

Senedd Cymru / Welsh Parliament

**Cross-Party Group on Science on STEMM**

***ANNUAL REPORT Sept 2022 – Sept 2023***

**MEMBERSHIP**

Chair: David Rees MS

Vice Chair: Jack Sargeant MS

Vice Chair: Mark Isherwood MS

Altaf Hussain MS

Joel James MS

Luke Fletcher MS

Secretariat: Niall Sommerville, Royal Society of Chemistry

**External Members:**

Cerian Angharad (Association of Science Education); Dr Robert Hoyle (Welsh Government); Dave Harwood (Institution of Mechanical Engineering); David Jones (Geological Society); Professor Faron Moller (Technocamps); Wendy Sadler MBE (Science Made Simple); Professor Mike Edmunds (Royal Astronomical Society); Keith Jones (Institution of Civil Engineers); Andrew Mackenzie (The Physiological Society); Dr Rob Janes (The Open University); Prof Alan Shore (Learned Society of Wales); Prof Mike Charlton (Learned Society of Wales); Dr Geertje van Keulen, (Microbiology Society); Jenny Scott (British Council); Dr Matthew Allen (Cardiff Science Festival); Dr Dayna Mason (Royal Society of Chemistry); Glen Gilchrist (CSCJES); Leigh Jeffes (Parliamentary and Scientific Committee/RSC); Helen Taylor (Cardiff Met Uni); Susie Rabin (Royal Society of Biology); Maija Evans (British Council Wales); Tom Addison (Physiological Society); Rhobert Lewis (Neath Port Talbot College Group); Talib Mahdi (Cardiff University); Stephen French (IFST); Alvin Orbaek White (Swansea University); Eluned Parrott (Institute of Physics); George Skilling (Science and Technology Facilities Council); Richard Duffy (Institute of Physics); Katie O'Connor (Microbiology Society), Andrew Bellamy (BCS), Emma Yhnell (Biochemistry Society); Stefan James (IMechEng); Naomi Williams (Camlas); Prof. Jas Pal Badyal (Chief Scientific Advisor for Wales); Peter Arnold (IET); Lewis Dean (Universities Wales); Victoria Southam (Microsoft); Newsdirect Wales

**MEETINGS**

The Group met three times:

**20 September 2022** – This meeting focussed on the proposed new innovation strategy for Wales and heard from Abi Phillips, Head of Innovation, Welsh Government. Also included was the groups AGM.

**14 March 2023** – At this meeting the CPG members provided updates on their work this year before hearing a presentation and Q&A session with the new Chief Scientific Advisor for Wales, Prof. Jas Pal Badyal. The meeting included discussion of issues related to STEM education and workforce.

**12 September 2023** – This meeting focussed on STEM education. We were joined by the Minister for Education and Welsh Language, Jeremy Miles MS, who provided an update on behalf of the Welsh Government before a Q&A session with members. This meeting also contained the groups AGM. David Rees MS was re-elected as Chair, Jack Sergeant MS and Mark Isherwood MS were both elected Vice Chair of the CPG.

**Science and the Senedd** – The annual Science and the Senedd event was held on Tues 13 June. Whilst not an official CPG meeting the event is organised in conjunction with the CPG on STEMM. The 19<sup>th</sup> edition of this event was held at the Senedd and Pierhead buildings and focussed on the topic of STEM and the economy. The event was followed by an evening reception and exhibition from more than 20 organisations. The evening reception included speeches by all the political parties in the Senedd and heard from the Minister for Economy.

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## **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

As these meetings were held online there was no cost incurred or gifted over the period covered in this annual report.

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**Niall Sommerville**  
**Secretary, Cross Party Group on STEMM**  
**Royal Society of Chemistry**  
**Public Affairs Manager**  
September 2023