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# Scientific and engineering advice in British policy making

May 2015



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# Overview

Advisory structures

Government Chief Scientific Advisor

GO Science

Departmental Chief Scientific Advisor

Policy cycle

Case study: Industrial Policy

Q&A



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# Advisory structures

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# Government Chief Scientific Advisor



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Professor Sir Mark Walport

The Government Chief Scientific Advisor is responsible for:

- providing scientific advice to the Prime Minister and Cabinet
- co-chairing the Prime Minister's Council for Science and Technology
- advising government on aspects of policy on science and technology
- ensuring and improving the quality and use of scientific evidence and advice in government
- leading the science and engineering profession within the Civil Service

# Government Office for Science



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Government  
Office for Science

- Offers analysis & advice in following areas:
  - Risk & resilience
  - Innovation & infrastructure
  - Trade & finance
  - Energy & climate change
  - Life course & cities
  - Data & analytics
- Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies
- Horizon Scanning Program



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# Departmental Chief Scientific Advisors

Every government department has a chief scientific adviser who provides advice on all aspects of policy on science and technology. In particular, they:

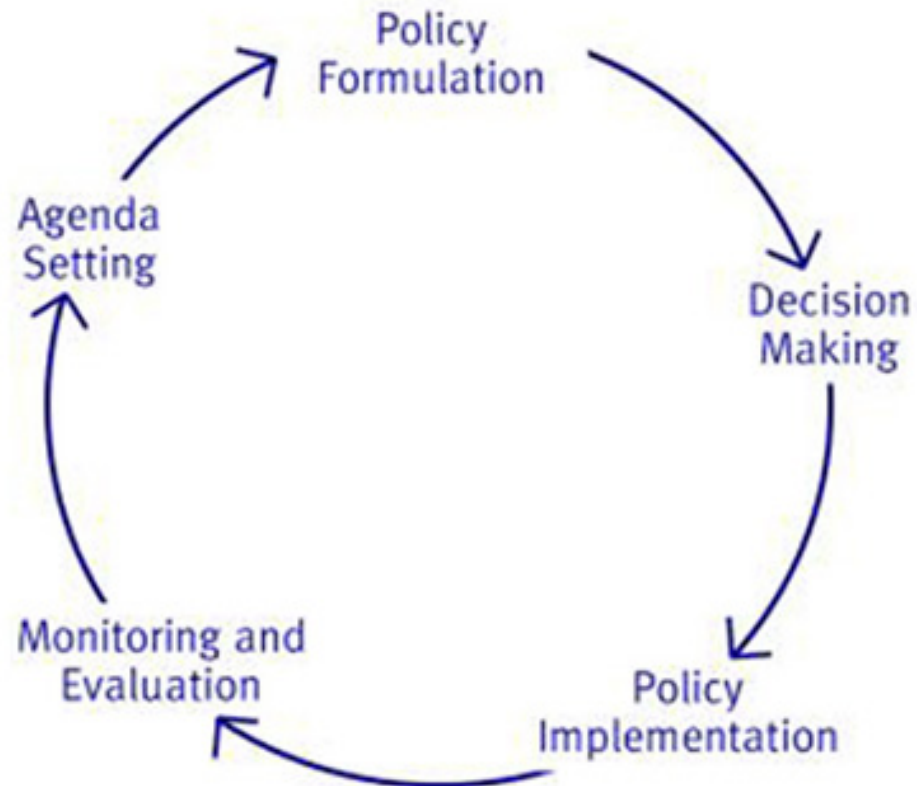
- provide advice to ministers
- discuss and facilitate implementation of policy on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)
- identify and share good practice in STEM-related areas, including the use of scientific advice in policy making
- facilitate communication on high profile STEM issues and new challenges for government



# Policy Cycle



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# Case Study: Industrial Strategy

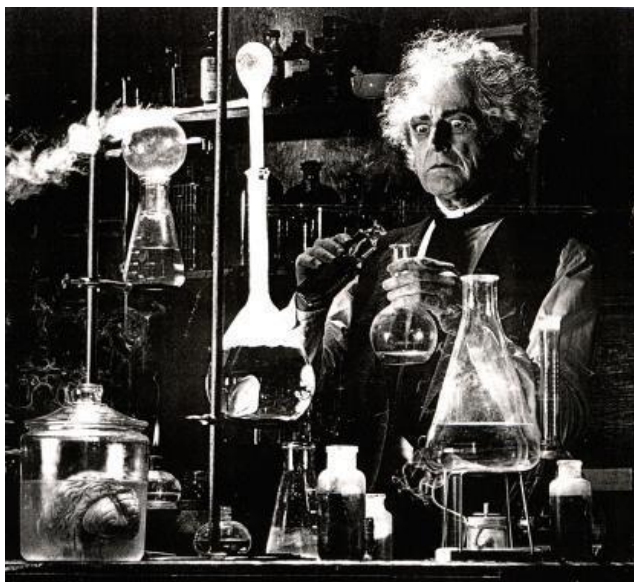
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# Do we understand our economy?

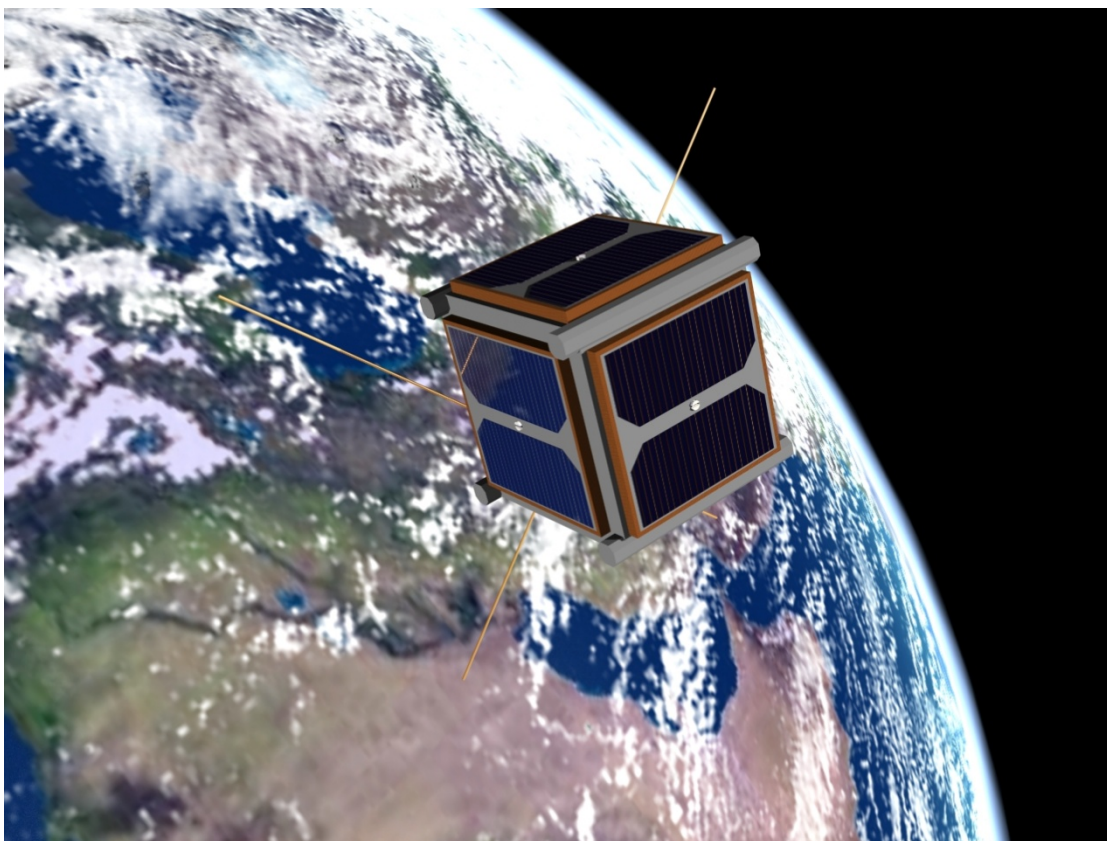


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# Britain: World leader in satellites



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# Links

- > [Overview of the Government Office for Science](#)
- > [The Government Chief Scientific Adviser's guidelines on the use of scientific and engineering advice in policy making](#)
- > [Chief Scientific advisers and their officials](#)
- > [House of Lords Arctic Committee](#) and their report [Responding to a changing Arctic](#)
- > [House of Commons Science & technology committee](#)



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# Discussion

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