

Scottish Parliament Cross Party Group on Science and Technology

AGM 1230 Thursday 6 February 2014

Minutes

- 1. Attendance & Apologies:** In attendance: Elaine Murray MSP, Iain Gray MSP, Liam McArthur MSP, Bristow Muldoon. Apologies: Patrick Harvie MSP (Patrick arrived just after the meeting had concluded); Clare Adamson MSP; Drew Smith MSP; Nanette Milne MSP.
- 2. Review of 2013/14:** Two full meetings of the group had been held: on a presentation by the Chief Executive of the Science and Technology Facilities Council; and a presentation on the research work taking place in Scotland on new materials for solar panels. The annual Science and the Parliament event took place on the topic of Science and Health. Four MSPs also visited the CERN facilities in Geneva on a study visit of the particle physics projects being undertaken there.
- 3. Financial Support:** The Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) and Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) have provided catering at meetings. The administrative support to the group has also been provided by a member of staff of the RSE & RSC. The visit to CERN was supported by a bursary of £350 per MSP to cover travel and accommodation costs this was provided by the Science and Technology Facilities Council (one of the seven UK Research Councils).
- 4. Appointment of Office Bearers:** The following were elected: Co-conveners Dr Elaine Murray MSP and Clare Adamson MSP; Vice-conveners Iain Gray MSP and Liam McArthur MSP; Secretary Bristow Muldoon (Royal Society of Edinburgh & Royal Society of Chemistry).
- 5. Future meetings:** It was agreed to invite Professor Muffy Calder, Chief Scientific Adviser to the Scottish Government to address a meeting. Date to be confirmed. The Royal Society of Chemistry has booked 12 November for the annual Science and the Parliament event, with the theme yet to be finalised, but was expected to be on science education.

Meeting closed 1300