

## About the MATTER Business Group

*This foresight group will focus on developing a better understanding of the social and ethical aspects of new and emerging technologies relating to business. It will.....*

- *Enrich the understanding and enhance the responsiveness of companies involved in the research, development and application of new technologies*
- *Explore and share knowledge and good practice with other companies in diverse industry sectors.*
- *Provide input to MATTER's thinking and to contribute to our projects where appropriate. The initial focus of its attention is the **Walking with Stakeholders** project through which we will probe the expectations of stakeholders on company engagement & communication about their use of emerging tech, asking what is useful to know & reasonable to ask and work collaboratively with business to reflect on these expectations and explore responses.*

## What happens?

- *Group meets four times a year, for around three hours, in Central London, hosted usually by one of the participants*
- *Each meeting takes a different single theme, often stimulated by a presentation by MATTER or by an outside contributor. A short outline paper will be prepared for each meeting to focus discussion*
- *Member companies will be invited to propose topics to be included in the emerging programme*
- *The meeting will be facilitated by MATTER engagement specialist [Mike King](#). Director [Hilary Sutcliffe](#) will take the lead on developing the content & outcomes*
- *Meeting notes will be agreed but not be made public. But to help catalyse good practice MATTER blog will be used as a vehicle for dissemination of ideas and case studies which arise from these discussions.*
- *MATTER blog will not be subject to agreement (tbc?)*
- *The [Chatham House Rule](#) (non attribution) will be followed in the creation of these communications. However the names of business group members will be transparent on the MATTER [website](#) and MATTER may disclose their involvement in other fora.*
- *This communication also links the Group to MATTER's International Stakeholder Network, a growing body of individuals in civil society organisations, small and large businesses, trade associations, research government & investment interested in knowing about our work.*
- *The Group will also be invited to contribute to relevant MATTER projects where their input will be valuable. Individual companies may also wish to contribute to these by volunteering input from other colleagues within their company.*

## Founding Business Group Members

AstraZeneca  
 College Hill Communications  
 GSK  
 Leatherhead Food Research  
 Marks and Spencer  
 Nestle  
 Nanotechnology Knowledge Transfer Network  
 Unilever