

by Research to Action 2 years ago

# Twitter Q&A: Engagement between Scientists and Politicians

Research to Action hosted a Twitter Q&A which ran in parallel to the University of Manchester's Policy Week session on 'Engagement between Scientists and Politicians' on Friday 6th November 2015.




Live Twitter Q&A Today! [ow.ly/UjNZ1](https://ow.ly/UjNZ1) #PolicyWeek [pic.twitter.com/1LwxlRefuh](https://pic.twitter.com/1LwxlRefuh)

 RESEARCH TO ACTION @RESEARCH2ACTION · 3 YEARS AGO



**CommsConsult**  
@CommsConsultLtd


Get involved with @Research2Action's Twitter Q&A from @UoMPolicy's #policyweek at 1.15pm today! [twitter.com/UoMPolicy/stat...](https://twitter.com/UoMPolicy/stat...)

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**Policy@Manchester**  
@UoMPolicy

Our penultimate session for #PolicyWeek beckons and it's going to be a good one. Do you have a Q on engagement between science and politics?

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**Betty Paton**  
@BettyPaton


Live Twitter Q&A today at 1.15pm on the engagement between politicians and scientists. Join in using #policyweek [ow.ly/UkaPo](https://ow.ly/UkaPo)

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You'd be interested in this debate @Tuhinsen @beryL\_leach - and i'm sure would have plenty of answers! #PolicyWeek pic.twitter.com/TPwC09yCzL

MEGAN LLOYD-LANEY @MEGANLLOYDLANEY · 3 YEARS AGO

 **Laura Constant**  
@LConstant


excited to talk about communicating ideas and evidence btwn scientists and policymakers  
#policyweek [ow.ly/Ui8cw](http://ow.ly/Ui8cw)

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Our Q&A alongside @UoMPolicy #policyweek event starts in 1 hour. Get Ready! [ow.ly/UidCU](http://ow.ly/UidCU)

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 **Research to Action**  
Research2Action

#policyweek event @UoMPolicy with @samillingworth @LucyMPowell @c\_kenny1 @amandabamford about to start [ow.ly/Uib8R](http://ow.ly/Uib8R)

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**Research to Action**

Research to Action

Welcome to all those listening to our Q&A on the engagement between Scientists and politicians...Ques to follow! Join using [#policyweek](#)


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Q1: Is there a lack of engagement between the scientifically and politically minded? [#PolicyWeek](#)  
[pic.twitter.com/x6NW5O1qK9](https://pic.twitter.com/x6NW5O1qK9)

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**Betty Paton**

@BettyPaton

Not always...but I think that often priorities differ and that can cause issues! [#policyweek](#)  
[#scicomms](#) [twitter.com/Research2Actio...](https://twitter.com/Research2Action)

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**Laurie Huggett**

@LaurieAldousG

[@Research2Action](#) engagement is driven by agenda. Evidence must support or dramatically contradict 2 generate interest either way. [#policyweek](#)

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**Farai Samhungu**

@FaraiSamhungu

[@Research2Action](#) [#policyweek](#) Yes in most cases. Different agendas and points of engagement don't always converge

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**Megan Lloyd-Laney**  
@MeganLLoydLaney

Q1 Lack of engagement partly because of completely different incentives [#PolicyWeek](#)

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**Jo Reid**  
@joannareid

[@Research2Action](#) [#policyweek](#) Time issue! Not enough time or rsrch findings too early/too late. Need to monitor & match political entry points

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Q2: Is this lack of engagement due to a divide between scientific method and political action?

[#PolicyWeek](#) [pic.twitter.com/AY9icLlgKv](https://pic.twitter.com/AY9icLlgKv)

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**Laurie Huggett**  
@LaurieAldousG

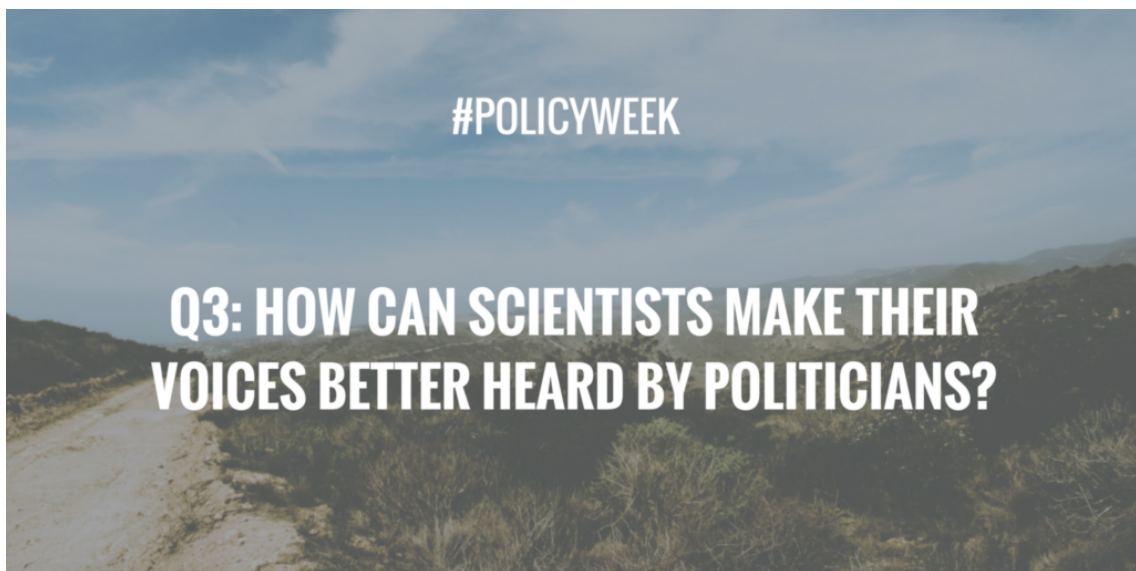
[@Research2Action](#) Points of convergence r there but stay invisible whn we keep our heads down. Both sides need meerkat moments! [#policyweek](#)

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Day 5 of [#PolicyWeek](#) 1.30pm and the level of engagement is still going strong. Fantastic turnout, great panel! [pic.twitter.com/5BdcDxXuHY](https://pic.twitter.com/5BdcDxXuHY)

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Q3: How can scientists make their voices better heard by politicians? [#PolicyWeek](#)  
[pic.twitter.com/p5iakUBPPg](https://pic.twitter.com/p5iakUBPPg)

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**Laurie Huggett**  
@LaurieAldousG

[@Research2Action](#) Find out what they are already listening to. Where are they? There's no point shouting into an empty room. [#policyweek](#)

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**Policy@Manchester**  
@UoMPolicy

[.amandabamford](#) start small, find something small that you could talk to politicians about [#Policyweek](#)

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**Betty Paton**  
@BettyPaton

Innovative methods like multimedia, infographics, animation, cartoons! Daring to be different! [#scicomms](#) [#policyweek](#) [twitter.com/Research2Actio...](https://twitter.com/Research2Action)

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**Nyasha Musandu**  
@NMusandu

[@Research2Action](#) It's a bit of a catch 22 what comes 1st good evidence or engagement? Both actors need to understand each other [#policyweek](#)

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**Jo Reid**  
@joannacreid

[@Research2Action](#) [#policyweek](#) Diff languages, diff sources of info used! Rsrchrs should get on [#socialmedia!](#)

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**Jo Reid**  
@joannacreid

[#policyweek](#) Q3- Learn 'policymaker speak'. Frame messages so they resonate. Make recommendations relevant, specific & actionable.

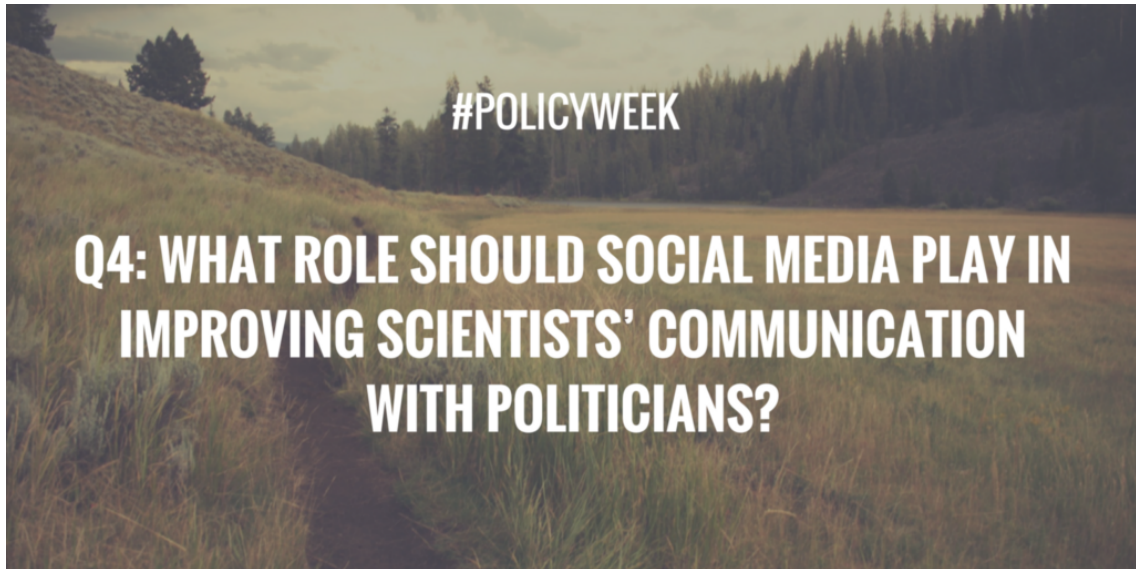
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**Farai Samhungu**  
@FaraiSamhungu

@Research2Action #policyweek Align research to political agendas. Politicians pay attention if research impacts their political outcomes

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Q4: What role should social media play in improving scientists' communication with politicians?  
[#PolicyWeek](#) [pic.twitter.com/nCXjFqzqyt](https://pic.twitter.com/nCXjFqzqyt)

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**Laura Constant**  
@LConstant

what role should social media play? @rjwlkr says do not underestimate its role! way to contact policymakers #policyweek

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**Ingvild Storm**  
@ingvild\_storm

Nearing the end of the #policyweek Q+A - thoughts on this one? Interesting Q!  
[twitter.com/Research2Actio...](https://twitter.com/Research2Action)

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**Policy@Manchester**  
@UoMPolicy

Social media and blogs are great way of engaging. Less dry, more accessible. Great way to bridge gap between scientists and MPs #policyweek

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**Laura Constant**  
@LConstant

blogs are a good way to showcase research to policymakers [@c\\_kenny1](#) [#policyweek](#)

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**Man PG Careers**  
ManPGCareers

Parliamentarians use blogs to get info, more than academic journals - need any more incentive to get blogging? [#policyweek](#)

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Q5: How should the communication of evidence be different to the communication of ideas?

[#PolicyWeek](#) [pic.twitter.com/m5KCRyprlo](https://pic.twitter.com/m5KCRyprlo)

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**Farai Samhungu**  
@FaraiSamhungu

[@Research2Action](#) [#policyweek](#) Q5 requires nuanced understanding of audiences, targeting and distinct channels

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**Sudeep Uprety**  
UpretySudeep

[@Research2Action](#) - comm of evidence- more 'practical' than of ideas as its already tested but ideas could be passing thoughts [#policyweek](#)

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