

PRIME MINISTER'S COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

VIRTUAL MEETING 10 and 11 June 2020: Meeting Summary

Attendees: Patrick Vallance (Day 2), Nancy Rothwell, Chris Bishop, Julia Black, Philip Bond, Muffy Calder, David Cannadine (Day 1), Suranga Chandratillake, Jim Hall, Saul Klein, Robert Lechler, Ottoline Leyser, Max Lu, Jim McDonald, Dervilla Mitchell, Fiona Murray, Paul Newman, Venki Ramakrishnan, Paul Stein, Nick Stern, Mark Walport, Josh Fleming, Jo Shanmugalingam (Day 1)

Apologies: Charles Roxburgh

Guests:

- Professor Dame Angela McLean, Chief Scientific Adviser for the Ministry of Defence
- Professor Robin Grimes, Chief Scientific Adviser (Nuclear) for the Ministry of Defence
- Ravi Gurumurthy, CEO of Nesta
- Juan Mateos-Garcia, Director of Innovation Mapping, Nesta
- Professor Sir Partha Dasgupta, Frank Ramsey Professor Emeritus of Economics at the University of Cambridge
- Professor Gideon Henderson, Chief Scientific Advisor to the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

Day 1

Update on Government's R&D Roadmap

1. Members discussed the development of the [R&D roadmap](#) which was to be published in July. Members reflected on previous advice and gave BEIS further comments to be included in the roadmap.

Project updates

2. Members noted advice to the Prime Minister on [moon-shots](#) and discussed progress on developing advice on science and technology for learning. They discussed the focus of future advice on science and technology for

sustainable health and social care and on the contribution of science and technology to levelling up.

Day 2

Priorities for Science and Technology for Defence

3. Professor Dame Angela McLean, Chief Scientific Adviser for the Ministry of Defence, and Professor Robin Grimes, Chief Scientific Adviser (Nuclear) for the Ministry of Defence gave an update on the role of science and technology in the defence sector and current priorities for their roles. Members highlighted areas where CST might offer support or insight for Prof McLean and Prof Grimes to consider.

Update on Nesta and innovation insight

4. The Chair welcomed Ravi Gurumurthy (Nesta Chief Executive) and Juan Mateos-Garcia (Nesta, Director of Innovation Mapping). Mr Gurumurthy updated members on Nesta's new strategy and his ideas for future work.
5. Mr Mateos-Garcia explained Nesta's work on innovation mapping and members discussed opportunities for CST to benefit from Nesta's analysis.

Economics of Biodiversity

6. The Chair welcomed Professor Gideon Henderson (Chief Scientific Adviser, Defra) and Professor Sir Partha Dasgupta who is leading an independent review for the Treasury on the [economics of biodiversity](#). Sir Partha gave a presentation on the interim findings of the review and members discussed the value of this work and relevance to responsibilities across government.

CST Secretariat

June 2020