

Campaign for Science
and Engineering

ANNUAL REVIEW

2019-20

ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

- ▶ Sustaining the UK research base through Covid-19
- ▶ Securing greater investment for science and innovation
- ▶ Publishing the 'The Power of Place' report
- ▶ Building support for the R&D Decade
- ▶ Bringing about changes to better attract global talent

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This year, CaSE has made important strides in enhancing the environment for UK science and engineering. We have worked hard to press the case for R&D investment, seeing a commitment to accelerate rising Government investment to £22bn by 2024. Our members across the country have contributed generously to our work on R&D investment and place, enabling us to contribute to Government's R&D place strategy.

CaSE has worked to improve the environment and benefits felt by people within and beyond the research base. We have influenced Government policy to better attract international talent and secured positive outcomes for research collaboration with Europe. CaSE has widened its focus this year to consider the need for more active public support to sustain an 'R&D decade'. In response to Covid-19, we have used our breadth of sight across science and engineering to illustrate the impact on the whole sector and call for measures that sustain the breadth and interconnectedness of the research base.

CaSE is needed more than ever as a voice for the health of science and engineering and the whole research ecosystem. We will continue to make this our mission.



Dr Sarah Main, CaSE Executive Director


FAREWELL FROM THE CHAIR

As a civil servant, I learned that CaSE was worth listening to. They had a knack of intervening on the right topics in the right places at the right times. After moving to UCL, I was surprised and flattered by the invitation to chair the board of CaSE. This new role made me think about why CaSE is influential. While being a small organisation, it has real clout among the sector.

The diverse membership is surely a source of influence. CaSE members include research universities, global businesses, charities, research institutes, professional institutions, publishers, science centres, trade unions and venture capital investors. Members span the UK: from Belfast to Brighton, with CaSE's messaging embracing many dimensions.

During my term as chair CaSE has influenced spending reviews, worked with successive science ministers and given evidence to numerous Parliamentary Committees. Annual lectures were given by distinguished speakers including the chief scientist of NASA, Brian Cox, Jo Johnson and – shortly before the Covid-19 lockdown – Sir Patrick Vallance. We navigated the choppy waters of Brexit, securing a seat at the Science Minister's high level group. Lengthy dialogue with the Home Office and the Migration Advisory Committee paid dividends with reforms of immigration policy.

Frankly, I have mixed emotions as I reach the end of my term. Working with Sarah Main, the CaSE team and the board has been a wonderful, stretching, illuminating experience. I am already working with Sarah and my outstanding successor to ensure a smooth handover at the Annual General Meeting later this year.



Professor Graeme Reid, CaSE Chair

ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE LAST YEAR

ENSURING THE LONG-TERM HEALTH OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

► SUSTAINING RESEARCH THROUGH THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

CaSE is working with its members and other stakeholders to ensure that the entire research and innovation sector is protected from the effects of Covid-19, so that it can play a leading role in the country's recovery.

With CaSE's breadth of representation, we are ideally placed to be a voice for the whole research and innovation ecosystem. We made representation to the Science Minister, highlighting the pressing case for stabilisation measures that reach across the diverse range of organisations that contribute to UK research and innovation. We fed our insight into numerous meetings with Parliamentarians and officials during this crucial period, including the Government's University Research Sustainability Taskforce.

"We encourage the Government – through you – to consider the health of the whole research base: not only the jewels but the whole crown"

► CaSE's letter to the Science Minister, calling on the Government to protect all areas of the research base from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, May 2020

► DRIVING R&D INVESTMENT TOWARDS 2.4%

CaSE has welcomed a marked increase in public R&D investment set out by the Government. The Spring Budget unveiled significant increases to public R&D investment to £22 billion per year by 2024-25. In May, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) announced a research funding allocation of £10.4 billion for the year 2020-21, in line with CaSE's own funding projections towards the 2.4% target. This follows sustained engagement from CaSE with HM Treasury, BEIS, and UKRI, among others. CaSE has long called for increased R&D investment to unlock the scientific potential of the UK and we're delighted that the Government are putting their words into action.

"According to CaSE's calculations, the enhanced spending plan is more than enough to achieve the long-term objective of increasing total public and private investment in R&D to 2.4 per cent of R&D by 2027"

► The Financial Times, March 2020

PROFILE RAISING

120 one-on-one meetings with members, politicians, officials, and the wider sector



Over **35** mentions in the media, including BBC News, The Financial Times, and The Guardian

► THE POWER OF PLACE

In May, we launched our new report *The Power of Place* which examines how to maximise the local economic impacts of greater R&D intensity across the regions and nations of the UK and ensure the UK economy rebounds from the Covid-19 pandemic. The launch was accompanied by a video from the UK Science Minister welcoming the report.

Designed to feed into the Government's 'levelling up' and R&D investment agenda, the report's findings are based on views gathered from over 80 contributing organisations through an extensive consultation exercise across the UK, conducted over the last 18 months. The findings cover excellence and branding, local leadership, and supporting small business.

We were pleased to see the Government take on board many of the recommendations from our report and embed them into the UK's R&D roadmap. We will continue to work with Government to champion and support the growth of research intensity across all corners of the UK.



CaSE has held 9 roundtables on our place work with members and the sector around the UK over the last 18 months

► BUILDING SUPPORT FOR R&D INVESTMENT

CaSE and Wellcome have published a new report with Public First as part of our 'R&D Decade' project, looking at how the R&D community can best sustain political and public support for investment.

The report is the culmination of all the work carried out by independent policy specialists Public First exploring new models of advocacy for the research sector and gathering input from the sector and the wider public. To secure increased government investment, advocates across the research sector must make a fresh and compelling case to political leaders and the public. We look forward to continuing this work with the whole research sector over the coming months.

► ANNUAL LECTURE WITH THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF SCIENTIST

The Government Chief Scientific Advisor, Sir Patrick Vallance, gave the CaSE Annual Lecture on 'Embedding Science in the Heart of Government'. The audience welcomed Sir Patrick's insight into how the science and engineering community can best inform government policymaking to meet the challenges of the future. The event was kindly hosted by the Francis Crick Institute.



(L-R) Government Chief Scientific Advisor, Sir Patrick Vallance, and CaSE Chair, Professor Graeme Reid, at the CaSE Annual Lecture, January 2020

► PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

CaSE has continued to push for the UK to fully associate with the Horizon Europe programme when it begins in 2021. We joined the Wellcome Trust and over 100 organisations and researchers across Europe in setting out how the UK and the EU can come to a swift and comprehensive agreement on the UK's participation in Horizon Europe.

We also worked with Sir Adrian Smith and CaSE Chair, Professor Graeme Reid, on a report, commissioned by the Government, looking at future frameworks for international collaboration on research and innovation, in the event the UK does not associate with Horizon Europe, published in November 2019.

► ATTRACTING GLOBAL TALENT

CaSE has taken a leading role in advocating for the needs of the UK's significant and diverse international student cohort. After a concerted period of advocacy last year leading to the reintroduction of a two-year post-study work visa for international students, the Government announced expansion of post-study work visas for PhD students this summer. Now the UK has left the EU, and free movement comes to an end in 2021, it is more important than ever that the UK can attract and retain people from across the world.

"Any new visa system must be streamlined, easy to use and competitively priced compared to other leading science nations. Currently, UK visas are significantly more expensive than those of other countries"

► Dr Daniel Rathbone, CaSE Assistant Director, BBC News, March 2020

CaSE also worked on feeding the views of its members into Government as plans were drawn up for the new Global Talent Visa. This new route for researchers and scientists will include all named team members working on eligible grants, something that CaSE has previously recommended. We will continue to work to ensure it meets the needs of the sector as subsequent phases of the visa are brought forward.

► 2019 GENERAL ELECTION

CaSE sought to raise the profile of science and engineering during the December 2019 election. We made policy recommendations for parties to adopt, wrote to the leaders of the political parties, analysed key commitments from each party from their manifestos on publication, and organised a science and engineering election hustings with others from the sector.

POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT OVER THE LAST YEAR

Meetings with the Science Minister, Shadow Science Team, UKRI, Treasury, BEIS, Home Office, Migration Advisory Committee, and the Government's University Research Taskforce



Responded to Parliamentary inquiries on the 2020 Spring Budget, the Spending Review, the R&D Roadmap, 'No Deal' Brexit, immigration policy, ARPA, and Covid-19 recovery

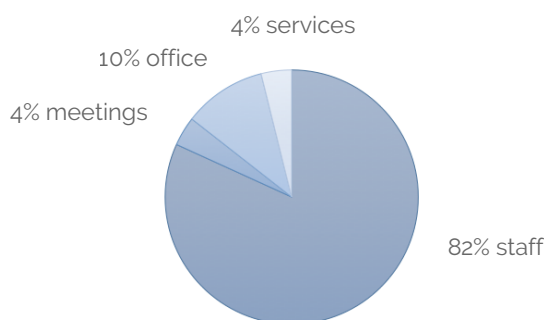
OUR AMBITIONS FOR 2021 AND BEYOND

- ▶ Working with our members to ensure that the entire science and engineering sector recovers from the impact of Covid-19, so that it can play a leading role in driving forward UK growth and prosperity.
- ▶ Ensure the uplift in public funding for science and research is sustained at the next Spending Review and beyond, in line with the trajectory to reach an investment target of 2.4% of GDP in R&D by 2027.
- ▶ Build a compelling case towards sustaining and growing public and political support for R&D investment over the coming decade.
- ▶ Positively influence domestic and international skills policy to support and enhance efforts to raise the UK's research intensity.

ENSURING ORGANISATIONAL RESILIENCE

HEALTHY FINANCES

In the face of challenging times due to Covid-19, CaSE remains a durable organisation underpinned by strong finances and providing excellent value for money for members. Our income for 2019/20 was £385,000 and our expenditure was £308,000.



CaSE expenditure for 2019/20

TALENTED PEOPLE

In staffing news, Henry Gates joined CaSE as Membership Engagement and Development Manager in February 2020, having previously worked for the Chartered Institution for Highways and Transportation. Sarah Gardner has also joined the team as maternity cover for the Office Manager, with over 20 years' experience of working in the Higher Education sector.

EXPERT GOVERNANCE

CaSE's Board, chaired by Professor Graeme Reid, has ensured good governance and financial management of the organisation. In the last year the board has welcomed Sir Ian Boyd, Professor in Biology at the University of St Andrews and former Chief Scientific Advisor at Defra, and Sinead Hesp, Director of Legal Affairs at the University of Manchester.

JOINT FUNDERS

Thanks to the fifteen organisational members who have funded our Policy Officer role through to 2020 The Royal Astronomical Society, British Ecological Society, British Pharmacological Society, Biochemical Society, Cardiff University, Royal Society of Chemistry, University of Edinburgh, University of Exeter, British Society for Immunology, Lancaster University, Microbiology Society, Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine, Queen's University, University College London and Ulster University.

REPRESENTING OUR MEMBERSHIP

ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERS

CaSE's independence and authority comes from being funded by our membership of over 100 organisations. Despite the upheavals surrounding Covid-19 we're delighted to count on their continued support, as well as welcoming the following new members.



Members of CaSE are part of a dedicated organisation that works to ensure the UK has the skills, funding and policies to enable science and engineering to thrive. Organisational member benefits include:

- ▶ Regular updates sharing intelligence, insight and the latest in policy developments
- ▶ Opportunity to support and shape our work through one-to-one meetings with CaSE
- ▶ Access to exclusive events with Parliamentarians, officials and the sector

This year members have had opportunities to feed into our work on the place agenda, immigration policy, the R&D Decade project with the Wellcome Trust and consolidating concerns from across the sector on the Covid-19 pandemic and its effects.

"Our world faces a number of pressing and complex challenges and it is incumbent upon the global scientific community to work together, share knowledge and develop innovative and sustainable solutions. I believe the UK is best placed to lead this effort, which is why I am proud for the University of Sussex to join CaSE"

▶ Professor Adam Tickell, Vice-Chancellor, University of Sussex

"We greatly value CaSE's focus on the economic and societal contribution of science and engineering and its success in keeping this on the political agenda. The rigour of its policy contributions and research is admirable and the network is second to none"

▶ Catherine Johns, Chief Executive, Kielder Observatory

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

CaSE has proudly represented the interests of UK scientists and engineers for over 30 years. We would like to thank all of our individual members for their generous support over the past year, allowing us to retain our independence and continue our campaign for a thriving science and engineering environment in the UK. Individual members receive event invitations, regular updates on CaSE's work, and opportunities to engage. You can also make a one-off donation to our cause.

To discuss any membership or giving please contact: membership@sciencecampaign.org.uk

A VOICE FOR THE ENTIRE SECTOR

UK science and engineering is a rich ecosystem from across the private, public and third sector. We are proud to count over 100 of these organisations in the CaSE membership, including businesses, universities, colleges, research institutes, professional bodies, public engagement centres, trade unions, venture capital firms, and research charities.

Companies

Aerospace Technology Institute
Airbus
AstraZeneca
Fraunhofer Research UK
GlaxoSmithKline
Huawei
Johnson & Johnson
Johnson Matthey
John Wiley & Sons Ltd
MSD
National Measurement Laboratory
NETPark (North East Technology Park)
PraxisAuril
Richmond Pharmacology
UCB
UK Innovation & Science Seed Fund

Learned and Professional Societies

Biochemical Society
BioIndustry Association
BMVA-British Machine Vision Association
British Ecological Society
British Pharmacological Society
British Society for Immunology
Chartered Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors
Council of Professors and Heads of Computing
Engineering Professors' Council
Epilepsy Society
Heads of Chemistry UK
Institute of Acoustics
Institute of Mathematics and its Applications
Institute of Physics
Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine
Institution of Chemical Engineers
Jisc
London Mathematical Society
Microbiology Society
National Farmers' Union

Prospect

Royal Astronomical Society
Royal Society of Biology
Royal Society of Chemistry
Royal Society of Edinburgh
Royal Statistical Society
Society for Applied Microbiology
Society for Experimental Biology
The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry
The British Psychological Society
The Genetics Society
The Geological Society
The Institution of Engineering & Technology
The Learned Society of Wales
The Physiological Society
UK Science Park Association
Zoological Society of London

Universities and Institutes

Anglia Ruskin University
Babraham Institute
Brunel University
Canterbury Christ Church University
Cardiff University
City, University of London
The Francis Crick Institute
Glasgow Science Centre
Heriot-Watt University
Imperial College London
John Innes Centre
Kielder Observatory
King's College London
Kingston University
Lancaster University
London Metropolitan University
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Loughborough University
Newcastle University
Northumbria University
Queen Mary, University of London
Queen's University, Belfast

Royal Holloway
Sheffield Hallam University
Swansea University
The Alan Turing Institute
The Open University
Ulster University
University College London
University of Aberdeen
University of Bath
University of Birmingham
University of Bradford
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
University of Dundee
University of Edinburgh
University of Essex
University of Exeter
University of Glasgow
University of Kent
University of Leeds
University of Leicester
University of Liverpool
University of London
University of Manchester
University of Oxford
University of Plymouth
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University of South Wales
University of Strathclyde
University of Surrey
University of Sussex
University of Warwick
University of Westminster
Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute

Charities

Versus Arthritis
Association of Medical Research Charities
British Heart Foundation
Cancer Research UK
Wellcome Trust

Campaign for Science and Engineering
Gordon House
29 Gordon Square
London
WC1H 0PP

Charity number: 1147492

0207 679 4994
info@sciencecampaign.org.uk
www.sciencecampaign.org.uk
[@sciencecampaign](https://www.facebook.com/sciencecampaign)
www.facebook.com/sciencecampaign

Company number: 7807252