

Science Policy careers

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Chief Executive



What is Science Policy?

- Campaigning for evidence based legislation
- Ensuring our scientists are supported
- Protecting the UK's world class Science base? Or not?
- Addressing specific issues
- Science in the context of culture and cultural challenges



Where do people work?

- Government
- Local Government
- Parliaments – Westminster, DAs, EU
- Charities
- Professional bodies
- Private sector
- Consultancy
- International bodies – WHO, WTO, UN



Why go into policy work?

- Hugely diverse
- Skills applicable to many other careers
- Wide national and international demand
- Can often make a difference quickly
- High level interactions
- Salary range of £25k to £100k



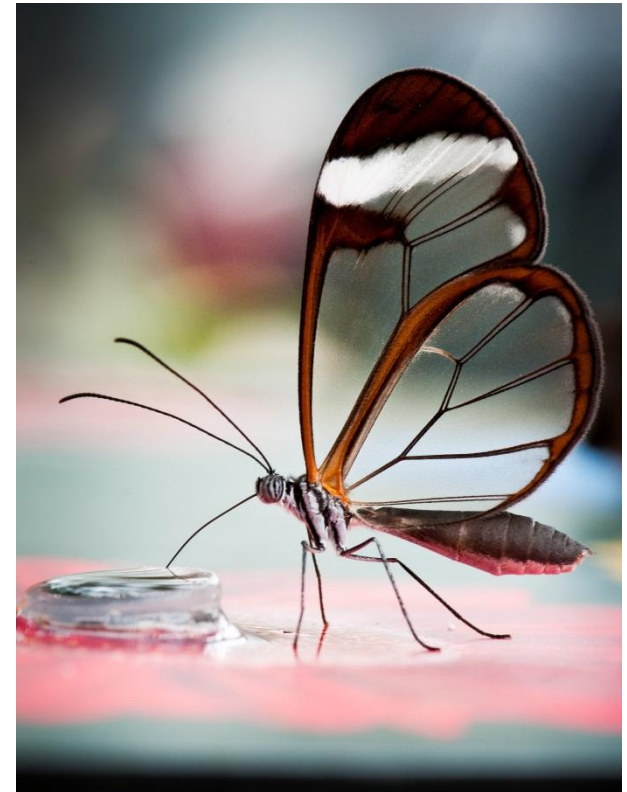
Skills & knowledge requirement

- Good at detail but understand big picture
- Explain science to lay audiences
- Knowledge of business and politics
- How science and research works
- Public engagement
- Lobbying
- Interpersonal skills



Examples of policy work

- Common agricultural policy
- Vaccination campaigns
- Environmental impacts
- National curriculum
- Disability living allowance
- Organ donation
- Student fees
- International aid
- Regional issues – planning
- Biodiversity
- Professional training



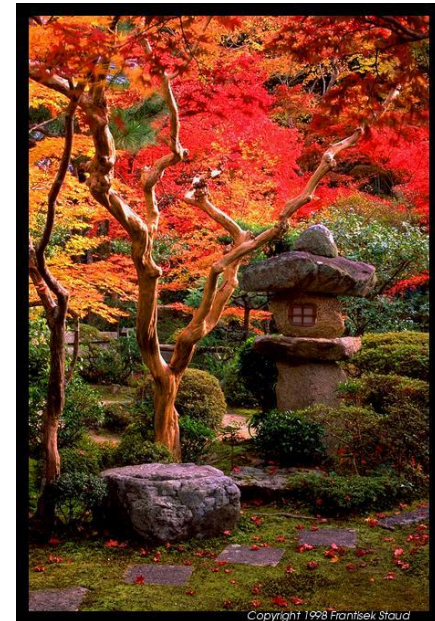
Important to know that..

- Lots of tight deadlines
- Often working outside your comfort zone
- Not a nine to five job. Networking!
- Media interest and controversy
- **Very rewarding!**



My Career

- BSc & Ph.D – Biotechnology (diagnostics)
- Research in Government
- Leading grant programmes and science policy issues
- Five years in Japan – Trade Policy
- Lead UK negotiator for EU environmental Regs
- Charity sector – Business and Technical Director
- Society of Biology, Chief Executive



Society of Biology policy work



- Media articles and interviews
- Web, social media – communication
- Education, science policy, funding
- Giving evidence and finding evidence
- Interacting with government(s)
- Supporting member interests – bringing the sector together.



Working in Science policy is:

