



**Note of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Physical Sciences & Engineering Advisory Panel held on 24 January 2019**

- The panel continued to be involved in providing input for the multidisciplinary facility elements of the UKRI Infrastructure Roadmap. Members of the panel had attended a workshop regarding this in June 2018 and would also be attending a further workshop on 29 January 2019.
- The UK Research Excellence Framework 2020 exercise was approaching, for which STFC would provide monetary values attributed to facility beamtime obtained by users
- Professor John Collier gave the panel a presentation and tour of the Central Laser Facility (CLF), which the panel found very interesting and useful.
- STFC provided an update on the preparations for the 2019 UK Spending Review
- STFC had consulted with the community to identify priority projects for future investment. This was to identify ideas which could then be positioned against any opportunities and bids to funding schemes when they arise. A process was being developed to regularly update the list of priority projects and the Advisory Panels would be invited to provide input to this. The Panel noted that sample environment and laser targetry were important areas for the community and the facilities which did not appear to have been covered within the priority projects submitted by the facilities.
- STFC gave an update on the Detectors and Instrumentation Strategic Review. An independent panel had drafted a report containing a number of initial recommendations and the Panel strongly supported these.
- The Panel had provided input to the Skills Balance of Programmes exercise during the last year. The panel noted that Centres for Doctoral Training (CDTs) are very important mechanisms for training and felt it would be advantageous to align the CDTs with the facilities.
- There was a proposal for an independent panel to carry out a review of light sources, covering accelerators, FELs, synchrotrons and detectors. This proposal was at a very early stage but the PSE Advisory Panel suggested that the review should identify any gaps in the provision of light sources and believed that sample environment should be an important consideration for the review.
- The Panel was pleased to hear that there were plans for the Diamond II lattice upgrade as this would positively impact a number of the communities presented by the panel. It was agreed to invite Professor Andrew Harrison, CEO of Diamond Light Source, to give a presentation at the next meeting.