

Responding to a government consultation or parliamentary inquiry...

A consultation or inquiry is a call for information and informed opinion on a specific topic. Learned societies, and other stakeholders, respond to a call when it is in their area of interest. Their response will present evidence, and make recommendations, drawn from the experience and expertise of their community.

RSB response process:

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1 Announce intention to respond to relevant consultation/inquiry
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2 Contact RSB members and Member Organisations to seek contributions to a response
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3 Write a draft response and circulate to RSB member community for comment
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4 Make required changes to amend the draft. Agree final wording with our [Council](#), [CEO](#) and [Education and Science Policy Committee](#)
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5 Submit the agreed response to the relevant consulting body and [publish on RSB webpages](#)

Example response:

House of Lords Science and Technology Select Committee inquiry into Life Sciences and the Industrial Strategy (July 2017) → RSB submitted a [response](#) → RSB chief executive was called to [provide oral evidence](#) at the Committee hearing and submit follow-up evidence

The Committee published [its report](#) 'Life Sciences Industrial Strategy: Who's driving the bus?' (April 2018) highlighting the importance of a long term strategy to protect discovery (fundamental) science and recommending Government review training opportunities for scientists and clinicians, echoing [points made by the RSB](#)

The report's first recommendation reflected RSB's call for Government to consider the full breadth of the biosciences in any life sciences strategy

Government published its [response](#) to the Committee's report acknowledging these points but without describing how they would be implemented

Read more about the RSB's activity and impact on this inquiry in our [case study](#)

How you can get involved:

Update your mySociety profile

So we can seek your expertise
Or learn about RSB membership

Contribute to an open consultation

To help us collate your advice
rsb.org.uk/open-consultations

Explore our policy resource library

To read past responses
rsb.org.uk/policylib