

## Data & Research: Working with Policy - Introduction

This module looks at the interactions between researchers and policy-makers, and that effective evidence-based policies need reliable data and good analysis communicated succinctly.

Policies are not only law making, they are also actions that influence strategies or prioritise resource allocation. We look at what policy-makers want from research and hear first-hand from an MP and several experienced scientists who inform policy via the committees and panels they work on.

For the practicalities of engaging with policy makers we look at mechanisms, from developing tools and visualisations, to storytelling, to putting yourself forward into networks and groups that ensure you're in the policy loop.

And finally, we look at the issue of uncertainties, that the question is not 'do we know everything?' but rather 'how can we best make a decision using what we do know?'