The Science and Technology Committee

The Science and Technology Committee is appointed by the House of Commons to examine the expenditure, administration and policy of the Office of Science and Innovation and its associated public bodies.

Current membership

Mr Phil Willis MP (Liberal Democrat, Harrogate and Knaresborough) (Chairman)
Adam Afriyie MP (Conservative, Windsor)
Mrs Nadine Dorries MP (Conservative, Mid Bedfordshire)
Mr Robert Flello MP (Labour, Stoke-on-Trent South)
Linda Gilroy MP (Labour, Plymouth Sutton)
Dr Evan Harris MP (Liberal Democrat, Oxford West & Abingdon)
Dr Brian Iddon MP (Labour, Bolton South East)
Chris Mole MP (Labour/Co-op, Ipswich)
Dr Bob Spink MP (Conservative, Castle Point)
Graham Stringer MP (Labour, Manchester, Blackley)
Dr Desmond Turner MP (Labour, Brighton Kemptown)

Previous Members of the Committee during this Session

Mr Brooks Newmark MP (Conservative, Braintree)

Powers

The Committee is one of the departmental Select Committees, the powers of which are set out in House of Commons Standing Orders, principally in SO No.152. These are available on the Internet via www.parliament.uk

Publications

The Reports and evidence of the Committee are published by The Stationery Office by Order of the House. All publications of the Committee (including press notices) are on the Internet at www.parliament.uk/5&com

A list of Reports from the Committee in this Parliament is included at the back of this volume.

Committee staff

The current staff of the Committee are: Dr Lynn Gardner (Clerk); Dr Celia Blacklock (Second Clerk); Mr Edward Waller (Assistant Clerk); Dr Christopher Tyler (Committee Specialist); Dr Joanna Dally (Committee Specialist); Ana Ferreira (Committee Assistant); Christine McGrane (Committee Secretary); and Jonathan Olivier Wright (Senior Office Clerk).

Contacts

All correspondence should be addressed to the Clerk of the Science and Technology Committee, Committee Office, 7 Millbank, London SW1P 3JA. The telephone number for general inquiries is: 020 7219 2793; the Committee's e-mail address is: scitechcom@parliament.uk
Proceedings of the Committee

Wednesday 22 November 2006

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair
Adam Afriyie
Mr Robert Fehlo
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Mr Brooks Newmark
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work
The Committee considered this matter.

2. Investigating the Oceans Inquiry
Resolved, That the Committee hold an inquiry into marine and polar science.

3. OSI Scrutiny
Resolved, That the Committee invite the new Science Minister, Malcolm Wicks MP, to continue with the Science Question Time evidence sessions.

4. Follow-up: Drug Classification: making a hash of it?
Mr Vernon Coaker MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for policing, security and community safety, Home Office and Professor Sir Michael Rawlins, Chairman, and Professor David Nutt, Member and Chairman of the Technical Committee, Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, gave oral evidence.

Written evidence relating to drug classification was ordered to be reported to the House for printing.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 29 November at 9 am.]
Wednesday 29 November 2006

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair
Adam Afriyie
Mr Robert Fello
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Space Policy Inquiry

Ordered, That Professor Mike Cruise be appointed a Specialist Adviser to assist the Committee in its inquiry into space policy.

Resolved, That the Committee visit the University of Leicester and the National Space Centre in Leicester in January 2007 in connection with its inquiry into space policy.

3. Human Enhancement Technologies in Sport Inquiry

Dr Richard Budgett, Chief Medical Officer, British Olympic Association and Professor Arne Ljungqvist, Chairman, International Olympic Committee (IOC) Medical Commission and Chairman of the World Anti-Doping Authority (WADA) Medical and Research Committee, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 6 December at 9 am.]
Tuesday 5 December 2006

Mr Phil Willis, Adam Afriyie, and Dr Evan Harris visited Loughborough University and the English Institute of Sport in connection with the inquiry into human enhancement technologies in sport, in accordance with the decision of the Committee of 20 July 2006.

Wednesday 6 December 2006

Members present:  
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie  
Dr Evan Harris  
Dr Brian Iddon

Bob Spink  
Graham Stringer  
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Space Policy Inquiry

Ordered, That the following Memoranda relating to space policy be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Department of Trade and Industry; British National Space Centre; Gihan Ganeshanatham; Nicholas Spall; Reaction Engines Ltd; UKspace; Amicus; Dr I A Crawford; Osmosis Unit; Space Foundation; Dr Simon N Evetts; Bristol Space Planes Limited; James Molony; Space Group Committee of the Royal Aeronautical Society; Space Future Consulting Ltd; University of Leicester; Dr Philip J Scarpa; Logica CMG; Miss Agnieszka Skorko; Space Connections; Space Enterprise Partnerships Ltd; Royal Institution of Great Britain; Dr Richard JE Skipworth; Dr Tamara Banerjee; UK Space Academic Network; Dr Alyson Calder; Dr Jagtar Singh Nijjar; Emma-Jane Smith; Dr Robert Marchbanks; Astrium Limited; Foreign and Commonwealth Office; Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils (CCLRC); Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC); Medical Research Council; Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council (PPARC); Natural Environment Research Council (NERC); Anna Lamond; Klaus Becher; Royal Astronomical Society (RAS); Dr Benjamin Marriage; Intellect; Institution of Mechanical Engineers; Ordnance Survey; BROHP (British Rocket Oral History Programme); Royal Society; Professor Colin Pillinger; Dr Peter Hodkinson; Group of interested scientists; National Physical Laboratory; Thaddeus R. F. Fulford-Jones; UK Space Biomedicine Group; Arts Catalyst; Jerry Stone; Centre for Aviation, Space and Extreme Environment Medicine; Dr Victoria Wykes; British Interplanetary Society; British Association of Remote Sensing Companies (BARSC); East of England Development Agency; Dr Ben Douglas; Dr Patrick Magee; Dr Vishal Nangalia; Avanti-Screenmedia; ABSL Space Products; John Carroll, University College London; Nigel McNair Scott; QinetiQ; Hertfordshire Business Incubation Centre; Stephen Ashworth, Fellow of the British Interplanetary Society; Surrey Satellite Technology Limited (SSTL); Andrew Weston,
University of Warwick; Reginald Turnill; Simon Pearce; Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; Daniela Garelick; Department for Transport; Ministry of Defence; Dr Stuart Eves; Professor Shaun Quegan, University of Sheffield; Dr David Tsiklauri, University of Salford; British Antarctic Survey; Inmarsat; Virgin Galactic; e2v; and JRA Technology Ltd.

Colin Paynter, Managing Director, EADS Astrium, Pat Norris, Business Development Manager, Logica CMG, David Williams, CEO, Avanti, Sir Martin Sweeting, CEO, Surrey Satellite Technology Limited; Trevor Cross, Technology Director, e2v, Nathan Hill, Managing Director, Qi3, and John Rootes, Managing Director, JRA Technology, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 12 December at 8.30 am.

**Tuesday 12 December 2006**

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon

Bob Spink
Dr Desmond Turner

1. *The Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Human Enhancement Technologies in Sport Inquiry*

Rt Hon Richard Caborn MP, Minister for Sport, Department for Culture, Media and Sport, gave oral evidence.

3. *Research Council Institutes Inquiry*

Professor Patricia Nuttall, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, and Professor Mike Hulme, Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 13 December at 9 am.]
Wednesday 13 December 2006

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon

Bob Spink
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Space Policy Inquiry

Resolved, That the Committee visit the headquarters of the European Space Agency in Paris in March 2007 in connection with its inquiry into space policy.

3. Research Council Institutes inquiry

Dr Tony Holder, President of the local UCU Association (University and College Union) and Ms Eileen Clark, Amicus representative and Chair of the local Trade Union Side (TUS), National Institute for Medical Research; Sir John Chisholm, Chairman, Professor Colin Blakemore, Chief Executive and Mr Nick Winterton, Executive Director, Medical Research Council; Professor Sir Keith O’Nions, Director General of Science and Innovation, and Mr John Neilson, Director Research Base, Office of Science and Innovation gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 10 January at 9 am.

Wednesday 10 January 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Dr Evan Harris
Mr Brooks Newmark

Dr Brian Iddon
Mr Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work:

The Committee considered this matter.
2. **Government Proposals for the Regulation of Hybrid and Chimera Embryos Inquiry**

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the Government’s proposals for the regulation of the creation of animal/human hybrid and chimera embryos for research purposes.

3. **Space Policy Inquiry**

Dr David Williams, Director General, British National Space Centre (BNSC); Miss Paula Freedman, Director, DTI Space within BNSC; Dr Arwyn Davies, Director, Earth Observation at both BNSC and Natural Environment Research Council; Professor Keith Mason, Chief Executive, Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council; Professor Richard Holdaway, Head of Science Programmes, Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils, and Air Vice-Marshal Chris Moran OBE, Assistant Chief of Air Staff, Ministry of Defence, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 17 January at 9 am.

**Wednesday 17 January 2007**

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Dr Evan Harris
Chris Mole

Bob Spink
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. **Declaration of Interests**

Chris Mole declared his interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992.

2. **The Committee’s programme of work**

The Committee considered this matter.

3. **Government Proposals for the Regulation of Hybrid and Chimera Embryos Inquiry**

Resolved, That the Committee visit the Stem Cell Biology Laboratory at Kings College London in February 2007 in connection with its inquiry into Government proposals for the regulation of hybrid and chimera embryos.
3. Work of the Committee 2005-06

The Committee deliberated.

Draft Report (Work of the Committee in 2005-06), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

[The draft Report was agreed to: the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the First Report from the Committee, Session 2006-07, HC 202, p 31.]

4. OSI Scrutiny

Malcolm Wicks MP, Minister for Science, and Professor Sir Keith O’Nions, Director General for Science and Innovation, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 24 January at 9 am.]

Wednesday 24 January 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Mr Brooks Newmark

Dr Bob Spink
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Research Council Scrutiny

Resolved. That the Committee visit the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory.

3. The Cooksey Review

Sir David Cooksey gave oral evidence.

4. Research Council Institutes Inquiry

Professor Malcolm Grant, President and Professor Mike Spyer, Vice Provost, University College London gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 30 January at 3 pm.]
Tuesday 30 January 2007

The Committee met at the Shuttle Suite, National Space Centre, Leicester

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Chris Mole

Dr Bob Spink
Dr Desmond Turner

1. Space Policy inquiry

Ordered, That the following Memoranda relating to space policy be reported to the House for publication on the internet: The Science Museum; Professor Alan Wells, University of Leicester; Chas Bishop, National Space Centre; Department for Education and Skills (DfES); Space Insight Limited; Aviation Environment Federation; SpaceLink Learning Foundation; University of Strathclyde; European Space Agency; Gates and Partners; NASA; Satellite Observing Systems; British Telecommunications plc; Office of Communications (Ofcom).

Ms Julie Bramman, Divisional Manager for School Curriculum, Department for Education and Skills, Dr Robin Clegg, Head of Science and Society, Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council, Paul Spencer, Evaluator and Consultant, Space Connections, and Professor Alan Wells, Emeritus Professor and Leverhulme Emeritus Fellow, University of Leicester, Non-Executive Director, National Space Centre, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 31 January at 9 am.]
Wednesday 31 January 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole

Dr Bob Spink
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee’s programme of work:

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Government Proposals for the Regulation of Hybrid and Chimera Embryos Inquiry

Ordered, That Professor Roger Brownword and Dr Valerie Wilson be appointed as Specialist Advisers to assist the Committee in its inquiry into the regulation of hybrid and chimera embryos.

Dr Evan Harris declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to the Committee’s inquiry into the regulation of hybrid and chimera embryos inquiry stating that his intern, from Sense about Science, worked in this area.

Dr Lyle Armstrong, Institute of Genetics, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Professor Chris Shaw, Institute of Psychiatry, King’s College London, Professor Austin Smith, Wellcome Trust Centre for Stem Cell Research, University of Cambridge, Ms Shirley Harrison, Chair, Angela McNab, Chief Executive, and Professor Neva Haites, Member of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Monday 5 February at 4 pm.]
Wednesday 7 February 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon

Dr Bob Spink
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Human Enhancement Technologies in Sport Inquiry

The Committee deliberated.

Draft Report (Human Enhancement Technologies in Sport), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

[The draft Report was agreed to: the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Second Report from the Committee, Session 2006-07, HC 67, p 60.]

3. Investigating the Oceans Inquiry

Resolved, That the Committee visit the Plymouth Marine Science Partnership in connection with its inquiry into marine science.

4. Space Policy Inquiry

Professor Alan Thorpe, Chief Executive of the Natural Environment Research Council, Professor Sir Howard Dalton, Departmental Chief Scientific Adviser, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Alan Douglas, Head of Assurance, Met Office, Matthew Stuttard, Chairman, British Association of Remote Sensing Companies, Professor Duncan Wingham, Head of Department of Earth Sciences, University College London, Professor Shaun Quegan, Director, Sheffield Centre for Earth Observation Science, Liz Duthie, Divisional Manager for the Galileo Programme Division, Department for Transport, Mr Patrick McDougal, Vice-President, Business Development, Inmarsat, and Neil Ackroyd, Director of Data Collection and Management, Ordnance Survey, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 21 February at 9 am.]
Tuesday 20 February 2007

Mr Phil Willis, Dr Evan Harris, Chris Mole, Graham Stringer, Dr Bob Spink and Dr Desmond Turner visited King's College London in connection with the inquiry into the Government's proposals for the regulation of hybrid and chimera embryos, in accordance with the decision of the Committee of 17 January 2007.

Wednesday 21 February 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole

Mr Brooks Newmark
Dr Bob Spink
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Scientific Advice, Risk and Evidence Based Policy Making

Draft Special Report (Scientific Advice, Risk and Evidence Based Policy Making: Government Response to the Committee's Seventh Report of Session 2005-06), proposed by the Chairman, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Seventh Report from the Committee in Session 2005-06 was appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the First Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chairman make the Report to the House.

3. Follow-up: Drug Classification: making a hash of it?

Resolved, That the Committee print the response from Sir Michael Rawlins to questions raised by the Committee following the evidence session on Wednesday 22 November, together with the Minutes of Evidence from that session and the ACMD's response to the Committee's Fifth Report of Session 2005-06, Drug Classification: making a hash of it?

4. Government Proposals for the Regulation of Hybrid and Chimera Embryos Inquiry

Ordered, That the following Memoranda relating to Government proposals for the regulation of hybrid and chimera embryos be reported to the House for publication on
the internet; St Mary's University College; ProLife Alliance; Reverend Christopher Johnson; Cystic Fibrosis Trust; Mrs Marie Rodgers; Wellcome Trust/Cancer Research UK Gurdon Institute of Cancer and Development Biology, University of Cambridge; Biosciences Federation; European Society for Human Reproduction and Embryology; Scottish Council on Human Bioethics; Multiple Sclerosis Society and the Alzheimer's Society; Dr Stephen Brennan, Master of the Guild of Catholic Doctors; Institute of Biology; Peter McCullagh; North East England Stem Cell Institute (NESC1); Dr Robin Lovell-Badge; Muscular Dystrophy Campaign; Mary Frances Dysko; Janet Cuthie and Jenny Hepburn; Alzheimer Scotland; Dr Lyle Armstrong, University of Newcastle upon Tyne; Christian Action Research and Education (CARE); Scottish Stem Cell Network; Christian Medical Fellowship; Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists; Motor Neurone Disease; Lawyer's Christian Fellowship; Dr Neville Cобbe, University of Edinburgh; Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC); Professor Sir Martin Evans; Comment on Reproductive Ethics (CORE); British Medical Association; Association of Clinical Embryologists; Cancer Research UK; United Kingdom National Stem Cell Network (UKNSCN); Medical Research Council and the Wellcome Trust; Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC); Human Genetics Alert; Professor Liam Donaldson, Chief Medical Officer of England; Church of Scotland and the Church and Society Council; Brethren Christian Fellowship (The Brethren); Department of Trade and Industry; Professor Hui Z. Sheng; National Institute for Biological Standards & Control; Alison Murdoch, Institute of Human Genetics, Newcastle University; Professor David H Barlow, University of Glasgow; Professor Jose B. Cibelli, Michigan State University; Professor Peter Braude, Kings College London; Professor Alan Trounson, Monash Institute of Reproduction and Development; Professor Lorraine Young, Wolfson Centre for Stem Cells, Tissue Engineering and Modelling; Professor Richard Gardner, University of Oxford; Dr Daniel Brison, St Mary's Hospital; Maureen Wood, University of Aberdeen; Dr Luca Gianaroli, Società Italiana Studi di Medicina della Riproduzione (S.I.S.Me.R); Chief Rabbi, and Sir Jonathan Sacks.

5. Space Policy Inquiry

Professor Len Culhane, Chairman, UK Space Academic Network, Lord Rees of Ludlow, President, Royal Society, Professor Michael Rowan-Robinson, President, Royal Astronomical Society; Dr Kevin Fong, Co-Director, Centre for Aviation, Space and Extreme Environment Medicine, Professor Chris Kennard, Chair, Neurosciences and Mental Health Board, and MRC Council Member, Medical Research Council (MRC),
Michael Gourlay, Quality Control Consultant, Marchbanks Measurement Systems; Will Whitehorn, President, Virgin Galactic, Jeff Gazzard, Board Member, Aviation Environment Federation, and Dr Patrick Collins, Director, Space Future Consulting, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 27 February at 9.15 am.

Tuesday 27 February 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Linda Gilroy
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon

Chris Mole
Dr Bob Spink
Graham Stringer

1. The Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 28 February at 9 am.

Wednesday 28 February 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Robert Flello
Linda Gilroy
Dr Evan Harris

Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Investigating the Oceans Inquiry

Resolved, That the Committee visit Washington and Boston in connection with its inquiry into marine science, and that the Chairman seek the approval of the Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the visit.
3. **International policies and activities of the Research Councils**

_Resolved_, That the Committee inquire into the international policies and activities of the Research Councils.

4. **International Treaties**

_Resolved_, That the Committee note the Declaration by certain European Governments on the Ariane Launcher Production Phase (Cm 7033).

5. **DTI Annual Report**

_Resolved_, That the Committee agree to the request from DTI for approval to pilot the production of a merged Annual Report and Resource Accounts document.

6. **Introductory Hearing: Chief Executive of the Arts and Humanities Research Council**

Professor Philip Esler, Chief Executive of the Arts and Humanities Research Council, gave oral evidence.

7. **Government Proposals for the Regulation of Hybrid and Chimera Embryos Inquiry**

Caroline Flint MP, Minister for Public Health, Sir Liam Donaldson, Chief Medical Officer, and Mr Mark Bale, Deputy Director of Scientific Development and Bioethics, Department of Health, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 7 March at 9.15 am.]
Tuesday 6 March 2007

Mr Phil Willis, Dr Brian Iddon, Chris Mole, Brooks Newmark, Dr Bob Spink and Dr Desmond Turner visited the European Space Agency Headquarters in Paris in connection with the inquiry into space policy, in accordance with the decision of the Committee of 13 December 2006.

Wednesday 7 March 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole
Mr Brooks Newmark
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Investigating the Oceans Inquiry

Resolved, That the Committee visit the James Cook research vessel in Lisbon in connection with its inquiry into marine science.

3. The Cooksey Review

The Committee deliberated.

Draft Report (The Cooksey Review), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

[The draft Report was agreed to: the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Third Report from the Committee, Session 2006-07, HC 204, p 15.]

[Adjourned till Wednesday 14 March at 9.15 am.]
Wednesday 14 March 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole

Mr Brooks Newmark
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee’s programme of work
The Committee considered this matter.

2. Investigating the Oceans Inquiry

Resolved, That the Committee visit the British Antarctic Survey in Cambridge in connection with its inquiry into marine science.

3. Research Council Institutes Inquiry
The Committee deliberated.

[The draft Report was agreed to: the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Fourth Report from the Committee, Session 2006-07, HC 68-I, p 85.]

[Adjourned till Monday 19 March at 4 pm.

Monday 19 March 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Dr Brian Iddon

Chris Mole
Dr Bob Spink

1. The Committee’s programme of work
The Committee considered this matter.

2. Space Policy Inquiry
Jean-Jacques Dordain, Director General, and Professor David Southwood, Director of Science, European Space Agency, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 21 March at 9 am.]
Wednesday 21 March 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Linda Gilroy
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon

Mr Brooks Newmark
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Science Question Time

Malcolm Wicks MP gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 28 March at 9 am.

Tuesday 27 March 2007

Mr Phil Willis, Dr Evan Harris, Dr Brian Iddon, Chris Mole and Dr Bob Spink visited the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in connection with Research Council scrutiny, in accordance with the decision of the Committee of 24 January 2007.

Wednesday 28 March 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon

Chris Mole
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Government proposals for the regulation of hybrid and chimera embryos

The Committee deliberated.

Draft Report (Government proposals for the regulation of hybrid and chimera embryos), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.
[The draft Report was agreed to: the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Fifth Report from the Committee, Session 2006-07, HC 272-I, p 70.]

3. Office of Science and Innovation Scrutiny

The Committee deliberated.

Draft Report (Office of Science and Innovation: Scrutiny Report 2005 and 2006), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

[The draft Report was agreed to: the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Sixth Report from the Committee, Session 2006-07, HC 203, p 43.]

[Adjourned till Wednesday 18 April at 9 am.

Tuesday 17 April 2007

Mr Phil Willis, Linda Gilroy, Dr Brian Iddon, Chris Mole and Dr Desmond Turner visited Plymouth Marine Laboratory and the National Marine Aquarium in Plymouth in connection with the inquiry into marine science, in accordance with the decision of the Committee of 7 February 2007.

Wednesday 18 April 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole

Mr Brooks Newmark
Bob Spink
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Space Policy Inquiry

Malcolm Wicks MP, Minister for Science and Innovation, and Dr David Williams, Director General, British National Space Centre gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 25 April at 9 am.]
Wednesday 25 April 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Linda Gilroy
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon

Chris Mole
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Improving Research Conduct and Preventing Scientific Fraud Inquiry

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into improving research conduct and scientific fraud.

3. Funding of Science and Discovery Centres Inquiry

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the funding of science and discovery centres.

4. Introductory Hearing: Sir John Chisholm, Chairman of the Medical Research Council

Resolved, That the Committee hold an introductory hearing with Sir John Chisholm, Chairman of the Medical Research Council.

5. Introductory Hearing: Ed Wallis, Chairman of the Natural Environment Research Council

Ed Wallis, Chairman of the Natural Environment Research Council, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 1 May at 9 am.]
Tuesday 1 May 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair
Linda Gilroy
Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole
Mr Brooks Newmark
Dr Bob Spink
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Investigating the Oceans inquiry

Ordered, That the following Memoranda relating to Investigating the Oceans be reported to the House for publication on the internet: The Gardline Group; The United Kingdom Hydrographic Centre; Professor Sir John Lawton, Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution; Robin Cook – Fisheries Research Service; The Centre for Environment. Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas); Proudman Oceano-graphic Laboratory; Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC); Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB); Birdlife International; School of Ocean and Earth Science—Southampton University and School of Earth, Ocean and Planetary Sciences—Cardiff University; Plymouth Marine Laboratory; Challenger Society for Marine Science; UK Integrated Ocean Drilling Program Steering Committee; Inter-Agency Committee on Marine Science and Technology (IACMST); Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC); Gardline Environmental Limited; Society for Underwater Technology; Biosciences Federation; University of Plymouth Marine Institute; Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra); Wildlife and Countryside Link; British Antarctic Survey (BAS); Marine Biological Association (MBA); Professor Gideon Henderson—University of Oxford; Scottish Association for Marine Science; Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC); National Oceanography Centre, Southampton; The Met Office; Natural Environment Research Council (NERC); Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC); Directors of the NERC funded Marine Laboratories; Natural England; EADS Astrium Ltd; World Wildlife Fund (WWF); Environment Agency; Science and Innovation Section of the British Embassy in Tokyo; Association of Marine Scientific Industries; lMarEST; Office of Science and Innovation.

3. Follow-up: Identity Card Technologies: Scientific Advice, Risk and Evidence

Ordered, That the Memorandum relating to identity card technologies submitted by the Home Office be reported to the House for publication on the internet.
4. OSI Scrutiny

Ordered, That the Memoranda relating to Office of Science and Innovation Scrutiny submitted by the Office of Science and Innovation be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

5. Investigating the Oceans

Professor Sir Howard Dalton, Chairman of the Plenary Committee, Inter-Agency Committee on Marine Science and Technology (IACMST), Mr Trevor Guymer, Secretary of the IACMST, Dr Philip Newton, Deputy Director, Science and Innovation at the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), Dr Mike Webb, Marine Science and Innovation Manager, NERC, and Professor Gideon Henderson, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Oxford, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 9 May at 9 am.

Wednesday 9 May 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair
Linda Gilroy
Dr Evan Harris
Chris Mole
Mr Brooks Newmark
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work:

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Investigating the Oceans Inquiry

Ordered, That Professor Laurence Mee be appointed a Specialist Adviser to assist the Committee in its inquiry into marine science.

3. International Activities and Policies of the Research Councils Inquiry

Ordered, That the following Memoranda relating to the international activities and policies of the Research Councils be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Evidence Ltd; Deafness, Cognition and Language Research Centre, University College London; Professor Shaun Quegan, University of Sheffield; UK Computer Research Committee (UKCRC); Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra); Foreign and Commonwealth Office; University of Warwick; Rothamsted Research; University of Sheffield; Royal Society; ESRC Centre for Competition Policy; Royal Academy of Engineering; Royal Astronomical Society; Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research; National Oceanography Centre; Proudman Oceanographic
1. **Renewable Energy-Generation Technologies Inquiry**

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into renewable energy-generation technologies.

5. **International Activities and Policies of the Research Councils Inquiry**

Professor Colin Blakemore, Chief Executive of the Medical Research Council, Professor Ian Diamond, Chief Executive of the Economic and Social Research Council, Professor Keith Mason, Chief Executive of the Science and Technology Facilities Council, and Dr Randal Richards, Acting Chief Executive of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 16 May at 9 am.]

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**Wednesday 16 May 2007**

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Linda Gilroy
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole

Mr Brooks Newmark
Dr Bob Spink
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. **The Committee's programme of work**

The Committee considered this matter.

2. **Research Council Scrutiny**

Resolved, That members of the Committee visit CERN.

3. **Investigating the Oceans Inquiry**

Dr Joe Horwood, Deputy Chief Executive, Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science, Dr Robin Hensley, International Partnering Programme Team Leader, UK Hydrographic Office, Dr Mike Bell, Head of the National Centre for Ocean Forecasting, Met Office, Professor Andrew J. Willmott, Director, Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory, Professor Ed Hill, Director, National Oceanography Centre,
Southampton, and Professor Peter Liss, President, Challenger Society for Marine Science, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 6 June at 9 am.


Mr Phil Willis, Linda Gilroy, Dr Brian Iddon, Chris Mole, Dr Bob Spink, and Dr Desmond Turner visited Boston and Washington in connection with the inquiry into marine science, in accordance with the decision of the Committee on 28 February 2007.

Wednesday 6 June 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon

Chris Mole
Mr Brooks Newmark

1. The Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Investigating the Oceans Inquiry

Professor Stuart Palmer, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of Warwick, Professor Alan Jenkins, Director of the Water Science Programme, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Professor Lorna Casselton FRS, Foreign Secretary and Vice-President, The Royal Society, Dr Bernie Jones, Head of International Policy, The Royal Society, and Dr Lloyd Anderson, Director, Science, British Council, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 13 June at 9 am.
Thursday 7 June 2007

Mr Phil Willis, Dr Brian Iddon, Chris Mole, Graham Stringer, and Dr Desmond Turner visited the British Arctic Survey, Cambridge in connection with the inquiry into marine science, in accordance with the decision of the Committee of 14 March 2007.

Wednesday 13 June 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Linda Gilroy
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole

Dr Bob Spink
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. OSI Scrutiny 2005 and 2006

Draft Special Report (Office of Science and Innovation: Scrutiny Report 2005 and 2006: Government Response to the Committee’s Sixth Report of Session 20–07), proposed by the Chairman, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government’s response to the Second Report from the Committee was appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the Second Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chairman make the Report to the House.

3. Investigating the Oceans Inquiry

Mr Ian Gallett, Executive Secretary, Society for Underwater Technology, Dr Lesley Thompson, Director, Research and Innovation, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, Dr Ralph Rayner, Vice President, Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology, and Mr Richard Burt, Member, Executive Committee, Association of Marine Scientific Industries, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 20 June at 9 am.]
Wednesday 20 June 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Linda Gilroy
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole

Mr Brooks Newmark
Dr Bob Spink
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Research Council Institutes Inquiry

Resolved, That the Committee seek clarification on a number of points in the Government Response to the Committee’s Fourth Report of Session 2006-07, Research Council Institutes.

Ordered, That the Government’s response to the Committee’s Fourth Report of Session 2006-07, Research Council Institutes, be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

3. The Cooksey Review

Resolved, That the Committee request that the Government review its response to the Committee’s Third Report of Session 2006-07, The Cooksey Review.

Ordered, That the Government’s response to the Committee’s Third Report of Session 2006-07, The Cooksey Review, be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

4. Scientific developments relating to the Abortion Act 1967 Inquiry

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into scientific developments relating to the Abortion Act 1967.

5. The Role of the Chairman of the MRC Inquiry

Sir John Chisholm, Chairman of the Medical Research Council, gave oral evidence.

6. International policies and activities of the Research Councils Inquiry

Professor Sir Keith O’Nions, Director General of Science and Innovation, Department of Trade and Industry, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 27 June at 9 am.]
Thursday 21 June—Friday 22 June 2007

Mr Phil Willis, Chris Mole, Mr Brooks Newmark, and Dr Desmond Turner visited the James Cook Research Vessel in Lisbon in connection with the inquiry into marine science, in accordance with the decision of the Committee of 7 March 2007.

Wednesday 27 June 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Linda Gilroy
Chris Mole
Mr Brooks Newmark

Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Monday 2 July at 4 pm.

Monday 2 July 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Linda Gilroy
Dr Brian Iddon

Chris Mole
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Improving research conduct and preventing scientific fraud Inquiry

Ordered. That the Memorandum relating to improving research conduct and preventing scientific fraud submitted by the Council for Science and Technology be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

Professor Sir David King, Government Chief Scientific Adviser and Co-Chair of the Council for Science and Technology, and Professor Janet Finch, Independent Co-Chair, Council for Science and Technology, Vice-Chancellor, Keele University, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 4 July at 9 am.
Wednesday 4 July 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole
Dr Bob Spink
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Renewable Energy Technologies Inquiry

Ordered, That Professor Dennis Anderson and Professor Nicholas Jenkins be appointed as Specialist Advisers to assist the Committee in its inquiry into renewable energy technologies.

3. Space Policy Inquiry

The Committee considered this matter.

Draft Report (2007: A Space Policy), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

[The draft Report was agreed to: the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Seventh Report from the Committee, Session 2006-07, HC 66-I, p 151.]

4. Investigating the Oceans Inquiry

Dr Sharon Thompson, Senior Marine Policy Officer, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Dr Malcolm Vincent, Director of Science, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Professor Ian Boyd, Sea Mammal Research Unit, University of St Andrews, Dr Tom Tew, Chief Scientist, Natural England, Dr Alan Rodger, Head of Science Programmes, British Antarctic Survey, Professor Graham Shimmeld, Director, Scottish Association for Marine Science, Professor Bob Dickson, Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science, and Professor Andrew Watson, Royal Society of Chemistry, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 11 July at 9 am]
Wednesday 11 July 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Dr Evan Harris

Dr Brian Iddon
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Future Programme

Resolved, That the Chairman write to the Government Chief Whip regarding the future of the Committee and make the letter public.

3. Science Centres Inquiry

Ordered, That the following Memoranda relating to science centres be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Making It! Discovery Centre; West of England Aerospace Forum; National Maritime Museum Queen’s House and the Royal Observatory, Greenwich; The Deep Millennium Project; East Midlands Development Agency; Advantage West Midlands; Museum of Childhood; Science Projects Ltd; INTECH Science & Discovery Centre; One NorthEast; SEARCH; Eden Project; Department of Trade & Industry, the Department for Education & Skills and the Department for Culture Media & Sport; National Museums Northern Ireland and W5; Bolton Technical Innovation Centre; University of Durham; Glasgow Science Centre; Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service; Thinktank Trust; GlaxoSmithKline (GSK); Institute of Physics; Centre of the Cell; The Field Studies Council; British Association for the Advancement of Science; London Development Agency; Snibston Discovery Park; National Space Centre; South West Environmental Parks; Magna Science Adventure Centre; Consortium of Zoos, Wildlife & nature sites and Aquaria (CZWA); British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums; Astronomer Royal for Scotland, University of Glasgow; York Museums Trust; Dr Peter Anderson, Museum Consultant; Research Councils UK; Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust; Colin H Johnson OBE; Chief Scientific Adviser of the Scottish Executive; John Durant—MIT Museum; Catalyst Science Discovery Centre; Wellcome Trust; Dundee Science Centre; The Oxford Trust; Tyne and Wear Museums; Cardiff University School of Engineering; York Archaeological Trust; The South West of England Regional Development Agency (the SWRDA); Our Dynamic Earth; Birmingham City Council; British Antarctic Survey; The Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester; National Stone Centre; Scottish Science Centres Network; Royal Society; NESTA; Eureka! Museum for Children; The Zoological Society of London; The Observatory Science Centre; Cardiff University—Vice Chancellors Office; Thackray Museum; Museums Libraries and Archives Council; At-Bristol; North of England Zoological Society; Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh;
National Museum of Science and Industry; SEEDA; Royal Society of Edinburgh; Jodrell Bank Observatory; National Marine Aquarium; Chairman of At-Bristol; Kings College, London; Merseytravel; National Museum Wales; Escite-UK; Natural History Museum; Natures World; TechniQuest; Centre for Life; Yorkshire Forward.

Linda Conlon, Chair, Ecsite-uk; Director, Centre for Life, Colin Brown, Chief Executive, The Deep, Phil Winfield, Director, INTECH, Alec Coles, Director, Tyne & Wear Museums; Clare Matterson, Director of Medicine, Society and History, The Wellcome Trust, Richard Halkett, Executive Director, Policy & Research Unit, NESTA, Dr Peter Anderson, Museum Consultant; Jim Knight MP, Minister of State for Schools, Department for Children, Schools & Families, Ian Pearson MP, Minister of State for Science & Innovation, Department for Innovation, Universities & Science, The Rt Hon Margaret Hodge MBE MP, Minister of State, Department for Culture, Media and Sport, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Monday 16 July at 4 pm.

Thursday 12 July

Mr Phil Willis visited the National Oceanographic Centre, Southampton in connection with Research Council scrutiny.

Monday 16 July 2007

Members present:  
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Mrs Nadine Dorries
Linda Gilroy
Dr Brian Iddon

Chris Mole
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Renewable Energy-Generation Technologies Inquiry

Ordered, That the following Memoranda relating to renewable energy technologies be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Institute of Physics; David Milborrow; Fuel Cells UK; University of Liverpool; 20c; One NorthEast; Marine Institute for Innovation; Supergen Energy Storage Consortium; Alan Shaw; Professor Stephen Salter; EDF Energy; Rolls Royce Fuel Systems; The Royal Society of Edinburgh; Advantage West Midlands; South West RDA; East of England Development Agency;
RWE npower; E.ON UK; Renewable Energy Association; Association of Electricity Producers; Institution of Mechanical Engineers; British Geological Survey; London Climate Change Agency and the London Development Agency; Swanbarton Limited; Yorkshire Forward; Shanks Waste Management Limited; Energy Saving Trust; Energy Networks Association; Environmental Services Association; Greenpeace UK; National Farmers' Union of England and Wales; Centre for Management Under Regulation—Warwick Business School; Environment Agency; East Midlands Development Agency; Bristol Spaceplanes Limited; Royal Society of Chemistry; Durham University; Research Councils UK; Institution of Engineering & Technology; Sustainable Development Commission; Royal Academy of Engineering; UK Energy Research Centre; British Wind Energy Association; Ofgem; Plymouth Marine Laboratory; Department of Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform; and Professor Ian Fells.

3. Investigating the Oceans Inquiry

Jonathan Shaw MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Defra, Professor Sir Howard Dalton, Department Chief Scientific Adviser, Defra, and Professor Sir David King, Government Chief Scientific Adviser, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Monday 23 July at 4 pm.

Wednesday 25 July 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Mrs Nadine Dorries
Linda Gilroy
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon

Chris Mole
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. The Role of the Chairman of the MRC Inquiry

Draft Report (The Role of the Chairman of the Medical Research Council), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

[The draft Report was agreed to: the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Eighth Report from the Committee, Session 2006-07, HC 746, p 9.]
3. **International Policies and Activities of the Research Councils Inquiry**

Draft Report (*International Policies and Activities of the Research Councils*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

[The draft Report was agreed to: the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Ninth Report from the Committee, Session 2006-07, HC 472-I, p 58.]

[Adjourned till Wednesday 10 October at 9 am.]

**Thursday 26 July**

Mr Phil Willis, Dr Brian Iddon and Chris Mole visited CERN in connection with Research Council scrutiny, in accordance with the decision of the Committee of 16 May 2007.

**Tuesday 9 October 2007**

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie
Mrs Nadine Dorries
Linda Gilroy
Dr Evan Harris

Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. **The Committee’s programme of work**

The Committee considered this matter.

2. **Investigating the Oceans**

Draft Report (*Investigating the Oceans*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

2. **International Policies and Activities of the Research Councils Inquiry**

Draft Report (*International Policies and Activities of the Research Councils*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

[The draft Report was agreed to: the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Tenth Report from the Committee, Session 2006-07, HC 470-I, p 143.]
3. The Funding of Science and Discovery Centres

Draft Report (The Funding of Science and Discovery Centres), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

2. International Policies and Activities of the Research Councils Inquiry

Draft Report (International Policies and Activities of the Research Councils), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

[The draft Report was agreed to: the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Eleventh Report from the Committee, Session 2006-07, HC 903-I, p 44.]

4. 2007: A Space Policy

Draft Special Report (2007: A Space Policy: Government Response to the Committee's Seventh Report of Session 2006-07), proposed by the Chairman, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Seventh Report from the Committee in Session 2006-07 was appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the Fifth Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chairman make the Report to the House.

5. Chairman of the Medical Research Council: Introductory Hearing

Draft Special Report (Chairman of the Medical Research Council: Introductory Hearing: Government Response to the Committee's Eighth Report of Session 2006-07), proposed by the Chairman, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Eighth Report from the Committee in Session 2006-07 was appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the Sixth Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chairman make the Report to the House.

5. International Policies and Activities of the Research Councils

Draft Special Report (International Policies and Activities of the Research Councils: Government Response to the Committee's Ninth Report of Session 2006-07), proposed by the Chairman, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Ninth Report from the Committee in Session 2006-07 was appended to the Report.
Resolved, That the Report be the Seventh Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chairman make the Report to the House.

7. Scientific Developments Relating to the Abortion Act 1967 Inquiry

Ordered, That the following Memoranda relating to scientific developments relating to the Abortion Act 1967 be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Department of Health; Professor Ellie Lee, University of Kent; Lejeune Clinic for Children with Down’s Syndrome; Dr Stuart Derbyshire, University of Birmingham, School of Psychology; Professor Sally Sheldon, Kent Law School; ProLife Alliance (PLA); Comment on Reproductive Ethics (CORE); Ruth Graham et al, Newcastle University; Family Planning Association; Theresa Lynch; Guild of Catholic Doctors; The BMA; History & Policy; Dr Joel Brind; Professor Rev Robin Gill, University of Kent; Human Bioethics; Royal College of Nursing; Faculty of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care; All-Party Parliamentary Pro-Choice and Sexual Health Group; Medical Research Council; Professor Byron C. Calhoun, West Virginia University; Dr Vincent Argent; Dr Chris Richards and Dr Mark Houghton; Reproductive Health Care; Dr Sam Rowlands, Cape Hill Medical Centre; Dr Hans-Christian Raabe; David Randall; Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists; Professor Patricia Casey; Antenatal Results and Choices (ARC); Brook; CARE; Christian Medical Fellowship; The Lawyers’ Christian Fellowship; Council for Health and Wholeness; Professor John S Wyatt; Dr Alex Bunn; The Maranatha Community; Alive and Kicking; Society for the Protection of Unborn Children; Marie Stopes International; Deirdre O’Reilly; Abortion Rights; Independent Advisory Group on Sexual Health and HIV; LIFE; BPAS; Sally Carson, Nurse; Madeleine Simms; British Association of Perinatal Medicine, and Doctors for a Woman’s Choice on Abortion.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 10 October at 9 am.]

Wednesday 10 October 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Mrs Nadine Dorries
Linda Gilroy
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon

Chris Mole
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Monday 15 October at 4 pm.]
Monday 15 October 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair
Mrs Nadine Dorries
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole
Dr Bob Spink
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Scientific Developments Relating to the Abortion Act 1967 Inquiry

Jane Fisher, Director, Antenatal Results and Choices, Professor Maria Fitzgerald, University College London, Dr Kate Guthrie, Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare, Professor Neil Marlow, President, British Association of Perinatal Medicine, Professor John Wyatt, University College, London, Professor Patricia Casey, University College, Dublin, Dr Ellie Lee, University of Kent, Professor Jane Norman, University of Glasgow, Dr Chris Richards, Newcastle University, and Dr Sam Rowlands, Warwick Medical School, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 17 October at 9 am.

Wednesday 17 October 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair
Mrs Nadine Dorries
Dr Evan Harris
Dr Brian Iddon
Chris Mole
Dr Bob Spink
Graham Stringer
Dr Desmond Turner

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Scientific Developments Relating to the Abortion Act 1967 Inquiry

Dr Vincent Argent, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Dr Tony Calland, Medical Ethics Committee, British Medical Association, Liz Davies, Marie Stopes, Kathy French, Royal College of Nursing, Dr John Flemming, Society for the Protection of
Unborn Children, Anne Quesney, Abortion Rights, Dr Peter Saunders, Alive & Kicking, and Anne Weyman, Family Planning Association, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 23 October at 9 am.

**Tuesday 23 October 2007**

Members present:  
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Adam Afriyie  
Dr Evan Harris  
Dr Brian Iddon  
Chris Mole

Chris Mole  
Dr Bob Spink  
Dr Desmond Turner

1. *The Committee’s programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.


Ian Pearson MP, Minister for Science, and Professor Sir Keith O’Nions, Director General of Science and Innovation, Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 24 October at 9 am.

**Wednesday 24 October 2007**

Members present:  
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair

Mrs Nadine Dorries  
Mr Robert Flego  
Linda Gilroy  
Dr Evan Harris  
Dr Brian Iddon

Chris Mole  
Dr Bob Spink  
Graham Stringer  
Dr Desmond Turner

1. *The Committee’s programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Scientific Developments Relating to the Abortion Act 1967 Inquiry*

Dawn Primarolo MP, Minister for Public Health, Dr Fiona Adshead, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Paula Cohen, Assistant Head of Legal Services, Department of Health, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Monday 29 October at 4 pm.
Monday 29 October 2007

Members present:
Mr Phil Willis, in the Chair
Mrs Nadine Dorries  Chris Mole
Mr Robert Fello  Dr Bob Spink
Linda Gilroy  Graham Stringer
Dr Evan Harris  Dr Desmond Turner
Dr Brian Iddon

1. The Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Scientific Developments Relating to the Abortion Act 1967

The Committee deliberated.

Draft Report (Scientific developments relating to the Abortion Act 1967), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

[The draft Report was agreed to: the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Twelfth Report from the Committee, Session 2006-07, HC 1045-I, p 71.]

3. Legacy Report

The Committee deliberated.

Draft Report (The Last Report), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

[The draft Report was agreed to: the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Thirteenth Report from the Committee, Session 2006-07, HC 1108, p 25.]

[The Committee adjourned.]