

SSAC Update Report – April 2018

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 Paul Boyle, the SSAC currently has nine other members, including the Chief Scientific Adviser (CSA) for Scotland, Professor Sheila Rowan, and Professor David Crossman, the Chief Scientist (Health).

SSAC issues a short report following each quarterly meeting to provide an update on their latest workstreams and areas of interest. The SSAC held its last meeting at Atlantic Quay, Glasgow on 15 March 2018. This report covers activity up to the end of April 2018.

SSAC WORKSTREAMS

✚ The SSAC's response to the 'UK Foresight Report: Future of an Ageing Population' was launched at a conference of the Scottish Dementia Research Consortium in Glasgow on 23 April. A copy can be found on the SSAC website: <http://scottishscience.org.uk/publications>.

✚ The following pieces of work are drawing to a close and are expected to be published in 2018:

- A briefing note on 'Open Science'.
- Horizon-scanning project on Cyber Resilience, commissioned by the Scottish Government (SG) Cyber Resilience Unit.
- The Future of Human Genomic Medicine, commissioned by the SG Health and Social Care Directorates.
- A report on 'Scotland's Science Landscape', commissioned by the SSAC from Elsevier.

✚ A number of briefing notes on other topics are currently being scoped and are at an early stage of development.

OTHER NEWS

Correspondence

✚ Letters between Professor Paul Boyle, Chair of the SSAC and First Minister Nicola Sturgeon were exchanged in early 2018, confirming the SSAC's offer to

provide science advice to policy-teams in connection with the ongoing delivery of the Programme for Government 2017.

Members

- ✚ Recruitment for the new Scottish Government Chief Scientific Adviser for Environment, Natural Resources – an ex officio member of SSAC – is underway by the Scottish Government.

For further information please contact the SSAC Secretariat:
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