

Campaign for Science & Engineering in the UK





A digest of CaSE's activities over a year

July 2006 to June 2007

Throughout the year, CaSE carries out a vast range of campaigning activities on behalf of science and engineering in the UK. This summary gives a few highlights. More details of CaSE's work can be found on our website: www.sciencecampaign.org.uk

The past year has been a remarkably busy one for CaSE as we have redoubled our efforts on behalf the membership. Across all three of the major priorities identified last year, we have been campaigning at the heart of Parliament and Government.

First, in the area of science education, CaSE's Advisory Council formulated a set of strong arguments and engaged at the highest levels of Government.

On the issue of making the UK an attractive place for private sector research and development, CaSE held a major Opinion Forum, at which our members and supporters interacted with senior figures from the Treasury.

After his speech about science policy, CaSE prompted the Prime Minister to say he would review his Government's policies on university funding - our third major priority.

As this Summary Annual Review shows, these highlights are part of a much wider programme of meetings, publications and media activity, backed up by continual engagement with the science and engineering communities across the public and private sectors. From references in Parliamentary reports to interviews on network television and presentations to business audiences, CaSE is constantly speaking up for the science and engineering community.

The formation of a new Government by Gordon Brown will present fresh challenges for CaSE in the coming year. It will be crucial for us to build strong links with new ministers and officials. We have already started that process, and are confident that CaSE will continue to be one of the strongest voices campaigning for the health of British science.

Professor Hugh Griffiths Chairman

Dr Peter Cotgreave Director

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Representatives of universities, companies and learned societies participate in CaSE's Opinion Forum for Member Organisations

CaSE's Chairman Prof Hugh Griffiths and Director Dr Peter Cotgreave with Baroness Sharp of the Advisory Council









CaSE's people

CaSE's activities would not be possible without the support of thousands of scientists and engineers, many universities, companies, societies and other individuals and organisations that have joined as members. CaSE relies on the dedication and hard work of its small team of staff, together with the members of its Executive Committee and Advisory Council.

During the year, CaSE:

- has appointed an outstanding Assistant Director, Dr Hilary Leevers, who has strengthened and expanded our work, especially in the field of education.
- has increased its membership across a range of sectors, with new members including the Institution of Chemical Engineers, Institute of Food Research, the Ordnance Survey, Lancaster University and London Metropolitan University.
- commemorated Professor Richard Joyner's ten years as Chairman and elected Professor Hugh Griffiths as his successor.
- used the collective authority of its Advisory Council to secure a crucial meeting with Treasury ministers.
- continued to strengthen its network of contacts, holding meetings with representatives of companies, pressure groups, learned societies, trade associations, trades unions, academic associations and other organisations.

New Assistant Director Dr Hilary Leevers meets outgoing Chairman Prof. Richard Joyner

Lord May of Oxford (left) meets Dr Norma Morris and Prof. Don Braben of CaSE's Executive Committee on the occasion of his Annual Distinguished Lecture on *How to* stimulate creativity and how to stilfe it

Writer and broadcaster Simon Singh and Professor Mike Smith of Sheffield Hallam University both spoke at this year's Opinion Forum for Member Organisations

CaSE regularly visits organisations that subscribe to membership, such as Newcastle University, Sharp Laboratories and Bradford University.

July 2006

publishing its evidence to a House of CaSE focuses on science in schools, Lords inquiry, meeting

Education Secretary with the Shadow interview for BBC and giving an



November 2006

tackling the Prime Minister following his the media. speech about science and reacting in about the future of science policy,



March 2007

a wide science - is addressed in an Opinion children receive about careers in



CaSE is at the forefront of discussions



A major area of concern - the poor advice Forum document, publishing the views of



August 2006

publishes letters and articles in the Focusing on the commercialisation Financial Times, The Scientist and of university research, CaSE Innovation Policy Review.



December 2006

and the fact that the contract of the contract CaSE focuses on European science The state of the s policy, leading the criticism of plans to create a European Union weaknesses in new Institute mechanisms. rather than addressing underlying funding

A meeting of distinguished scientists and

January 2007

engineers on CaSE's Advisory Council prepares a letter to the Chancellor to

urge greater action to address the

problems of science in schools.

April 2007

an article in the Daily Telegraph Leading the debate about the science to Government, CaSE published profile of science in calling for chance to of science ministry Browns



table, and follows this up with another article in the Financial Times.

September 2006

CaSE to examine ways in which the UK's Treasury, business and academia allows A major Opinion Forum involving the level of investment in research and development can be enhanced.

allow the economic benefits of science

to be realised. These include taking

commenting in the broadcast and

part in meetings, delivering talks,

inquiries and participating in events

with ministers.

print media, giving evidence to

focus on ensuring that puplic policies

A whole variety of CaSE's activities

October 2006



February 2007

Budget announced by the Secretary of officials, and an uncompromising letter comment on BBC radio and elsewhere, CaSE leads the science community in condeming the cuts to the Science to the Trade Secretary ensure our important article in the Guardian, meetings with Treasury and DTI State for Trade & Industry. An message gets across.

June 2007

Parliament, engages with Opposition front As a new Government takes office, CaSE out an agenda in the broadcast and print that CaSE remains at the forefront of the meets with ministers and officials, sets academics and schoolteachers, proving campaign to sustain and enhance the health of UK science and engineering. benchers, helps backbenchers draft Parliamentary questions, and holds media, addresses two meetings in discussions with businesspeople,

May 2007

An editorial in Nature, the world's leading scientific journal, urges the science community to

support CaSE's

important



on behalf of British campaigning work science and engineering.

CaSE in Westminster and Whitehall

CaSE's main work is to influence Government policies on science and engineering. To do this, we meet directly with ministers, civil servants and advisers, and engage with backbenchers and Committees in both Houses of Parliament.

During the year, CaSE:

- has engaged regularly with top levels of Government, including with the Prime Minister and at senior level with the Treasury.
- has held meetings with the Science and Higher Education Ministers, and other ministers and officials from the Department of Trade & Industry (DTI), Department for Education & Skills (DfES), Office of Science & Innovation (OSI), Higher Education Funding Council (HEFCE) and other agencies, including Lord Sainsbury's independent review of science and innovation policies.
- has given presentations at several meetings in Parliament.
- has regularly met and corresponded with Shadow ministers from the main Opposition parties.
- included Treasury officials and Parliamentarians from both Houses in its Opinion Forum events and other meetings.
- has been regularly and repeatedly cited in various Parliamentary and Government reports.
- has assisted backbenchers in both Houses in drafting Parliamentary Questions and speeches, including helping members of the main Opposition parties respond to various Government announcements.

Parliamentarians from both houses and other members of CaSE's Advisory Council meet at the House of Lords

Throughout the year, CaSE has met, questioned and corresponded with ministers including Tony Blair, Alistair Darling, Gordon Brown and Bill Rammell

Parliamentary reports, such as one of scientific advice to Government, regularly draw on CaSE's evidence

Parliamentarian Lord Jenkin of Roding and Treasury Official Caroline Barr address two of CaSE's Opinion Forums







House of Commons Science and Technology Committee

Scientific Advice, Risk and Evidence Based Policy Making

Seventh Report of Session 2005-06

Volume I

Report, together with formal minutes

Ordered by The House of Commor to be printed 26 October 2006

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	Science and Technology: Evidence Ev 35
26 May 2006 Dr Richard Pike, Professor Martin Taylor, Dr Caroline Wallace and Dr Peter Cotgreave	
187 Heb Spink: I suspect the rest of the panel agree th that. Controvers: Could I just add scenething which is into back to what we said earlier on? That needs to	contract in the department. We would say that often they are looking for a quick fix and not horizon scanning well.
ppen not just at the top level of the Scientific tvisory Councils. It needs to be going on at the ver levels of individual civil servants working in partments on the daily grind of working on licies. I think that is the area where there is great	Q961 De Tamar: Dr Cotgenave, you have been known to comment that there is a need to distinguish between decisions which have been bosed on evidence and those that are judgment calls. Dr Cotgenave Yes.
ope. Piker One of the big problems is that from your int of view there are loads of bodies that you could k to. In the same way, I guess, there are quite a maker of accuranced descriptions and optima-	Q962 Dr Turner: Do you think the Government does this very well at present or do you think that when there is a grey area the role that scientific advice is

evaluate scientific advice from external sources and identify the implications

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CaSE in Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland

CaSE has an active programme of engaging with parliamentarians, ministers and civil servants in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Highlights during the year included:

- CaSE's publication of Party leaders' responses to questions about their science policies, in advance of the elections to the Scottish Parliament and National Assembly for Wales.
- CaSE's publication of an *Opinion Forum* about science education in Northern Ireland based on meetings with a wide range of interested individuals and groups.
- CaSE's involvement with other science organisations in events held in Edinburgh and Cardiff, called *Science & the Scottish Parliament* and Science & the Welsh Assembly.
- meetings, correspondence and discussion with politicians and officials from the devolved administrations including Welsh First Minister Rhodri Morgan AM, Scottish Chief Scientist Professor Anne Glover, and Ulster Unionist frontbencher Ken Robinson MLA.
- discussions and meetings with representatives from institutions as diverse as Aberystwyth University and Shell in Aberdeen.
- participation in an event about science policy with Welsh First Minister Rhodri Morgan and publication of a major article in the journal of the Institute of Welsh affairs about the future of science in Wales.
- CaSE being repeatedly cited in the Welsh Assembly's review of science policy in Wales.
- publication of CaSE's Agendas for science policies in both Wales and Scotland, backed up by quantitative analysis.
- comment in the devolved media, including Radio Scotland, Ballyclare Gazette, Scotsman, and the Aberdeen Press & Journal.

Scottish Chief Scientific Adviser Prof. Anne Glover (right) meets CaSE staff in Edinburgh

A major article from CaSE about Welsh science policy in the journal of the Institute of Welsh Affairs

Ken Robinson, Ulster Unionist Member of the Legislative Assembly of Northern Ireland (second from left), and colleagues meet CaSE's Rosemary Davies

The invitation to Science & the Welsh Assembly, which involves CaSE and a wide range of other scientific organisations

funding gap

CaSE's publications

CaSE carries out research and analyses as the basis for reports and briefing documents to support campaigns. We also publish open letters, responses to official consulations, a variety of agenda-setting publications, and newsletters for our members and other supporters.

During the year, CaSE has:

- published *Opinion Forum* documents on areas such as increasing research and development in the economy and the careers advice given to young science students.
- reported on our work in a quarterly newsletter, CaSE News, which has stimulated debate on issues such as funding for research, science in schools and support for innovation.
- published a range of analyses and policy statements, including innovation policy and funding for higher education.
- responded to consultations ranging across subjects such as science strategy in Scotland, the peer review system, the future of the universities, European science policies and science teaching in schools.
- ensured our supporters have current information about our work through monthly electronic updates.

CaSE in the media

CaSE works hard to ensure that issues of science and engineering policy are kept alive in the media, through interviews, comment, articles and letters.

During the year, CaSE:

- has appeared in the media on average three times every week.
- was quoted in a publications ranging from broadsheet and tabloid newspapers to specialist engineering magazines, local papers, industrial newsletters and educational publications.
- appeared on various broadcast media including *Sky News*, BBC 1's *Breakfast* and 1 O'clock News; Radio 4's *Today*, *You and Yours*, and *Leading Edge* programmes; the World Service; *News 24*; BBC 2's flagship *Newsnight*; as well as local and specialist outlets such as Radio Scotland and Teachers' TV
- contributed to an important radio documentary on the state of British science.
- published articles and letters in publications including the *Financial Times, Guardian, Daily Telegraph, Independent,* and *The Times,* as well as specialist publications such as *Research Fortnight, Innovation Policy Review, Laboratory News* and the *British Dental Journal.*





Opinion Forum

Campaign for Science & C a
Engineering in the UK S E

The views of members and supporters of CaSE Number 6 Narch 2007

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and others.

Summary of firm

Young people in the U
system of information aidown up with
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being distorted and other

 that studying science or engineering opens up a plethous of possibilities being distorted and often contradiction.
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must act, and the Government cannot shelk its overall responsibility for the school system and its role in providing the scientists and engineers of the future.

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In Although it is useful for the purposes of discussing policies, the word 'creaves' is a significant barier to communication; with young people. It search as an anadronistic threshock to a time when people expected to day in a single job or a single company throughout their working laws. Andre and guidance should focus on the opportunities available following different choices. In Effecting oppose of students made offerently to different thick of advice. Variation needs to be built in to first suitable methods of communicating with oris and box, and with different their crosss.

SPONSORED BY:

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This report is based on discussions with a wide range of individuals from companies, universities, government departments, trade organisations, learned societies and others.

organisations, learned societies and others. The main discussions took place at a meeting in September 2006, which was followed up with correspondence and conversations with a wider range of individuals.

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Incentives and barriers to private sector investment in UK-based

research and development

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way. Coupled with this chead be even more effective communication than is already occurring about the benefits of the research and development business conducts in the UK.

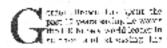
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Continued overleas



Brown's chance to create a ministry of science

Peter Cotgreave





Two of CaSE's Opinion Forum documents about private sector research and careers advice for young scientists

Some of CaSE's media coverage in the broadcast, print and electonic media

CaSE's regular newsletter, CaSE News, has prompted debate about a wide range of issues about science and engineering in the private and public sectors