



SSAC Quarterly Update – March 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 11 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 at the New Register House, Edinburgh on 11 December 2019. This included an Induction meeting for newly recruited members.

1. SSAC CURRENT WORKSTREAMS

- ✚ Fire Service (Smart Technology in the home) – This report is being finalised and is expected to be published on the SSAC website in Spring 2020.
- ✚ Sustainable Chemicals Note – This note is being finalised and is expected to be published on the SSAC website in Spring 2020.
- ✚ The Environmental Impacts of the Scottish Manufacturing Industry – The project is underway with a Working Group set up and a stakeholder workshop scheduled for 16 March. The project is expected to be completed by Summer 2020.
- ✚ Geospatial Knowledge – effective use of geospatial data in Scotland. The project is expected to be completed by Autumn 2020.

2. SSAC COMPLETED WORKSTREAMS

- ✚ RAS – Robotics and Autonomous Systems briefing note was published on the SSAC website on 9 March 2020.

3. COP26 – Opportunities for SSAC

- ✚ Discussions are continuing with SSAC council members around COP26 events. Meetings with the CSA, SSAC Chair and RSE are on-going to agree and participate in joint events leading up to, during and beyond the event.

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