

# THE PARLIAMENTARY AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

AN ASSOCIATE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

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## **PRESS RELEASE: 7 January 2006**

A meeting of the Committee was held on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2005 in the Grand Committee Room, House of Commons

### **“Risk Management: Should the Precautionary Principle be replaced by Risk-Related Analysis for Individual New Technologies?”**

The invited speakers were as follows:-

**Sir Colin L Berry**

Emeritus Professor of Pathology  
Queen Mary, University of London

**Susan Owens OBE**

Professor of Environment and Policy  
University of Cambridge

Fellow of Newnham College

Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution

**Professor Ragnar Lofsted**

Professor of Risk Management and  
Director of the King's Centre for Risk Management

Disputes and uncertainties are an essential part of the concept of science and are not an indication of disagreements between individuals. Should we therefore improve our ideas and models by testing them to destruction, or are some so potentially dangerous and possibly irreversible in their consequences that we dare not take any action for fear of the unknown? Would it be possible to replace the Precautionary Principle with an analysis of the risks associated with individual new technologies?

**Press Enquiries:**

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**A full report of the meeting will be published in Science in Parliament – Spring Issue 2006**