Academia and Government

CSaP Annual Conference 2017

Sir Chris Wormald
Permanent Secretary, Department of Health
Head, UK Policy Profession
We are going to cover...

1. Department of Health
2. Policy Profession, Government, & Academia
3. How can we do better?
But First...

- What is the problem?
- Best Universities and research in the world
- Best Civil Service in the world?
- Some great work
- Why is the interaction not better?
- “How do I know more?”
- “What can I decide based on what I know now?”
DH established the National Institute for Health Research in 2006
- Over £1 billion per annum
- **70% of NIHR funding goes directly to the NHS front-line** and supports doctors, nurses, and other healthcare staff
- **Over 5,500 trainees are supported by NIHR health research training awards** or based within the NIHR’s infrastructure in the NHS each year.
- In 2015/16, leveraged an additional **£1 billion** in external funding for research from public, charity and industry research funders.
- In 2015/16, the NIHR research infrastructure (centres and facilities in the NHS) **collaborated with 1,252 small to medium sized enterprises.**
NIHR Infrastructure Schemes

NIHR Biomedical Research Centres
NIHR-supported Clinical Research Facilities
NIHR Diagnostic Evidence Co-operatives
NIHR Healthcare Technology Co-operatives
NIHR/CR-UK Experimental Cancer Medicine Centres
NIHR Health Protection Research Units
NIHR Patient Safety Translational Research Centres
NIHR Collaborations for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care
What makes it work?

• Time
• Practitioner-researchers
• Leadership
• Structures
• Cultures
1. Department of Health
2. Policy Profession, Government, & Academia
3. How can we do better?
Policy Profession

• Each department/agency in Government has an internal Head of Policy Profession appointed by the departmental Permanent Secretary
• There are currently **24 departmental members** of the Policy Profession Board
• Currently, there are around **17,000 members** of the Profession, registered with Civil Service Learning; but numbers of officials working on policy in some way are considerably greater than this
• The Policy Profession maintains close links with other **Professions and Functions**, e.g., Analytical and Advisory Professions such as Economists and Legal Advisers
Policy

Open
Policy profession looking outwards not in

Professional
Policy making skills

Consistent
Systems that ensure quality
Knowledge of your policy area

Science and Technology

Statistics and Data Analysis

Horizon scanning

Policy Framing

Economics

EVIDENCE
POLITICS AND DEMOCRACY

- Advising, Briefing and Drafting
- Working with Parliament
- Devolution
- Consultation
- Finance
- Working Internationally: including Exiting the European Union
Policy Profession in Partnership:

- Policy Profession
- Civil Service Learning
- CSaP (Centre for Science and Policy)
- University of Cambridge
- History & Policy
- King's College London
- LSE (The London School of Economics and Political Science)
- University of Bath
- Blavatnik School of Government
Executive Master of Public Policy
Currently in its **fourth** year of publication

- **14 editions**

- **2,500** people receive the printed publication

- Over **500k** page views of the publication on GOV UK
There are seven WW Centres:

• National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE, founded in 1999)
• Education Endowment Foundation (EEF)
• College of Policing
• Early Intervention Foundation (EIF)
• What Works Centre for Local Economic Growth
• Centre for Ageing Better
• What Works Centre for Wellbeing
1. Department of Health
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Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar’s...

• If you want to influence policy with science, start with a respect for politicians and their role.

• And remember Caesar will by surrounded by economists and may well be one herself. Economics is the language of policy.
How can we do better?

• Formal vs Informal
• Speed vs Depth
• Who you know vs Who is best
• Back to school
• Science vs Social Science
• Structure vs Mind-set