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**Press Notice: Embargoed until 00.01am 09/03/2010**

**The Science Vote**

On 9<sup>th</sup> March, Campaign for Science and Engineering (CaSE) will publish its one page *Building our Future with Science & Engineering*. It urges politicians to develop coordinated, coherent and stable long-term policies for science and engineering. These policies need to recognise that:

- Skilled scientists, engineers and mathematicians are the basis of a knowledge economy.
- Research and innovation are driving forces for future growth.
- Science and engineering are central to government.

Nick Dusic, Director of CaSE, commented "The party leaders need to set-out their policies and woo the science vote. Science and engineering are critical to addressing societal challenges and building a more robust economy for the UK. The next government must ensure that science and engineering have the right funding, skills and political priority to build a brighter Britain."

CaSE has also written to the leaders of the Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat parties asking them to set out their science and engineering policies in advance of the election. The letter, which is signed by 25 members of CaSE's Advisory Council, including four Nobel Prize winners, was published in the Times on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

**Ends**

**Notes to editors**

1. For further information, please contact Nick Dusic, Director of CaSE, on 020 7679 4995 or 07749 95304, or Hilary Leever, Assistant Director, on 020 7679 4995 or 07905 304 702.
2. Campaign for Science & Engineering (CaSE) is a policy advocate for science and engineering in the UK. *Building our Future with Science & Engineering*, was developed with our members and collaborators, listed on the CaSE blog. The rationale behind this work is given in a number of CaSE working briefs. <http://blog.sciencecampaign.org.uk/>
3. March 9th will be a big day for science policy as an election issue, as:
  - The Royal Society will publish their report on *The Scientific Century*.
  - Science Policy Debate between Lord Drayson, Adam Afriyie MP, and Dr Evan Harris MP in the House of Commons organised by the Royal Society of Chemistry with live webcast.
  - The CaSE blog, *The Science Vote*, will start publishing posts from prospective parliamentary candidates on science and engineering. It provides a resource on science and engineering policies in the run-up to the election. <http://blog.sciencecampaign.org.uk/>