

Feedback to the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology Scientific Infrastructure (Chairperson: Lord Krebs)

The undersigned are members of the STFC Physical Sciences and Engineering Advisory Panel (PS&EAP) [1], who submitted a report to the STFC Large Facilities Sub-Group on 15th January 2013 [2] that covered many aspects of the UK science infrastructure highlighted in the Select Committee's Call for Evidence.

Rather than repeat or reconfigure the information contained within that report, the authors request that the Select Committee inspect a copy of the PS&EAP report [2]. We concede that our report is limited in that it only seeks to address issues connected with the following three areas of science:-

- Photon sources for Physical Science and Engineering;
- Neutrons and Muons for Physical Science and Engineering;
- Laser sources for Physical Science and Engineering.

Nevertheless, it addresses many of the topics specified in the Call for Evidence documentation. Other STFC Advisory Panels have covered different areas of the UK science portfolio.

We also note that members of the STFC PS&EAP contributed to a report prepared by Professor Matt Griffin (Chair, STFC Science Board) for the Department of Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) Triennial Review of the Research Councils [3]. That particular submission comprised contributions from all of the STFC Advisory Panels and addressed aspects of Governance Structures as highlighted in the Select Committee's Call for Evidence document. The Committee is encouraged to approach STFC and/or BIS to inspect that document as well.

The authors wish UK science to continue to progress and to continue to remain world-leading. Thus, should Lord Krebs's committee feel that they might benefit from assistance, clarification or feedback on any aspect of the material contained within the STFC documentation described above, please do not hesitate to contact any member of this Advisory Panel.

Dr David Lennon (Chair), School of Chemistry, University of Glasgow;
Professor Andrew Orr-Ewing, School of Chemistry, University of Bristol;
Professor Sarah Hainsworth, Department of Engineering, University of Leicester;
Professor Andrew Randewich, Atomic Weapons Establishment, Aldermaston, Reading;
Professor Jon Marangos, Department of Physics, Imperial College, London;
Professor Paul McMillan, Department of Chemistry, University College London;
Professor Paolo Radaelli, Department of Physics, University of Oxford.

17th June 2013

References.

- [1] <http://www.stfc.ac.uk/702.aspx>
[2] http://www.stfc.ac.uk/files/702/702_res_2.pdf
[3] Triennial Review of the Research Councils – Input from the STFC Advisory Structure, Prof. Matt Griffin, 27th February 2013.

Cc: Dr Neil Pratt and Dr Jennifer Scratcher (STFC Science Programmes, Polaris House, Swindon, SN2 1SZ).