

The Forum Bulletin – new seminar offering and placements in Government and Parliament

Bulletin March 2020

Thank you for signing up for The Forum bulletin. The Forum is Imperial's policy engagement programme, connecting our researchers with policy-makers.

Please feel free to forward this on to colleagues. If you were forwarded this bulletin you can [sign up here](#).

For advice and support with any policy engagement opportunities, such as submissions to government or Parliament, training and bespoke events, get in touch with [The Forum team](#) and we'll be happy to help.

IMPERIAL ACADEMICS DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF PLASTICS

Solving one of the great environmental challenges - that of plastic waste and pollution - took centre stage at a recent The Forum policy workshop.

Jointly organised by The Forum with the Greener Plastic Future project and the Ocean Plastic Solutions Network at Imperial, researchers from across the College led discussions with partners from government and the third sector to address one of the foremost problems facing societies across the world.

[Read the full story.](#)

IMPERIAL HOSTS URBAN FIRES WORKSHOP

Imperial academics and policymakers explored the issue of urban fires at The Forum's latest policy workshop.

Led by Professor Guillermo Rein, professor of fire science in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and head of Imperial's Hazelab, academics presented on topics including reducing the likelihood and consequences of accidental fire, changes and improvements to modern infrastructure and building safety system as well as cladding flammability.

Professor Rein tweeted about the event [here](#).

NEW POLICY ENGAGEMENT SEMINARS – LEVELS 1, 2 and 3

The Forum organises internal seminars for Imperial researchers which focus on building political engagement expertise. If you would like to attend one, [please let us know](#).

We have updated our training offering for 2020, now with levels 1, 2 and 3 of our popular policy engagement seminars.

Level 1: introduction to policy engagement is the same as the introductory seminar that we have run previously, looking at the policy-making process, key decision-makers, how to influence them.

- Friday 17 April 2020, 13.45-16.00, Faculty Boardroom
- Thursday 14 May 2020, 13.45-16.00, Faculty Boardroom

Level 2: communicating your research to policymakers is a new offering, after holding trial sessions in the summer. In this smaller group session, we will look at best practice in drafting policy briefings and evidence submissions. Please bring along a one-page draft, outlining your research, for a policy audience.

- Tuesday 21 April 2020, 12.30-13.30, Faculty room 3.10

Level 3: introduction to local government - this session will introduce you to the layers of local government and what you can do to influence them.

- Tuesday 28 April 2020, 12.00-13.00, Faculty room 3.19

Following feedback from attendees, **Level 3: introduction to international policy engagement** will also be running soon. We will update you when we have dates arranged.

POLICY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

The Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee's 'My BEIS Inquiry', inviting people to submit proposals for what the Committee should investigate, is accepting submissions until 31 March. [Find out more.](#)

The Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee's inquiry into **managing flood risk** is accepting evidence until 17 April. [Find out more.](#)

The Public Bill Committee is accepting written evidence on the Environment Bill until 5 May 2020, although the deadline may be brought forward. [Find out more.](#)

The Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee's inquiry into the **progress of remediation regarding cladding** has been launched. [Find out more.](#)

GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs' consultation on **environmental land management** closes on 5 May 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Transport's consultation on **introducing E10 Petrol** closes on 19 April 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Transport and Office for Low Emission Vehicles' consultation on **ending the sale of new petrol, diesel and hybrid cars and vans** closes on 29 May 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department of Work and Pensions is interested in any academic work exploring the **link between workplace pension saving and climate change**, and/or Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors more generally. Please contact [Tim Willis](#) by 24 March 2020 for more information.

The Environment Agency's Challenges and Choices consultation is seeking views on the **challenges our waters face** and the choices we all need to make to help tackle those challenges, including pollution from macro and micro-plastics. Closes on 24 April 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government's consultation on **the ban on the use of combustible materials in and on the external walls of buildings** closes on 13 April. [Find out more.](#)

Ofwat's consultation on the **PR19 Reconciliation Rulebook** closes on 29 April 2020. [Find out more.](#)

UPCOMING APPG MEETINGS

Monday 16 March 2020

APPG ON BABY LOSS EGM, ELECTION OF CHAIRS/OFFICERS

16:00 Committee Room 7

For further information or to RSVP please contact

cherilyn.mackrory.mp@parliament.uk.

Tuesday 17 March 2020

APPG ON FOOD AND DRINK AGM AND INAUGURAL MEETING

13:00 Room R PCH

For further information or to RSVP please contact thomas.ashton@parliament.uk

APPG ON FIRE SAFETY & RESCUE

13:45 Room U PCH

Speakers: Jane Duncan – RIBA Expert Group – Building Safety, Adrian Dobson - RIBA Expert Group – Building Safety and Julia Chippendale – Sales Director – Fire

Service College. For more information or to RSVP please contact gill.lee@parliament.uk

Wednesday 18 March 2020

APPG ON HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES INAUGURAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

10:30 Room P PCH

For further information or to RSVP please contact Kari Mawhood at mawhoodk@parliament.uk

APPG ON GAMBLING RELATED HARM

13:00 Room A 1 Parliament Street

For further information or to RSVP please contact Jo Lloyd at lloydjo@parliament.uk

APPG ON DRONES AGM

14:30 Room 102 Millbank

For further information or to RSVP please contact Aditi Gupta at guptaab@parliament.uk

Alongside all our other [resources](#), we have a page detailing [upcoming consultations and APPG meetings](#), where you can see relevant calls for evidence and attend APPG meetings.

PLACEMENT AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

CASE

CaSE is advertising for someone to join their team in London on a three-month, paid internship who will gain experience in policy and public affairs, events and communications. The deadline is 15 March 2020 and more information can be found [here](#).

GO-SCIENCE

The deadline to apply for the Go-Science UK Intelligence Community Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Programme with the Royal Academy of Engineering closes on 6 April 2020. A list of their Research Topics for applicants to apply to can be found [here](#).

If you are interested in any of these opportunities or would like advice, get in touch with [The Forum team](#).

[Follow us on Twitter](#) for the latest policy opportunities and events.