

# The Institution of Environmental Sciences

The professional body for environmental scientists  
 President: His Grace the Duke of Westminster OBE TD DL



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**Our File Ref: 7.5.5**

## **POLICY COMMISSION: CONSULTATION ON THE NEW PRIORITIES BOARD**

**The following are the comments of the Institution of Environmental Sciences**

### **Constitution of and Representation on the Board**

In our view the Board should have the widest possible representation involving producers, suppliers, consumers, environmental interests, research organisations and government.

The IES is a founder member of the newly formed umbrella body for environmental institutions, the Society for the Environment, and would be pleased to nominate a person to the Board to represent environmental interests. We are also closely connected with the environmental sector of higher education in the UK with an interest in the development of research programmes in the sector, as well as having an involvement in training in sustainability issues.

### **Scope of Research**

The remit for the Board should extend to the whole of the UK and a key task should be to identify and prioritise areas of research across a broad spectrum. Ideally this should cover the whole range of farming and food issues and deal with the social, economic, political and environmental aspects (hence all elements affecting sustainability).

Research should be directed to the centres best qualified and able to deliver objective results and would deal, inter alia, with such subjects as the environmental effects of different farming methods, benefits and disadvantages of organic foods and GM foods, the influence of major food distributors on farming methods and food production, etc.

We trust these comments will be helpful.

Dr. R. A. Fuller  
 Institution of Environmental Sciences

August 2002