



SSAC Update Report – June 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 eight 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 the Marine Scotland Laboratory, Aberdeen on 28 June 2018.

SSAC WORKSTREAMS

✚ The following pieces of work are drawing to a close:

- 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.
- The report on 'Scotland's Science Landscape', commissioned from Elsevier.

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

OTHER NEWS

Consultation responses

✚ SSAC submitted a response to the RSE's recent call for evidence on the refresh of 'Tapping all our Talents', on the issue of gender in STEM. A copy can be found on the SSAC website: <http://scottishscience.org.uk/publications>.

Members

✚ Recruitment for the Scottish Government's Chief Scientific Adviser for Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture - ex officio member of the SSAC - is underway.

✚ Professor Paul Boyle, SSAC Chair, invited to be a member of a regular Brexit Forum on Universities, recently established by the Scottish Government. The forum held its first meeting on Thursday 21 June in Edinburgh.

For further information please contact the SSAC Secretariat:
scottishscience@gov.scot