

**Professor Steven Cowley**  
**Director, Culham Centre for Fusion Energy**

Professor Steven Cowley became the Director of the Culham Centre for Fusion Energy in September 2008 and Chief Executive of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority in November 2009.

After studying at Oxford University and Princeton University, Professor Cowley's post-doctoral work was at Culham laboratory and he returned to Princeton in 1987. He joined the faculty at the University of California Los Angeles in 1993 rising to the rank of Full Professor in 2000. From 2001 to 2003 he led the plasma physics group at Imperial College London. He remains a part time professor at Imperial College. In 2004 he became Co-director of the DOE funded Centre for Multi-scale Plasma Dynamics at UCLA.

His main research interests are: the theory of fusion plasmas, the origin of magnetic fields in the universe, the theory of plasma turbulence and explosive behaviour in both laboratory and astrophysical plasmas. He has published over 100 papers and articles. Professor Cowley co-chaired the US National Academy's decadal assessment of, and outlook for plasma science: *Plasma Science: Advancing Knowledge in the National Interest* (National Academy Press 2007). He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and the Institute of Physics.