



## Programme

- 12.45**      **Registration, exhibition and lunchtime refreshments**  
Member's Dining Room & The Long Gallery
- 14:00**      **Speeches and Panel Q&As**  
The Long Gallery
- 14:00**      **Welcome**  
**Dr Steve Aiken OBE MLA**, Chair NI Assembly, All-Party Group on STEM
- 14:05**      **Introduction and welcome**  
**Dr Jo Reynolds**, Director of Science Communities, Royal Society of Chemistry, UK
- 14:15**      **Keynote Address**  
**Dr Marie Cowan**, Director Geological Survey Northern Ireland, UK, and Panel Sessions Chair.  
*Geothermal Energy: an opportunity to decarbonise heat and enable green growth in NI*
- 14.25**      **Panel Session One**  
*Chair:* Dr Marie Cowan, Director Geological Survey Northern Ireland, UK
- Dr Ben Bleasdale**, Director, Discovery Decade project, Campaign for Science and Engineering, UK  
*The Discovery Decade Project: Helping research and innovation reach new public supporters.*
- Professor Helene McNulty MRIA**, Director of the Nutrition Innovation Centre for Food and Health (NICHE), Professor of Human Nutrition and Dietetics, Ulster University, Coleraine, UK  
*Global excellence in nutrition, research and education.*
- Dr Liam O'Hare**, Principal Research Fellow, School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work, Queen's University Belfast, UK  
*Developing social innovation through community and university partnerships: Queen's innovation zone*
- Professor Phil Jordan**, Professor School of Geography and Environmental Sciences, Ulster University, UK  
*The agri-environment: Pathways to research impact*
- Panel Q&A

**15.25**      **TEA BREAK**

**16.00**      **Panel Session Two**

*Chair: Dr Marie Cowan, Director, Geological Survey Northern Ireland*

**Professor Vincent Fusco**, Professor of High Frequency Electronics and Research Director, School of Engineering and Computer Science, Queen's University Belfast, UK

*Ingredients for a research and innovation culture.*

**Rachael Singleton**, Behavioural Scientist, Northern Ireland Innovation Laboratory and STEM Ambassador, UK

*Behavioural science in action: Policy starts with people*

**Professor Ultan Power**, Professor of Molecular Virology, Queen's University Belfast, UK

*Respiratory virus pandemics and endemics: Are we ready?*

**Dr Vicky Kell**, Director of Innovation, Research and Development, Invest NI, UK  
*The Northern Ireland innovation landscape*

Panel Q&A

**17.00**      **MLA Panel**

*Chair: Dr Marie Cowan*

**Dr Steve Aiken OBE MLA**, Chair NI Assembly All-Party Group on STEM

**Dr Caoimhe Archibald MLA**, Vice-chair NI Assembly All-Party Group on STEM

**Sorcha Eastwood MLA**, Member, NI Assembly All-Party Group on STEM

**17.25**      **Closing Remarks**

**Dr Jo Reynolds**, Director of Science Communities, Royal Society of Chemistry, UK

**17.30 – 19.30** **Evening refreshments, drinks reception and exhibition**

Members' Dining Room and The Long Gallery

Please note the programme is subject to change