



SSAC Quarterly Update – June 2020

The SSAC provides independent advice, through its Chair, to the Chief Scientific Adviser (CSA) for Scotland, to inform policy development and delivery across all areas of the Scottish Government's work. It typically develops advice on a medium to long term basis, advising on developments in science and technology and their implications for policy and identifying potential future opportunities and threats.

Chaired by Professor Maggie Gill from 1 February 2020, the SSAC has 10 other members, in addition to the Scottish Government's Chief Scientific Advisers, all of whom are ex-officio members: Chief Scientific Adviser (CSA) for Scotland Professor Sheila Rowan, Chief Scientist (Health) Professor David Crossman and CSA Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Professor Andrew Millar.

The SSAC issues a short report following each quarterly meeting to provide an update on its latest work streams and areas of interest. The SSAC held its last meeting on 4 June 2020 by video conference due to Covid-19.

1. SSAC CURRENT WORKSTREAMS

- ✚ Sustainable Chemicals Note – This note will now need to include the outcomes from the recently published Environmental Impacts of the Scottish Manufacturing Industry report and will therefore require some further SSAC input to complete which will be discussed at the next SSAC meeting in September.
- ✚ Geospatial Knowledge – effective use of geospatial data in Scotland. The start of the project was slightly delayed due to the impacts of Covid-19 but is expected to be completed by late Autumn 2020.

2. SSAC COMPLETED WORKSTREAMS

- ✚ The Fire Service (Smart Technology in the home) report was completed and issued to the Scottish Government policy team to assist with the development of their Fire Framework Strategy.
- ✚ The Environmental Impacts of the Scottish Manufacturing Industry – The project was slightly delayed due to the impacts of Covid-19 but was published on the SSAC website on 27 July 2020.

3. COP26 – Opportunities for SSAC

- ✚ Due to the impacts of Covid-19 COP26 has been rescheduled to November 2021 in Glasgow. Discussions are underway with SSAC members and various stakeholders for a co-ordinated approach to the event.

For further information, please contact the SSAC Secretariat team at: Scottishscience@gov.scot