



CaSE 07/06

Memorandum to the Party Leaders in the 2007 Welsh Assembly Elections

1. Science education

Scientists in Wales have reported to CaSE their concerns about the difficulty of recruiting science and mathematics teachers at secondary school level, and the effects this will have on the research base and the economy. 33% of all teacher vacancies in secondary schools in Wales are in science or mathematics?

How will your party ensure that children in Wales continue to have access to qualified teachers in all of the core sciences?

2. Science research

The National Assembly's Networks and Innovation Committee found in 2006 that Wales's science policies lack coordination and recommended the appointment of a high-level Chief Scientific Adviser as one way to address the problem.

What mechanisms will your party put in place to ensure that policies on science education and research are coordinated so that the social and economic benefits of science can be optimized?

3. Benefits of scientific research to the economy

The Welsh Government invests less per head in scientific research than any other part of the UK, and private companies in Wales invests less as a percentage of GDP than Belgium, Denmark, Ireland and other regions of the UK, such as the South West England.

What will your party do to invest in research to ensure that science-based and engineering businesses find Wales a more attractive place to do business?

Chairman: Professor Hugh Griffiths **Director:** Dr Peter Cotgreave

Advisory Council:

Sir George Alberti
Sir Geoffrey Allen FRS FREng
Prof S Arnott CBE FRS
Sir Eric Ash CBE FRS FREng
Sir James Black OM FRS
Professor V Bruce OBE FRSE
Jane Cannon MBE
Prof Roger Cashmore CMG FRS

Dr Simon Campbell CBE FRS
Sir David Cox FRS
Prof A Cullen OBE FRS FREng
Sir Brian Follett FRS
Dr Ian Gibson MP
Prof Wendy Hall CBE FREng
Prof A Hewish FRS
Prof C Humphreys FREng

Dr Tom Inch FRSC
Sir Hans Kornberg FRS
Sir Harold Kroto FRS
Prof Joe Lamb FRSE
Lord Lewis of Newnham FRS
Sir C Llewellyn Smith FRS
Prof J McGlade
Sir John Maddox FRS

Prof Bob Michell MRCVS
Prof Kim Nasmyth FRS
Sir Paul Nurse FRS
Dame Bridget Ogilvie FRS
Prof Linda Partridge CBE FRS FRSE
Prof Hugh Pennington FRSE
Prof Matyn Poliakov FRS
Lord Rees of Ludlow FRS

Sir Derek Roberts FRS FREng
Dr Gill Samuels CBE
Baroness Sharp of Guildford
Dr Simon Singh
Sir David Smith FRS
Sir Richard Sykes FRS
Ian Taylor MBE MP
Sir Gregory Winter CBE FRS
Dr Ivan Yates CBE FREng