

Colin Pulham



Colin Pulham joined the University of Edinburgh in 1992 as a Royal Society University Research Fellow after graduating with a BA and DPhil in Chemistry from the University of Oxford, followed by a period of postdoctoral research, also at Oxford. He was appointed Professor of High-Pressure Chemistry in 2008 and served as Director of Teaching (2008-2013) and then Head of the School of Chemistry from 2015 to 2022. He is currently Director of Impact and is an elected Member of Senate.

Externally, he has contributed to national research leadership and governance as Chair of the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) Heads of Chemistry UK (2019–2021) and member of its Standing Committee (2016–2022); Chair of the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) Advisory Panel for Public Engagement (2014–2019) and member of the STFC Skills &

Engagement Advisory Board (2014–2018); and various advisory roles with the Diamond Light Source. He has also served on international conference organising committees and as an external examiner for numerous UK and international universities.

His research focuses on the structure and behaviour of molecular materials under high pressure, crystallisation processes, and energy-storage materials. He has published widely and works closely with industry and public sector partners to translate fundamental science into practical applications – a highlight is the development of heat-storage technology for use in residential buildings.

His contributions to research and wider engagement have been recognised by several honours including the Tam Dalyell Prize in 2011 and the RSC Industry–Academia Collaboration Award in 2022. He was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry in 2019.

[Register of Interests](#)

Committee Memberships

- University Court