

Subject: The Forum Bulletin – Development opportunity with Institute for Government, COVID guidance and more

Bulletin May 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.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY WITH INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNMENT

The Forum has secured a dedicated online training opportunity for a limited group of Imperial researchers with the renowned [Institute for Government](#). This will deepen knowledge of areas covered in The Forum training as well as offering a new session on communicating your research and building your profile. The training will take place online from 9.00-13.00 on Tuesday 19 and Wednesday 20 May. Please note that places are limited and will be allocated on first come, first served-basis. [Email The Forum](#) to secure your place.

FIGHTING AN EPIDEMIC OF MISINFORMATION

The Forum has published a new [Imperial Stories longread article](#) which takes a detailed look at the issue of misinformation, misrepresentation and disinformation during the coronavirus pandemic. With exclusive commentary from the College's Dr David Nabarro, Special Envoy on Covid-19 to the WHO, this feature article highlights the central importance of science, learning and public information as we adapt to life with the virus in the coming months and years. Read the feature: [Fighting an epidemic of misinformation](#).

COVID-19 INNOVATOR GUIDANCE

Imperial researchers have set out key regulations innovators must comply with when designing and building technologies safely to tackle COVID-19. The [paper](#) serves as a guide for those wishing to act quickly to help with the COVID-19 response but are unsure of the regulatory pathways. [Read the news story](#).

IMPERIAL ACADEMICS DISCUSS FLOODING AND WATER MANAGEMENT

Tackling an issue of growing environmental concern – water management and flooding – was the focus of The Forum's first ever online policy workshop.

Led by Dr Ana Mijic of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and an Associate of the Grantham Institute at Imperial, researchers from across the College led discussions with partners from government and other stakeholders to address many of the issues associated with water management and flooding.

[Read the full story](#).

UPDATES FROM POST

The Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST) have announced they are looking for experts in the coming months to contribute their insights, literature or as external reviewers on the following POSTnotes:

- AI and healthcare
- Developments in vaccine technologies
- Distance learning
- Regulating product sustainability

You can view the [latest updates to POST's work programme, and contact information for all projects](#). Also find out [more information on what contributing to a POSTnote entails](#).

POST have also produced a page on [engaging with Parliament as a researcher around COVID-19 and its impacts](#). This is a great place to find opportunities including details of the Expert Database, all select committee inquiries relating to COVID-19 and other ideas.

Finally, POST have produced a new resource: [A short guide to producing research to support the work of UK Parliament](#).

OTHER POLICY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

The Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee's inquiry into **flooding** is accepting evidence until 15 May 2020. [Find out more](#).

The Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee's inquiry into **COVID-19 and food supply** is accepting evidence until 1 May 2020. [Find out more](#).

The Foreign Affairs Committee's inquiry into **environmental diplomacy** is accepting evidence until 15 May 2020. [Find out more](#).

The Health and Social Care Committee's inquiry into **delivering core NHS and care services** during the pandemic and beyond is accepting evidence until 8 May. [Find out more](#).

The Joint Committee on Human Rights' inquiry into the Health Service Safety Investigations Bill is accepting evidence until 22 July 2020. [Find out more](#).

The Joint Committee on Human Rights' inquiry into Mental Health Act reform is accepting evidence until 22 July 2020. [Find out more](#).

The Commons Science and Technology Committee's inquiry into UK Science, Research and Technology Capability and Influence in **Global Disease Outbreaks** closes 31 July 2020. [Find out more](#).

The Commons Science and Technology Committee has announced new inquiries on **UK telecommunications infrastructure** and **commercial genomics**. Calls for written evidence are expected and will be included in future bulletins.

GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy's consultation on **heat networks: building a mark framework** closes on 1 June 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy and the Treasury's consultation on the **Climate Change Agreements scheme** closes on 11 June 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy's consultation on future support for **low carbon heat** closes on 7 July 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy's consultation on the **closure of the Non-domestic Renewable Heat Incentive** closes on 7 July 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy's consultation on **carer's leave** closes on 3 August 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport's consultation on the **Taking Party survey** closes on 1 June 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport's consultation on **expanding the dormant assets scheme** closes on 16 July 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs' consultation on **environmental land management** closes on 16 July 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Transport and Office for Low Emission Vehicles' consultation on **Bristol Airport's designation as a 'coordinated' airport** now closes on 26 June 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Transport and Office for Low Emission Vehicles' consultation on **the future of transport regulatory review: micromobility vehicles, flexible bus services and mobility as a service** now closes on 3 July 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** now closes on 31 July 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Health and Social Care's consultation on the potential move to a **single dose of HPV vaccine** closes on 8 May 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Treasury's consultation on the policy design of the **plastic packaging tax** is now accepting evidence until 20 August. [Find out more.](#)

The Treasury's consultation on **duty-free and tax-free goods carried by passengers** closes on 20 May 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Treasury's consultation on the reform to **Retail Prices Index methodology** closes on 21 August 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Treasury's consultation on **market access arrangements for financial services between the UK and Gibraltar** closes on 11 May 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Treasury's second consultation on **preventing abuse of the R&D tax relief for SMEs** closes on 28 May 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Treasury's consultation on the **Public Works Loan Board: future lending terms** closes on 4 June 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Treasury's consultation on the **tax treatment of asset holding companies in alternative fund structures** closes on 19 August 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Home Office's consultation on **police powers: pre-charge bail** closes on 29 May 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** now closes on 25 May 2020. [Find out more.](#)

NHS Digital's consultation on the clinical Safety of **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning** closes on 27 October 2020. [Find out more.](#)

KEEP IN TOUCH

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

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