

# The Science and Engineering Fast Stream (SEFS)

News story

The GSE Profession supports early talent with the SEFS scheme. In this article, we check in with current fast streamers to get their reflections so far.



The Government Science & Engineering (GSE) profession has been supporting new joiners to the civil service through the Science & Engineering Fast Stream Programme. The programme has grown steadily across the years, with ambitions to maintain this growth to ensure every aspect of government is supported by a diverse range of people and skills.

We checked in with our fast streamers to get their reflections on their experience so far.

## **Nick Daly**

The Science and Engineering Fast Stream has so far been a fantastic programme to learn, shape and personally influence the vital role that science and engineering plays in all facets of government. Having started the scheme less than a year ago I have been amazed at the number of professional, social, and volunteering opportunities that we have on offer. This is in addition to having the encouragement and ability to forge our own direction and create a positive impact in areas of interest to each of us, with the support of the GSE community at all levels of seniority.

## **Alisha Barfield**

As someone who was unsure post-university what direction to take, being on the Science and Engineering Fast Stream has allowed me to

combine my interests in both policy and science. It has given me the opportunity to utilise my scientific background to support a broad range of policy making. From tackling climate change to CSA private offices, no 2 days are the same being at the forefront in ensuring evidence is at the heart of policy in government. Additionally, the scheme has enabled me to grow my confidence and skills in order to be a future leader within the civil service.

## **Emily Jane Cramphorn**

Being part of the Science and Engineering Fast Stream is an exceptional opportunity to engage with science in government across all levels. During my time on the scheme I have been able to work directly on the front line of scientific advice and analysis as part of the COVID-19 response, including with senior figures such as the Chief Medical Officer. As a science and engineering fast streamer you are a member of the Government Science and Engineering profession, which provides a unique opportunity to shape the future of science in government and of the fast stream scheme, in addition to ongoing support and professional development opportunities. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the Government Science and Engineering profession and my time on the Science and Engineering Fast Stream, which I would recommend to early career scientists who want to bridge the gap between academia and the 'real world.

## **Tom**

I wanted to join a development scheme which let me stay in touch with my STEM qualifications and skills but gave me responsibility from day one, and a clear trajectory to senior leadership positions. If you're unsure if you think you are what the civil service is after, back yourself and go for it! You'll gain a huge breadth of experience and skills in areas as broad as commercial negotiating and technical leadership, to project management and briefing ministers. If you want to stretch and challenge yourself to be a better leader, this is a great place to start!

To find out more about the Science and Engineering Fast Stream programme, please [visit our site](#).

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