

Future directions for scientific advice in Whitehall

18 April 2013, The Royal Society

Agenda

- **09:30 ARRIVAL & REGISTRATION**

- 10:10 Welcome: Dr Robert Doubleday, CSaP (Welcome Trust Lecture Theatre)

- **10:20 Keynote: Sir Mark Walport (Chair: Dr Robert Doubleday)**

Scientific advice in government: the next five years

- **11:00 Session 1: Future directions for scientific advice in Whitehall (Chair: Professor James Wilsdon)**

As government embraces ever more 'open policy making' what role will scientific advice play alongside other forms of advice and input from the wider public?

- Professor James Wilsdon, Professor of Science & Democracy, SPRU
- Dr Claire Craig, Deputy Head of the Government Office for Science
- Dr Laura Haynes, Head of Policy Research, Behavioural Insights Team, Cabinet Office
- Dr Ulrike Hotopp, Director Analysis and Chief Economist, Defra

- 12:00 Q&A

- **12:45 LUNCH with Poster Session (City of London Rooms and Marble Hall)**

Early-career researchers present posters and discuss the potential implications of their research to policy

- **13:45 Session 2: Working with academia (3 x parallel case study seminars)**

What practical lessons can be drawn from recent examples of civil servants working in partnership with academic experts to tackle policy problems?

- **Seminar 1: Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport (Library Events Room)**

The Department for Transport is tasked with de-carbonising transport over the next few decades, whilst ensuring that the sector supports a vibrant economy with efficient movement of people and goods. This session will explore the role of expert advice in devising policy solutions to meet these challenges.

- Graham Pendlebury (Director, Local Transport, Department for Transport)
- Professor Neville Jackson (Chief Technology and Innovation Officer, Ricardo plc)
- Dr Robin North (Lecturer in Transport and Environmental Planning, Centre for Transport Studies, Imperial College London)

- **Seminar 2: Improving the relationship between national security challenges and research (Kohne Centre)**

This case study will look at ways to improve engagement between the UK's national security community and the scientific research base. It will provide examples of the role intermediaries can play to support engagement.

- Dr Tristram Riley-Smith (RCUK Global Uncertainties Champion)
 - Mark Phillips (Policy Adviser for Security and Resilience, ADS Group)
 - Professor Derek Smith (Professor of Infectious Disease Informatics, University of Cambridge)
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○ **Seminar 3: A systems analysis approach to ageing (Conference Room)**

This session reflects on an approach taken by analysts in three government departments, with help from an academic, to explore how a systems thinking could be applied to issues arising from an ageing population.

- Andrea Lee (Deputy Director, Strategic Analysis Team, Department for Communities and Local Government)
- Philip Guildford (Department of Engineering, University of Cambridge)
- Halima Khan (Director, Public Services Lab, Nesta)
- Ricky Taylor (Senior Analyst, Department for Communities and Local Government)

• **15:15 TEA**

• **16:00 Session 3: Panel discussion – experimental government (Chair: Professor Frank Kelly, University of Cambridge) Welcome Trust Lecture Theatre**

From RCTs, to making better use of analytical tools to realise the potential of administrative data – can government make better use of scientific methods?

- Jill Rutter, Programme Director for Better Policy Making, Institute for Government
- Dr David Cleevely, Founding Director, Centre for Science and Policy
- Professor Theresa Marteau, Director of Behaviour and Health Research Unit, University of Cambridge
- Graham Pendlebury, Director, Local Transport, Department for Transport

• **17:00 Keynote reflection: Sir Bob Kerslake**

How will Civil Service Reform improve the use of evidence by Government?

• **18:00 DRINKS RECEPTION**

• **19:15 Close**

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