
- British Council
- Royal Academy of Engineering
- Research Councils UK
- Department for Transport
- Royal Society
- Research Councils UK
- Department for Education and Skills
- HM Treasury
- Department of Health
- Home Office

Website	www.bis.gov.uk
Address	1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET
Telephone	020 7215 5000
Email	Through the website

THE DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS, INNOVATION AND SKILLS (BIS) - SCIENCE AND RESEARCH GROUP

The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) is responsible for the allocation of the Science Budget into research via the seven Research Councils for which the Director General of Science and Research (DGSR) is responsible.

The Science and Research Group are responsible for:

- The Research Base
- The Science and Innovation Analysis (SIA) Unit
- The International Science and Innovation Unit (ISIU)
- British National Space Centre

The Research Base includes the science budget for the seven Research Councils, three National Academies, Capital Funding for Research Infrastructure, and science and society programmes. The UK Research Councils established under Royal Charter are:

- Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)
- Biotechnology & Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)
- Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)
- Economic & Social Research Council (ESRC)
- Medical Research Council (MRC)
- Natural Environment Research Council (NERC)
- Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC)

The Director General of the DGSR is also responsible for Science and Innovation Analysis (SIA) unit. The SIA is an interdisciplinary unit of analysts within the Science and Innovation Group of BIS. Economists and statisticians provide professional advice and develop the evidence base

underpinning Science, Technology and Innovation policy. Evaluation advice is provided for planning and the monitoring and ex-post evaluation of Science and Innovation programmes. The unit is a focal point for analytical advice on Science and Innovation policy for BIS and across Government.

The International Science and Innovation Unit (ISIU) works to ensure that UK researchers, business and Government gain greater benefit from international partnerships and programmes in science, technology and innovation and are partners of choice for our overseas counterparts. The ISIU has three key objectives to:

- Accelerate the commercial exploitation of creativity and knowledge, through innovation and research, to create wealth, grow the economy, build successful businesses and improve quality of life
- Pursue global excellence in research and knowledge, promote the benefits of science and society, and deliver science, technology, engineering and mathematics skills in line with employer demand
- Encourage better use of science in Government, foster public service innovation, and support other Government objectives which depend on DIUS expertise and remit

In managing the Science and

Innovation Network (SIN) in collaboration with FCO (see FCO page), the ISIU also contributes directly to FCO objectives.

Website	www.bis.gov.uk
Address	1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET
Telephone	020 7215 5000
Email	Through the website

THE DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS, INNOVATION AND SKILLS (BIS) - INNOVATION AND ENTERPRISE GROUP

The Department of Business, Innovation and Skills is responsible for promoting innovation and enterprise to make sure that Britain is the best place in the world to run an innovative business or service - this is critical to the UK's future prosperity, our quality of life and future job prospects. The Director General, Innovation and Enterprise has responsibility for the:

- Better Regulation Executive
- Office of Life Sciences
- Technology Strategy Board
- Innovation Procurement
- The UK Innovation Investment Fund
- Sponsorship of innovation-related organisations such as:
 - Design Council
 - British Standards Institution (BSI)
 - National Endowment for Science, Technology and Arts (NESTA)
 - Technology Strategy Board (TSB)
 - UK Accreditation Service (UKAS)

The Office for Life Sciences (OLS) is dedicated to improving the operating environment for the pharmaceutical, medical biotech and medical devices sectors. The Office is comprised of officials from BIS and the Department of Health and is working closely with industry to identify priorities and actions for the long term

The Technology Strategy Board (TSB) has responsibility for driving UK innovation. The TSB also advises Government on how to remove barriers to innovation and accelerate the exploitation of new technologies, working in areas where there is a clear potential business benefit, helping today's emerging technologies become the growth sectors of tomorrow. The TSB is an executive non-departmental public body (NDPB), established by the Government in 2007 and sponsored

by the BIS. The activities of the TSB are jointly supported and funded by BIS and other government departments, the devolved administrations, regional development agencies and research councils.

Website	www.bis.gov.uk
Address	1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET
Telephone	020 7215 5000
Email	Through the website

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) is a major user of science and technology. The Secretary of State for Defence is responsible ultimately for all elements of Defence and is supported in this role by the Minister of State for the Armed Forces, the Minister of State for Strategic Defence Acquisition and Reform, the Minister of State for International Defence and Security, the Under Secretary and Minister for Defence Equipment and Support and the Under Secretary of State for Defence and Minister for Veterans.

The Minister of State for Strategic Defence Acquisition Reform has responsibility for Defence Science and Technology including the Defence Technology Strategy.

The Ministers are supported in their role by the Chiefs of Staff and four Senior Defence Officials including the Chief Scientific Adviser for MOD. The CSA provides the Permanent Secretariat to support the Defence Scientific Advisory Council (DSAC) and one of his senior members of staff is the Executive Officer of DSAC.

The Secretariat is maintained by the Independent Scientific and Technical Advice (ISTA) office. The DSAC is a Non Departmental Public Body established to provide independent advice to the Secretary of State for Defence on matters of concern to the Ministry of Defence in the field of science, engineering and technology. The DSAC secretariat is maintained by the office for ISTA, which provides secretarial support for the Council and its subordinate bodies.

The Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL) at Porton Down is an agency of the MOD and exists to supply the very best, impartial, scientific and technical research and advice to the MOD and Other Government Departments.

MOD has also formed collaborative consortia with world-class expertise, to join with it in the creation of Defence Technology Centres (DTCs). There are currently four DTCs, funded jointly by participants and the MOD. The participants work together to generate and enhance the technology vital to the delivery of future UK Defence capabilities.

The Four Defence Technology Centres are:

- Systems Engineering for Autonomous Systems (SEAS)
- Electro Magnetic Remote Sensing (EMRS)
- Human Factors Integration (HFI)
- Data Information Fusion (DIF)

Website	www.mod.uk
Address	MOD Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB.
Telephone	0207 218 6626
Email	science@mod.uk

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

The Department of Health (DH) seeks to improve the health and well being of the population through improving standards of public health and driving forward change in the National Health Service and social care.

The Secretary of State is supported in Ministerial responsibilities by three Ministers of State and one Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State. The Minister of State for Public Health has responsibility for WHO, scientific development in health protection, a national programme of R&D including the R&D workforce and innovation, the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) and the Food Standards Agency (FSA).

The Ministers are supported by the Chief Scientist (CS) who is also the Director General for Health Improvement and Protection Directorate, the Director General of Research and Development who is also the Chief Scientific Adviser (CSA), and the Chief Scientific Officer (CSO).

The CSO is responsible for building the capacity of the healthcare science workforce, and for developing healthcare scientists and their roles whilst raising their profile and recognition across the Department of Health.

The healthcare scientist workforce in the NHS, including the Health Protection Agency (HPA) and the National Blood and Tissue Authority, represent the largest group of scientists in a single employment sector in the UK. Their scientific knowledge and skill base stretches across some 50 scientific disciplines encompassing biology, genetics, physiology, physics and engineering.

This knowledge lies at the foundation of the profession's roles in:

- Providing diagnostic services, analysis and clinical interpretation,

including international and national reference or investigative services

- Offering direct therapeutic service provision and support
- Introducing and disseminating technological and scientific advances into healthcare, and undertaking research, development and innovation
- Providing performance and quality assurance, risk management and clinical safety design and management in complex environments
- Teaching, training and providing a specialist consultancy and clinical advice service to other clinicians with respect to all of the key functions

The Director General of Research and Development is the CSA for the Department of Health and NHS and is responsible for implementation of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). The goal of the NIHR is to create a UK health research system in which the NHS supports outstanding individuals, working in world class facilities, conducting leading edge research focused on the needs of patients and the public.

Website	www.dh.gov.uk
Address:	Department of Health, Richmond House, 79 Whitehall, London SW1A 2NS
Tel	020 7210 4850
Email	Through website

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

The role of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) is to coordinate and pursue UK policies abroad. The Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs is assisted by three Ministers of State, a Minister of State for Trade, Investment and Business (jointly with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills as well as a Parliamentary Under Secretaries of State (jointly with the Ministry of Defence).

Science plays a major role in the UK foreign policy. Scientific advice to the FCO is provided through the Chief Scientific Adviser who provides advice to the Foreign Secretary, Ministers and officials on science, technology and innovation. The work of the CSA strengthens the scientific and engineering capacity within the FCO and ensures the FCO's work on key science and technology issues, such as climate change, energy, food security, counter-terrorism and counter-proliferation undergoes proper scientific challenge.

The FCO also has joint responsibility for the Science and Innovation Network (SIN) with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills. SIN is a network of more than 95 science and innovation officers based in nearly 40 UK embassies and offices around the world, including India, China and Brazil. It was established by the Foreign Commonwealth Office (FCO) in 2000 in response to the growing importance of science, technology and innovation for the UK's future.

SIN's purpose is to:

- promote access to and sharing of scientific expertise, resources and facilities through international scientific collaboration and exchange
- strengthen the UK's capacity to innovate through international research and development (R&D)

investment, R&D partnerships and technology transfer

- inform effective domestic and international policy making and leadership based on the best available science
- use science and innovation to influence in an increasingly globalised world and to forge strategic alliances

Website	www.fco.gov.uk
Address	Foreign and Commonwealth Office, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH
Telephone	020 7008 1500
Email	Through the website

Science and Innovation Network

Telephone	020 7008 8291
Email	science.innovation@fco.gov.uk

THE HOME OFFICE

The Home Office (HO) undertakes a huge range of scientific and research projects to inform policy making, measure the impact of HO initiatives and develop new technologies to help reduce crime and keep the UK safe from terrorism.

The HO manages a diverse portfolio of scientific and research work in:

- forensic science
- DNA analysis and the expansion of the database
- police science and technology
- animal testing
- research, development and statistics

Under the direction of the Home Secretary, there are two Ministers of State and three Parliamentary Under Secretary's of State.

Home Office science is organised under Science, Research, Statistics. Most scientific work is controlled by the Science & Research Group which aims to strengthen the strategic focus, co-ordination and quality assurance of science and research across the Department.

The Science and Research Group comprises the following departments under the guidance of a Chief Scientific Adviser and a Scientific Advisory Committee:

- Animals in Science Procedures
- Home Office Scientific Development Branch
- Research Development Statistics

Website	www.scienceandresearch.homeoffice.gov.uk/
Address	The Home Office, Science and Research Group Support, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF
Telephone	020 7035 4848
Email	public.enquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) works to ensure the provision of the essentials of life, namely; food, air, water, land, people, animals and plants. DEFRA is a major funder of science, annually supporting research, monitoring and surveillance activities. DEFRA's aim is to secure a healthy environment in which we and future generations can prosper and it has three priorities which contribute to achieving this, and these are to:

- secure a healthy natural environment for us all and deal with environmental risks
- promote a sustainable, low-carbon and resource-efficient economy
- ensure a thriving farming sector and a sustainable, healthy and secure food supply

There are five DEFRA Ministers, the Secretary of State, a Minister of State and three

Parliamentary Under Secretary's. The Secretary of State is advised by the Chief Scientific Adviser for DEFRA who also sits on the Department's Management Board.

DEFRA has responsibility for a range of science issues and supports a number of research or science based facilities either as Non-Departmental Public Bodies (NDPBs) or Executive Agencies:

- Food and Environment Agency
- Kew Royal Botanic Gardens
- Veterinary Laboratory Agency
- Veterinary Medicines Agency
- Marine and Fisheries Agency
- Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science
- Environment Agency
- Forestry Commission

- Animal Health
- Sustainable Development Commission

Defra supports the developing European Research Area primarily through participation in the EU's Framework Programmes for Research and Technological Development.

Website	www.defra.gov.uk
Address	DEFRA, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1A 3JP
Telephone	08459 33 55 77
Email	helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) was created in October 2008, to bring together:

- energy policy (previously with the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills), and
- climate change mitigation policy (previously with DEFRA)

The new Department reflects the fact that climate change and energy policies are inextricably linked – two thirds of our emissions come from the energy used. Decisions in one field cannot be made without considering the impacts in the other.

- The Department's three overall objectives are to:
- ensure our energy is secure, affordable and efficient
- bring about the transition to a low-carbon Britain
- achieve an international agreement on climate change

The Department is led by the Secretary of State of Energy and Climate Change and two Ministers of State, one of whom is jointly held with DEFRA, and a Parliamentary Under Secretary of State. A Chief Scientific Adviser who reports to the Secretary of State is a member of the DECC Management Board.

Website	www.decc.gov.uk
Address	3 Whitehall Place, London, SW1A 2AW
Telephone	0300 060 4000
Email	Through website

DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Department for International Development (DfID) leads the Government's response to tackling world poverty through its support to long term programmes addressing the underlying causes of poverty and provision of emergency and disaster relief.

The Secretary of State for International Development is supported by a Minister of State and a Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State.

The SoS is advised by both a Chief Economist and a Chief Scientific Adviser (CSA). The CSA is also the Director Research and Evidence Division and reports to the Director General for Policy and Research who sits on the DfID Management Board.

The UK government is committed to research for understanding and tackling world poverty and the strategy for achieving this is defined in the DfID Research Strategy. The role of research is to provide evidence that can shape development policies and programmes across the world. DfID has six key research areas:

- Growth
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Climate Change
- Health
- Governance in challenging environments
- Future challenges and opportunities

Up-to-date information on DfID's centrally funded research portfolio can be found on the Research4Development (R4D) website www.research4development.info

Website	www.dfid.gov.uk
Address	1 Palace Street, London SW1E 5HE
Telephone	020 7023 0000
Email	enquiry@dfid.gov.uk

DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT

The Department for Transport (DfT) is responsible for the delivery of transport that works for everyone - is reliable, safe and secure transport system that responds to the needs of individuals and businesses while safeguarding the environment. The DfT is led by the Secretary of State for Transport, a Minister of State and two Parliamentary Under Secretary's of State. The Minister of State is supported by a Chief Scientific Adviser.

A new Transport Research Centre (TRC) to provide a focus for transport research in the UK with a strong, but not exclusive, socio-economic dimension is currently under development with the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

The main role of the TRC will be to strengthen the provision and utilisation of independent, high quality, relevant and robust research and analysis aimed at developing the necessary evidence base with which to address the significant transport policy questions facing the UK. The Centre will:

- Transport and Economic Competitiveness
- Transport and the Environment
- Transport, Social Inclusion and Accessibility
- Transport & Mobility
- Transport & Technology
- Transport and Policy

The TRC is to be run by a consortium of the leading academic research organisations in the UK.

Website	www.dft.gov.uk
Address	Department for Transport, Great Minster House, 76 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4D
Telephone	0300 330 3000
Email	Through the webpage

Parliament scrutinises the work of government, government produces legislation, Ministers are advised, the public are consulted and while the vast majority of these processes and procedures are conducted in and accessible to the public. The following sections outline a number of processes and procedures of relevance to the scientific community.

The Science and Technology Select Committee Inquiry Process

The Committee determines its own programmes of inquiry (typically the Committee publishes 10-15 inquiry reports). The Committee publishes its intention to hold an inquiry with a public call for evidence (monitor the following website for up to date information: (www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/science_and_technology_committee.cfm)). The notice outlines the nature of the inquiry and invites written evidence from individuals and organisations on a specific list of issues/topics, the deadline and submission details (www.parliament.uk/commons/selcom/witguide.htm). The Committee welcomes submissions from both individual and organisations but is not obliged to accept the evidence submitted.

The written submissions are considered before oral evidence sessions are held. These are public sessions that individuals may attend. Contact the Committee Office Information line on 020 7219 2033 to confirm the venue the day before the meeting.

The objective of the oral evidence session is to enable the Committee to explore the issues in more detail and to draw out the themes that have emerged from the written evidence. The same weighting is given to written evidences irrespective of whether the organisation who submitting it is asked to give oral evidence.

The Committee may appoint impartial Special Advisors for an enquiry whose expertise may assist in explaining technical issues and provide briefing material and background information.

When all the evidence has been taken and considered the Committee produces a report of its conclusions and recommendations. These are generally directed at the Government but the Committee can comment on and draw conclusions relevant to other parties e.g. industry, individual researchers.

Consultations

Departmental Consultations are an opportunity for stakeholders and the wider public to contribute to the policy making process. Scientists can and should help shape policy and identify the options and needs for better inclusion of science in evidence-based policy.

Consultations are advertised on Departmental websites along with information on “live” and closed consultations, responses to consultations and a library of closed consultation and their responses.

Consultations are normally in written form although other processes such as public surveys, stakeholder/public meetings, web forums, focus groups, regional events and targeted leaflet campaigns may be used, especially where stakeholders may be difficult to reach. A written consultation period is twelve weeks but may be longer under special circumstances. Consultation focuses questions on specific areas of policy, identifying key assumptions and the risks and consequences of doing nothing. Representative groups providing evidence will be asked to give a summary of the people and organisations they represent.

Deadlines for responses and contact details for submissions will also be given.

The effectiveness of consultations is monitored by the Cabinet Office.

Science Question Time

The Science and Technology Select Committee holds Science Question Time around every three months. It is designed to enable the Committee to raise topical issues with the Minister and to discuss recent developments in science and innovation.

The sessions are held in public.

Science Advisory Committees, Councils and Commissions

A Scientific Advisory Committee (Council or Commission) (SAC) is generally established and responsible for, providing scientific input to assist in policy making or analysis for government departments.

The function of a SAC is to:

- Help collect and collate scientific information
- Review scientific research and offer independent expert judgement
- Identify where there are knowledge gaps and sometimes to commission research to fill these gaps
- Define the extent of uncertainty and risk
- Provide scientific advice and advise on scientific issues
- To frame advice taking into account of social, ethical issues and public/stakeholder concerns
- Highlight issues likely to be of future concern

In addressing these functions SAC will normally report formally through the Chair to the sponsoring Department.

National Academies - The Royal Society, Royal Academy of Engineering and the Academy of Medical Sciences

The UK has a number of influential national academies. The Academy of Medical Sciences www.acmedsci.ac.uk serves the medical sciences in the same way that the Royal Society www.royalsoc.ac.uk serves the natural sciences, the British Academy www.britac.ac.uk serves the humanities and the social sciences and the Royal Academy of Engineering www.raeng.org.uk serves engineering.

The independent academies of the UK are dedicated to promoting excellence in their respective fields. They play an influential role in national and international science policy and support developments in science, medical science, engineering and technology in a wide range of ways including providing objective advice for government and policymakers on science, its relationship with society and education.

Chartered Institutes, Learned Societies, Trade Associations, Professional Federations

The Institutes and Societies are leading international professional bodies and learned establishments, created to promote the advancement and dissemination of science in their particular field. The Institutes may have a world-wide membership, are major international players and often as part of their role, seek to influence government, inform public debate; promoting public awareness of their science. e.g. Institute of Physics, Society of Biology, Royal Geographical Society and the British Ecological Society. The Royal Society of Chemistry www.rsc.org runs links days and has an active programme in Parliament.

Foundation of Science and Technology

The Foundation of Science and Technology (FST) main purpose is to bring together in a neutral forum, representatives of both Houses of Parliament, officials from Whitehall, industrialists, academics and others to debate policy issues with a science or technology element www.foundation.org.uk. The Foundation organises dinner/discussions and workshops on relevant issues when parliament is sitting.

The Foundation also provides a support service to learned and professional societies. Around 230 subscribe to receive the two monthly Newsletter. Seminars are organised on a regular basis on topics relevant to managing large and small societies.

Campaigns and Networks

Organisations such as CASE – Campaign for Science and Engineering in the UK www.sciencecampaign.org.uk, Noise: New Outlooks In Science and Engineering www.noise.net and WISE; Women in Science Engineering and Constructions www.wisecampaign.org.uk seek to raise the profile of their cause with Parliament.

CASE in particular seeks to communicate to Parliament and the nation as a whole the economic and cultural importance of science and technological research and development, and the vital need for the funding of this research by Government and Industry.

How Parliament Works (R. Rogers and R. Walters 2004)

Published by Pearson Longman (ISBN 0-582-43744-X); a book describing Parliament as an institution and how it functions.

Dod's Civil Service Companion

An annual publication by Dod's Parliamentary Communications (www.dodsparlicom.com) providing up to date bio graphics and departmental information about the UK Civil Service, covering Departments of State, Executive Agencies and Non Departmental Public Bodies. www.dodonline.co.uk

Whitehall & Westminster World (incorporating Public Services News)

A fortnightly newspaper for civil servants and parliamentarians charged with developing, influencing and implementing policy in Whitehall and Westminster. The paper highlights major policy initiatives, parliamentary events, announcements, consultations and key issues within the devolved assemblies.

For more information, editorial, advertising and subscription queries, please email info@dodsparlicom.com or call 020 7091 7510.

Science in Parliament

The Journal of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee published quarterly. Science in Parliament presents a record of science and technology within the Houses of Parliament and the European Community. For the scientific community it provides information and briefings supplied to Members of Parliament on scientific subjects. Each issue includes reports on authoritative addresses to the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, reports on the activities of the Science and

Technology Select Committee in the House of Lords and a summary of the briefings provided for MP's by the Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology and the Science and Environment Section of the House of Commons Library. The journal also contains detailed digests of debates and Parliamentary Questions in the UK Parliament. A Science Directory provides a source of expert advice on scientific and technological subjects. Obtained by subscription or membership of the P&SC. www.scienceinparliament.org.uk

The Government Public Service Website

Provides information and links to public services, role and function of Parliament sources of information and news. www.direct.gov.uk

The Stationery Office

The Stationery Office (TSO) has published official and regulatory information for the UK Government, Parliament and Assemblies for 200 years. To obtain published reports in hardcopy visit the TSO website www.tsoshop.co.uk or telephone 0845 7023 474.

Westminster Explained Seminars

The Westminster Explained Seminars cover a range of subjects including:

- An overview of the Parliamentary Process
- Westminster & Whitehall: Government Departments
- An overview of Parliamentary Scrutiny and the Role of Committees.

Different seminars are geared to a range of users from executives and managers who need to know more about Westminster and Whitehall to those who have a sound working

knowledge of Parliament but need to know more about the process of legislation and how to influence policy. www.westminster-explained.com

The United Kingdom Parliament Website

The UK Parliament website (www.parliament.uk) sets out up-to-date links to current and future business of the Houses of Parliament including: debates, votes, proceedings, bills before Parliament, Parliamentary Committees and the week ahead.