

Evaluation of the Academy of Medical Science's Drugsfutures public engagement programme

Final report annexes

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Annex 1

Analysis of launch feedback

Dana Centre, London, 31 January 2007

61 participants; 57 questionnaires completed and returned (94% response rate)

1 How did you hear about the event?

Direct invitation: 29 (51%)
Dana website: 4 (7%)
Other: 26 (46%), including through market research groups, friends, OPM, family, word of mouth and Tower Hamlets Mental Health Organisation.

2 Why did you choose to attend tonight?

Topic: 45 (79%)
Speakers: 1 (2%)
Other: 5 (9%), including they were recruited, were curious, wanted to hear others opinions and had an interest in the project.

3 How much do you work on involving the public in discussing science issues?

A lot: 7 (12%)
To some extent: 12 (21%)
Not much: 16 (28%)
Not at all: 16 (28%)

4 How important do you think it is that the public are involved in these issues?

Very: 40 (70%)
Fairly: 9 (16%)
Not very: 0
Not at all: 0

5 Please rate tonight's event:

	Very poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
Informative	2 (4%)	3 (5%)	9 (16%)	26 (46%)	10 (18%)
Enjoyable	0	0	7 (12%)	22 (39%)	21 (37%)
Stimulating	0	0	5 (9%)	23 (40%)	22 (39%)
Participative	0	0	3 (5%)	24 (42%)	23 (40%)
Overall satisfaction	0	1 (2%)	5 (9%)	28 (49%)	16 (28%)

Notes to table:

- 1 The totals in the table do not add together to create the overall satisfaction figure; respondents were asked the specific question about overall satisfaction.
- 2 One of those who said that the event was 'very poor' in relation to 'informative' also said "but it was not intended to be", so it is not actually a criticism of the event.

6 What did you like most about tonight?

This was an open question. The responses can be categorised / summarised as follows:

- The people there (for discussions, variety of points of view, to share own views with, diversity of people, range of opinions, talking to experts - 1 etc): 18
- Well-facilitated group discussions / group talks: 8
- The acting / plays and the groups discussing with the actors: 5
- It was well-organised: 4
- Learning / getting information (e.g. drug education): 3
- Role play: 2
- Informality / sociable: 2
- Lively / passionate discussions: 2

- Single individuals mentioned the following: "everything", challenge, combination of presentation and discussions, food / interaction /beer, "high level decision-takers taking part and taking engagement seriously"

Comments:

- "Knew more about law on drugs" Retired accountant, age 60+
- "Drug education and further education ... A good discussion on use of drugs and the advantages and disadvantages ... Drug education must be doubled in school level" Banker, age 60
- "Well-facilitated drop-in session. Drugs for a smarter brain" Teacher, age 36 - 45
- "Everybody got an opportunity to participate" Writer, age 36 - 45
- "Table discussions. Wish they had been voice recorded" Video conferencing moderator, age 46 - 60
- "Group talk", age 18 - 25
- "The topics. People's participation. Very good and informative" Nursing / social worker, age 46 - 60
- "The diverse group of people here" College lecturer, age 60+
- "The vast range of people. Informative yet not too formal. It was a very social way to bring views together in an informal manner" Hairdresser, age 46 - 60
- "Discussions were enjoyable" Researcher, age 26 - 35
- "Food and interaction and beer" Pharmacist, 26 - 35
- "Informal interaction" Journalist and pharmacist, age 36 - 45
- "Interesting hearing other points of view" Secretary, age 18 - 25
- "Hearing other points of view and being challenged. Thank you" age 18 - 25
- "Hearing opinions of others" Teacher, age 26 - 35
- "Talking to other participants" Unemployed, age 46 - 60
- "Hearing people's views on drugs. I also enjoyed the play (spot on)! I enjoyed everything thanks. A good night" age 26 - 35
- "Meeting new people and hearing different opinions" Interpreter, age 36 - 45
- "The variety of opinions and room for discussion on various issues / challenging topics. Fully engaging, extremely thought-provoking and a necessary aspect of research (public opinion)" Student, age 18 - 25
- "To meet real people who are talking about tomorrow's problems and doing something about it now" age 46 - 60
- "The opportunity to engage with others at table discussions" Professor of Education, age 60+
- "Good mix of public" Clinical psychologist, age 26 - 35
- "Discussion with such a range of people" Marketing, age 26 - 35
- "Role play. I like the mix of people; a sense of industry pervaded and encouraged participation" Local government, age 46 - 60
- "Group talks" Corporate finance, age 26 - 35
- "Lively discussion / passionate views" Part-time student, age 18 - 25
- "Being able to share my views about drugs/futures" Youth project worker, age 26 - 35
- "The diversity of topics and discussions etc" age 36 - 45
- "Very prevalent visitor participation theory" Young person's adviser [no age given]
- "The performance / group talk" College, age 18 - 25
- "The acting and the conversation sessions at the café" Student, age 18 - 25
- "The actors. Overall I thought the evening was very enjoyable" Credit controller, age 46 - 60
- "Role plays" Site worker, age 26 - 35
- "Good participation. Very good acting" Civil servant, age 46 - 60
- "The discussions and the play very informative. Excellent work, very good. You have opened my mind on issues I didn't know. Thank you" Sales assistant, age 26 - 35
- "Good fun and very interesting" age 26 - 35
- "Combination of discussion and presentation" [no details]
- "That high level decision makers took part and are taking public engagement seriously. Excellent event" Charity [Wellcome], age 26 - 35
- "Well organised" IT support, 46 - 60
- "Organisation. Meeting other people" Fitness instructor / personal trainer, age 26 - 35

"I thought it was good" Sales person, 36 - 45

"Speaking to very knowledgeable researchers and scientists" Recruitment consultant, 18 - 25

"Voting" Web designer, age 18 - 25

"Was a good night" Engineer / mentor, age 26 - 35

"Topics and the way event and contents organised. Good debate and shared views. Very well organised"
Teacher, age 60+

7 What did you like least about tonight?

This was also an open question. The responses can be categorised / summarised as follows:

- Discussion too short to explore issues in depth: 8
- Not clear about activities until later: 3
- Question 2 of the final questions: 3
- Too much time given to the play / performance: 4 (including that the acting was "pointless": 1, that the outcome of the play was predetermined: 1, and that it just took up too much time: 2)
- No discussion of why people taking drugs / causes of drug-taking: 2
- Single individuals mentioned the following: "nothing", event controlled to bolster status quo, start time [not sure if too early or too late], lack of recording of discussion upstairs, climbing stairs

Comments:

"Round table just getting going and it finished ... too short. Acting pointless - sorry, well done and all that but it just didn't work for me" Teacher, age 36 - 45

"The performance - it served a purpose and the acting was good but more time could have been spent discussing topics" Marketing, age 26 - 35

"Time constraints on discussions (admittedly there's no other way" Part-time student, age 18 - 25

"Not enough time to explore issues in depth" Unemployed, age 46 - 60

"Not enough time spent on discussion tables. In sessions A - D I thought we were meant to talk the actors out of the opinions they had; it wasn't until part 2 it was made what I should do" Recruitment consultant, 18 - 25

"The amount of time given to the play was not worth it with respect to the outcome. But I grasp and recognise the role of the play to [not sure from handwriting here] into debate those less comfortable with more formal table debates. Well-organised - but I'm not sure the acting helped us, while it amused us. It was clear but [again unclear writing] - script in the 2nd and 3rd sessions was already fairly pre-determined"
Professor of Education, age 60+

"Too short - needs to be longer to be productive" [no details]

"Not enough time" IT, age 36 - 45

"D studio discussions were so short" Charity, 26 - 35

"Couldn't hear all the talks. Would have liked more time" Student, age 18 - 25

"The event was I feel construed to maintain and bolster the status quo. Question 2 was fixed to the point of medical approval which may be wrong" age 36 - 45

"Question 2 of final questions" Teacher, age 26 - 35

"2nd question was RUBBISH!" EA - Department of Health, age 26 - 35

"Didn't get a chance to hear all the talks" age 18 - 25

"Lack of recording facilities at upstairs tables" Video conferencing moderator, age 46 - 60

"The start time - 7.30pm is the earliest time to attend for people who work" College lecturer, age 60+

"A dominance of 'consequential' questions i.e. what happens if you; rather than 'cause' questions i.e. why did you do that? Please don't fund 'life reducing' drugs (sold as life enhancing) to 'progress' humanity" Young person's adviser [no age given]

"No discussion about why people are taking drugs. Who benefits from increased taking of drugs?" Guidance practitioner, age 26 - 35

"Quite enjoyed the debate, although there is a sense that it is 'they' out there who take drugs, not it is us - so why are we consulted on it?" Researcher, age 26 - 35

"Insufficient time to discuss complex issues" Clinical psychologist, age 26 - 35

"Didn't know what was going on at the beginning. More multi choice at the end" Pharmacist, 26 - 35

"Not quite knowing what was going to happen" Journalist and pharmacist, age 36 - 45

"The table talks" Student, age 18 - 25

"The fact everyone thinks by tackling drugs through education is forgetting parents" Web designer, age 18 - 25

"Too few public, too many experts at our table" Civil servant, age 46 - 60

"The parking" age 46 - 60

"Climbing stairs" Local government, age 46 - 60

"Having to stay to the end" Site worker, age 26 - 35

"I would like more in depth information" age 46 - 60

8 Other comments

This open question was only answered by a few, as follows:

- Very interesting / thought provoking: 4
- Enjoyed it / very enjoyable: 3
- Excellent / good event: 3
- "Thanks": 2
- Very well-organised: 1
- Needed more in depth information: 1
- Needed more multi-choice at the end: 1

9 Information about the participants

Gender

Female	24 (42%)
Male	29 (51%)

Age

18 - 25	10 (18%)
26 - 35	17 (30%)
36 - 45	8 (14%)
46 - 60	13 (23%)
60 +	4 (7%)

Ethnic background

White British	24 (42%)
White other	5 (9%)
Asian or Asian British	6 (11%)
Black or Black British	12 (21%)
Mixed	1 (2%)
Other	2 (4%)

Annex 2

Analysis of outreach workshop questionnaires

Combined analysis of 3 outreach workshops:

Glasgow, 2 March 2007: 14 questionnaires from 15 participants

Belfast, 9 March 2007: 11 questionnaires from 20 participants

Merthyr Tydfil, 23 March 2007: 9 questionnaires from 27 participants

Total participants at these workshops = 62

Total questionnaires returned = 34 (55%)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The facilitator explained the purpose of the discussion clearly	18 (53%)	15 (44%)	-	-	-	-
There was enough time for me to say everything I wanted to	16 (47%)	16 (47%)	-	1 (3%)	-	1 (3%)
It is clear to me how the results of this process will be collected and used	9 (26%)	15 (44%)	6 (18%)	2 (6%)	-	1 (3%)
I believe that the people who commissioned this event will take notice of the results	11 (32%)	15 (44%)	6 (18%)	1 (3%)	-	1 (3%)
I enjoyed taking part	17 (50%)	15 (44%)	1 (3%)	1 (3%)	-	-
I learnt something I did not know before	13 (38%)	10 (29%)	6 (18%)	3 (9%)	-	1 (3%)
Attending this event has helped me think more clearly about these issues	11 (32%)	20 (59%)	1 (3%)	1 (3%)	-	-
Attending this event has reinforced the views I already had	5 (15%)	18 (53%)	7 (20%)	2 (6%)	1 (3%)	1 (3%)
Attending this event has made no difference to my views	2 (6%)	4 (12%)	10 (29%)	11 (32%)	5 (15%)	1 (3%)
I changed my views as a result of attending this event	2 (6%)	11 (32%)	10 (29%)	7 (21%)	2 (6%)	1 (3%)

1 What was the best part of the event you attended?

- Hearing others views / experiences: 8
- Open discussions: 7
- Giving own views / experiences: 6
- All of it: 5
- Learning: 2

2 What was the worst thing about the event?

- Nothing: 12

3 What would improve events like this?

- Nothing: 5
- Wider range / more people: 4

4 What was the most important aspect, for you, of taking part in this event?

- Learning / knowledge: 10
- Give views / be heard: 5
- Able to think through views: 4

Your views on being involved

5 Have you ever been involved in this type of consultation before?

A lot	5 (15%)
Quite a few times	6 (18%)
Not much	11 (32%)
Never	12 (35%)
Don't know	-

6 How important do think it is to involve the public in discussing these sorts of issues?

Very important	26 (76%)
Fairly important	8 (24%)
Not very important	-
Not at all important	-
Don't know	-

7 Do you think there should be more events for the public to discuss these sorts of issues?

Yes	32 (94%)
No	-
Don't know	2 (6%)

8 Has being involved in this process made it more likely that you will want to get involved in these sorts of events in future?

Much more likely	26 (76%)
A bit more likely	4 (12%)
No difference	4 (12%)
Less likely	-
A lot less likely	-

Your views on drugs

9 How do you think we should deal with illegal drug use in this country?

As a crime problem	4 (12%)
As a health problem	6 (18%)
As both a health problem and a crime problem	23 (68%)
In other ways (please say how)	4 (12%)

10 Which of the following do you think is the most effective way of preventing young people from getting involved in drug use?

Education and information	21 (62%)
Prevention measures such as random drug testing in schools	9 (26%)
Harsher penalties for drug use	7 (21%)
Family support services	12 (35%)
Other ways (please specify)	4 (12%)

Information about the participants

Gender

Female	19 (56%)
Male	15 (44%)

Ethnic background

White British	32 (94%)
White other	-
Asian or Asian British	-
Black or Black British	-
Mixed	-
Other	-

Age

18 - 25	17 (50%)
26 - 35	5 (15%)
36 - 45	11 (31%)
46 - 60	1 (3%)
60 +	-

Glasgow outreach: 2 March 2007

Three groups with a total of 15 participants; total of 14 questionnaires returned

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The facilitator explained the purpose of the discussion clearly	10 (71%)	4 (29%)	-	-	-	-
There was enough time for me to say everything I wanted to	9 (64%)	4 (29%)	-	-	-	1 (7%)
It is clear to me how the results of this process will be collected and used	3 (21%)	8 (57%)	3 (21%)	-	-	-
I believe that the people who commissioned this event will take notice of the results	3 (21%)	7 (50%)	4 (29%)	-	-	-
I enjoyed taking part	7 (50%)	7 (50%)	-	-	-	-
I learnt something I did not know before	6 (43%)	3 (21%)	3 (21%)	1 (7%)	-	1 (7%)
Attending this event has helped me think more clearly about these issues	5 (36%)	7 (50%)	-	1 (7%)	-	-
Attending this event has reinforced the views I already had	1 (7%)	5 (36%)	6 (43%)	2 (14%)	-	-
Attending this event has made no difference to my views	1 (7%)	5 (36%)	6 (43%)	2 (14%)	-	-
I changed my views as a result of attending this event	-	7 (50%)	4 (29%)	1 (7%)	1 (7%)	1 (7%)

1 What was the best part of the event you attended?

- Open / structured discussions: 7
- Hearing others views: 5
- One mention each of: interesting topic, new ideas, relaxed atmosphere, joint conclusions

"Hearing issues raised that I had previously given little thought to"

"Discussing performance enhancing drugs"

"I enjoyed finding out different people's opinions on matters discussed and trying to make decisions as a group on what we thought"

"Discussion on how drugs are currently viewed and in the future"

"Having open discussions"

"Interesting topic - enjoyed hearing others' views"

"Stimulating discussion"

"Listening to others"

"The general discussion on who reserves the right to choose which members of the public are allowed to take drugs"

"Relaxed atmosphere"

2 What was the worst thing about the event?

- Nothing: 5
- One mention each of: room, not enough time to cover issues, giving up own time, not enough people

"Not having enough time to explore the different issues covered"

"Sometimes the debate didn't flow as smoothly but this didn't happen often and generally it was good"

"Not enough people"

"Nothing. Really enjoyed it"
 "No complaints about the event"

3 What would improve events like this?

- Refreshments: 2
- Wider range of people: 2
- One mention each of: more of them, nothing, more facts, better publicity, larger group to get more opinions

"Just looking forward to the outcome of today and the views gathered"

"Maybe a bigger range of people - there were 5 boys and only 1 girl"

"A bigger group in order to get more opinions"

"There being more [of them]"

"No improvement needed"

"A mix of parents, doctors, politicians"

"Possibly few small groups discuss certain topics e.g. one group looks at pros, others at cons and then discuss later"

4 What was the most important aspect, for you, of taking part in this event?

- Able to think through views and issues: 4
- Lets you give views and be heard: 3
- Learning / knowledge: 2
- One mention each of: making a contribution, listening to others, being part of the process, confirmation of own view, enjoyable discussion, communication between government and people

"To find out what it was about and talk about my views. There's always room to learn"

"Having a proper think about where the world's heading in relation to drugs and hearing other people's views"

"It was an enjoyable discussion"

"This is a form of communication between government and public and its important for this to happen often"

"Learning and being able to formulate an opinion on the subject"

"Lets you air your views"

"Making a contribution"

"Able to think through views"

"Thinking about the issues"

"Getting my view heard"

"Listening"

"Being part of the process"

"Learning about drugs"

"Confirmation of my own views"

Your views on being involved

5 Have you ever been involved in this type of consultation before?

A lot	-
Quite a few times	2 (14%)
Not much	6 (43%)
Never	6 (43%)
Don't know	-

6 How important do think it is to involve the public in discussing these sorts of issues?

Very important	12 (86%)
Fairly important	2 (14%)
Not very important	-
Not at all important	-
Don't know	-

7 Do you think there should be more events for the public to discuss these sorts of issues?

Yes	14 (100%)
No	-
Don't know	-

8 Has being involved in this process made it more likely that you will want to get involved in these sorts of events in future?

Much more likely	13 (93%)
A bit more likely	-
No difference	1 (7%)
Less likely	-
A lot less likely	-

Your views on drugs

9 How do you think we should deal with illegal drug use in this country?

As a crime problem	1 (7%)
As a health problem	1 (7%)
As both a health problem and a crime problem	11 (79%)
In other ways (please say how)	3 (21%)

10 Which of the following do you think is the most effective way of preventing young people from getting involved in drug use?

Education and information	11 (79%)
Prevention measures such as random drug testing in schools	-
Harsher penalties for drug use	1 (7%)
Family support services	6 (43%)
Other ways (please specify)	1 (7%)

Information about the participants

Gender

Female	6 (43%)
Male	8 (57%)

Ethnic background

18 - 25	6 (43%)
26 - 35	3 (21%)
36 - 45	5 (36%)
46 - 60	-
60 +	-

Age

White British	13 (93%)
White other	-
Asian or Asian British	-

Black or Black British	-
Mixed	-
Other	-

Belfast outreach: 9 March 2007

Two groups with a total of 20 participants; total of 11 questionnaires returned

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The facilitator explained the purpose of the discussion clearly	5 (45%)	6 (55%)	-	-	-	-
There was enough time for me to say everything I wanted to	5 (45%)	6 (55%)	-	-	-	-
It is clear to me how the results of this process will be collected and used	5 (45%)	2 (18%)	2 (18%)	1 (9%)	-	1 (9%)
I believe that the people who commissioned this event will take notice of the results	5 (45%)	5 (45%)	1 (9%)	-	-	-
I enjoyed taking part	5 (45%)	5 (45%)	1 (9%)	-	-	-
I learnt something I did not know before	3 (27%)	3 (27%)	3 (27%)	1 (9%)	-	-
Attending this event has helped me think more clearly about these issues	3 (27%)	8 (73%)	-	-	-	-
Attending this event has reinforced the views I already had	3 (27%)	6 (55%)	-	-	1 (9%)	1 (9%)
Attending this event has made no difference to my views	1 (9%)	3 (27%)	4 (36%)	2 (18%)	1 (9%)	-
I changed my views as a result of attending this event	1 (9%)	3 (27%)	4 (36%)	2 (18%)	1 (9%)	-

1 What was the best part of the event you attended?

- All of it: 5
- Giving own views / experience: 4
- "Laughing at Ryan": 2
- One mention each of: hearing others' views

"How they asked us our experiences with drugs and how they asked about what could be done about how drugs affect the community"

"Best part was getting my view across on drugs"

"Talking about what I think and listening to other people's thoughts"

2 What was the worst thing about the event?

- Nothing: 5
- One mention each of: too many people there, being bored

3 What would improve events like this?

- Nothing: 4
- Fewer people: 2
- One mention each of: wider range of topics i.e. family, crime.

4 What was the most important aspect, for you, of taking part in this event?

- Learning / knowledge: 4
- One mention each of: influence, everything, giving own opinion

"So that maybe could make a difference on the way people treat people who take drugs"

"Saying my opinion on drugs"

Your views on being involved

5 Have you ever been involved in this type of consultation before?

A lot	5 (45%)
Quite a few times	3 (27%)
Not much	3 (27%)
Never	-
Don't know	-

6 How important do think it is to involve the public in discussing these sorts of issues?

Very important	6 (55%)
Fairly important	5 (45%)
Not very important	-
Not at all important	-
Don't know	-

7 Do you think there should be more events for the public to discuss these sorts of issues?

Yes	10 (91%)
No	-
Don't know	1 (9%)

8 Has being involved in this process made it more likely that you will want to get involved in these sorts of events in future?

Much more likely	6 (55%)
A bit more likely	2 (18%)
No difference	3 (27%)
Less likely	-
A lot less likely	-

Your views on drugs

9 How do you think we should deal with illegal drug use in this country?

As a crime problem	3 (27%)
As a health problem	3 (27%)
As both a health problem and a crime problem	5 (45%)
In other ways (please say how)	1 (9%)

10 Which of the following do you think is the most effective way of preventing young people from getting involved in drug use?

Education and information	3 (27%)
Prevention measures such as random drug testing in schools	6 (55%)
Harsher penalties for drug use	3 (27%)
Family support services	2 (18%)
Other ways (please specify)	1 (9%)

Information about the Belfast outreach participants

Gender

Female	7 (64%)
Male	4 (36%)

Ethnic background

White British	10 (91%)
White other	-
Asian or Asian British	-
Black or Black British	-
Mixed	-
Other	-

Age

18 - 25	11 (100%)
26 - 35	-
36 - 45	-
46 - 60	-
60 +	-

Merthyr Tydfil outreach: 23 March 2007

Three groups with a total of 27 participants; total of 9 questionnaires returned

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The facilitator explained the purpose of the discussion clearly	3 (33%)	5 (56%)	-	-	-	-
There was enough time for me to say everything I wanted to	2 (22%)	6 (67%)	-	1 (11%)	-	-
It is clear to me how the results of this process will be collected and used	1 (11%)	5 (56%)	1 (11%)	1 (11%)	-	-
I believe that the people who commissioned this event will take notice of the results	3 (33%)	3 (33%)	1 (11%)	1 (11%)	-	1 (11%)
I enjoyed taking part	5 (56%)	3 (33%)	-	1 (11%)	-	-
I learnt something I did not know before	4 (44%)	4 (44%)	-	1 (11%)	-	-
Attending this event has helped me think more clearly about these issues	3 (33%)	5 (56%)	1 (11%)	-	-	-
Attending this event has reinforced the views I already had	1 (11%)	7 (78%)	1 (11%)	-	-	-
Attending this event has made no difference to my views	-	1 (11%)	3 (33%)	3 (33%)	2 (22%)	-
I changed my views as a result of attending this event	1 (11%)	1 (11%)	2 (22%)	4 (44%)	-	-

1 What was the best part of the event you attended?

- Others views and experience: 3
- Learning: 2
- Chance to give own views: 2

"Sitting and listening to other people's views of their illnesses apart from my own and learnt something from it"

"Very impressed with discussion and the respect of all members concerned"

"Mental health issues. I learned about research that I didn't know about"

"Hearing people's experiences of mental health treatment and the difficulty of finding the right medication"

"Being with people who understand what I went through"

"Listening to other people's experiences"

"Being able to say my viewpoints"

"Talking about the lack of activity facilities in the Aberdare region etc"

"It was very interesting with things that could be brought out in future"

2 What was the worst thing about the event?

- Nothing: 2

"Sitting for long periods of time, time which I find hard to do and there was a lot of interesting things put over"

"Discussion about injecting babies against having mental health illnesses. We felt that we were left to do all the talking. Not focused on drug issues."

"Learning that they're thinking of bringing out drugs for shyness and such like"

"Nothing it was all positive but disagree with some issues over medication."

"A lot to take in"

"Getting people to discuss their anxieties"

"Some of it was difficult to understand"

3 What would improve events like this?

- More people should get involved: 2

"Working more together and discussing and doing courses on these type of problems rather than just go to a centre and know you've got a problem and if there was a course put up on our illnesses we could understand more"

"More developments and studies that were discussed and the theory of all aspects continually progressed"

"Felt that the facilitator had a poor knowledge of drug indications - this did not show through the discussion"

"More information before course starts so you know what's going to be discussed"

"If more people would get involved"

"Having a break half way"

"Getting more input from people. To create more job prospects and amenities"

"More information to the public about illnesses so they don't look at you different and call you names"

4 What was the most important aspect, for you, of taking part in this event?

- Learning / knowledge: 4
- Putting own views forward / being listened to: 2

"Well I learnt a lot from attending the meeting and as I said if they took time to do a course on our mental health. So I did hear quite a bit"

"To understand both physiological and mental stress related to conversations in all matters of meeting"

"Enjoyed the group discussion and raised awareness of mental health issues"

"Thinking of ways to take away the stigma of mental health"

"Having views listened to"

"Putting my views forward"

"This event could help people"

"Ridiculing drug taking in society"

"I know now that the different medication for different illnesses. Was interesting because I never heard of some of the tablets before"

Your views on being involved

5 Have you ever been involved in this type of consultation before?

A lot	-
Quite a few times	1 (11%)
Not much	2 (22%)
Never	1 (67%)
Don't know	-

6 How important do think it is to involve the public in discussing these sorts of issues?

Very important	8 (89%)
Fairly important	1 (11%)
Not very important	-
Not at all important	-
Don't know	-

7 Do you think there should be more events for the public to discuss these sorts of issues?

Yes	8 (89%)
No	-
Don't know	1 (11%)

8 Has being involved in this process made it more likely that you will want to get involved in these sorts of events in future?

Much more likely	7 (78%)
A bit more likely	2 (22%)
No difference	-
Less likely	-
A lot less likely	-

Your views on drugs

9 How do you think we should deal with illegal drug use in this country? (Please tick next to the answer that best reflects your views)

As a crime problem	-
As a health problem	2 (22%)
As both a health problem and a crime problem	7 (78%)
In other ways (please say how)	-

10 Which of the following do you think is the most effective way of preventing young people from getting involved in drug use?

Education and information	7 (78%)
Prevention measures such as random drug testing in schools	3 (33%)
Harsher penalties for drug use	3 (33%)
Family support services	4 (44%)
Other ways (please specify)	2 (22%)

Information about the participants

Gender

Female	6 (67%)
Male	3 (33%)

Ethnic background

White British	9 (100%)
White other	-
Asian or Asian British	-
Black or Black British	-
Mixed	-
Other	-

Age

18 - 25	-
26 - 35	2 (22%)
36 - 45	6 (67%)
46 - 60	1 (11%)
60 +	-

Annex 3

Analysis of regional workshop questionnaires

Combined analysis of all five regional workshops:

Liverpool, 17 February 2007: 36 questionnaires (out of 38 participants) = 95%

Exeter, 24 February 2007: 33 questionnaires (out of 33 participants) = 100%

Glasgow, 3 March 2007: 26 questionnaires (out of 28 participants) = 95%

Belfast, 10 March 2007: 33 questionnaires (out of 41 participants) = 81%

Merthyr Tydfil, 24 March 2007: 37 questionnaires (out of 40 participants) = 93%

Total workshop participants = 180; Total questionnaires returned = 165 (92%)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree / don't know	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The information provided was fair and balanced	(47) 28%	(99) 60%	(10) 6%	(5) 3%	(1) 1%
I would have liked more information in advance	(16) 10%	(64) 39%	(42) 26%	(32) 19%	(4) 2%
The experts were helpful and clear	(72) 44%	(81) 49%	(7) 4%	(1) 1%	
I have been able to discuss the issues that concern me	(47) 28%	(91) 55%	(20) 12%	(6) 4%	
There was enough time for me to say everything I wanted to	(51) 31%	(89) 54%	(12) 8%	(11) 7%	(1) 1%
It is clear to me how the results of this process will be collected and used	(41) 25%	(80) 48%	(27) 17%	(10) 6%	(2) 1%
The results of the debate genuinely reflected the discussions we had	(53) 32%	(93) 56%	(13) 8%	(2) 1%	(1) 1%
I believe that the people who commissioned this event will take notice of the results	(50) 30%	(83) 50%	(30) 18%	(4) 2%	
The event was well organised and well structured	(71) 43%	(80) 48%	(6) 4%	(1) 1%	
I enjoyed taking part	(87) 53%	(65) 39%	(9) 5%		
I learnt something I did not know before	(69) 42%	(79) 48%	(8) 5%	(7) 4%	(1) 1%
Attending this event has helped me think more clearly about these issues	(75) 45%	(69) 42%	(12) 8%	(2) 1%	
Attending this event has reinforced the views I already had	(39) 24%	(68) 41%	(35) 22%	(9) 5%	(2) 1%
Attending this event made no difference to my views	(10) 6%	(27) 16%	(42) 25%	(48) 29%	(16) 10%
I changed my views as a result of attending this event	(17) 10%	(39) 24%	(62) 38%	(21) 13%	(8) 5%

How do you feel about the event overall?

1 Did the event meet your expectations / deliver what you hoped?

Completely: (65) 39%
Mostly: (70) 42%
Partly: (19) 12%
Not really: (3) 2%
Not at all: 0%

2 How satisfied were you with the briefing materials / information you received?

Very satisfied: (82) 50%
Fairly satisfied: (76) 46%
Not very satisfied: (2) 1%
Not at all satisfied: (1) 1%

3 How satisfied were you with the structure and organisation of the event?

Very satisfied: (110) 67%
Fairly satisfied: (49) 30%
Not very satisfied: (3) 2%
Not at all satisfied: 0%

4 What was the best part of the event you attended / what worked best?

- Group discussions: (38) 23%
- Other views: (22) 13%
- Polling / voting: (14) 8%
- Group presentations: (11) 7%
- Whole thing enjoyable / everything: (9) 5%
- Expert input: (8) 5%
- Diversity of people: (7) 4%
- Views listened to: (4) 2%
- Others experiences of problems: (2) 1%

5 What was the worst thing about the event / what worked least well?

- Nothing: (26) 16%
- Food / refreshments: (17) 10%
- Making presentations: (8) 5%
- Too long: (17) 10%
- People going off subject / interrupting: (3) 2%

6 What would improve events like this?

- Nothing: (14) 8%
- More regular events / more events like this: (6) 4%
- More information (especially in advance): (10) 6%

7 What was the most important aspect, for you, of taking part in this event?

- Having my views heard / giving views: (32) 19%
- Learning, knowledge and understanding: (40) 24%
- Interaction / group discussions: (10) 6%
- Other views / opinions: (23) 14%

Views on being involved

8 Have you ever been involved in this type of consultation before?

A lot: (5) 3%
Quite a few times: (20) 12%
Not much: (40) 24%
Never: (95) 58%
Don't know: (1) 1%

9 How important do you think it is to involve the public in discussing these sorts of issues?

Very important: (138) 84%
Fairly important: (23) 14%
Not very important: 0%
Not at all important: 0%

10 Do you think there should be more events for the public to discuss these sorts of issues?

Yes: (159) 96%
No: 0%

11 Has being involved in this process made it more likely that you will want to get involved in these sorts of events in future?

Much more likely: (111) 67%
A bit more likely: (38) 23%
No difference: (8) 5%
Less likely: (3) 2%
A lot less likely: 0%

What do you think of the resources provided?

12 Which resources were most useful to you?

Briefing notes on the topic: (50) 30%
The scenarios: (44) 27%
Information from experts: (96) 58%
Information from the website: (8) 5%
Discussions: (3) 2%

13 Can you give an example of a specific piece of information that you remember as particularly useful or interesting?

- Alzheimers information: (14) 2%
- Soldiers taking cognition enhancing drugs: (4) 2%
- Drug addiction affects 10,000 other peoples lives: (2) 1%
- Idea of testing for possible addiction: (3) 2%
- Liverpool highest in the country for Class A drug use: (3) 2%

14 Who do you trust most to provide you with information on these topics?

Friends: (47) 28%
Health professionals (e.g. doctors and nurses): (104) 63%
Media (TV or newspapers): (9) 5%
Academics: (39) 24%
Family: (38) 23%
I don't trust anyone to give me information on these topics: (1) 1%

Information about the participants

Gender

Female	(88) 53%
Male	(73) 44%

Ethnic background

White British	(136) 82%
White other	(8) 5%
Asian or Asian British	0%
Black or Black British	(7) 4%
Mixed	(4) 2%

Age

16 - 24	(36) 22%
25 - 39	(50) 30%
40 - 54	(47) 28%
55 - 65	(19) 12%
65 +	(5) 3%

Liverpool: Drugs and law workshop, 17 February 2007

Total of 36 questionnaires returned (out of 38 participants) = 95%

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The information provided was fair and balanced	(20) 56%	(16) 44%				
I would have liked more information in advance	(3) 8%	(14) 39%	(9) 25%	(7) 19%		
The experts were helpful and clear	(24) 67%	(12) 33%				
I have been able to discuss the issues that concern me	(17) 47%	(18) 50%	(1) 3%			
There was enough time for me to say everything I wanted to	(12) 33%	(20) 56%	(2) 6%	(2) 6%		
It is clear to me how the results of this process will be collected and used	(13) 36%	(20) 56%	(2) 6%			
The results of the debate genuinely reflected the discussions we had	(17) 47%	(18) 50%			(1) 3%	
I believe that the people who commissioned this event will take notice of the results	(14) 39%	(19) 53%	(3) 8%			
The event was well organised and well structured	(19) 53%	(15) 42%		(1) 3%		
I enjoyed taking part	(24) 67%	(11) 31%				
I learnt something I did not know before	(21) 58%	(10) 28%	(2) 6%	(2) 6%		
Attending this event has helped me think more clearly about these issues	(20) 56%	(15) 42%	(1) 3%			
Attending this event has reinforced the views I already had	(9) 25%	(20) 56%	(4) 11%	(1) 3%		
Attending this event made no difference to my views	(2) 6%	(5) 14%	(12) 33%	(9) 25%	(3) 8%	(2) 6%
I changed my views as a result of attending this event	(6) 17%	(7) 19%	(17) 47%	(3) 8%	(1) 3%	(1) 3%

How do you feel about the event overall?

1 Did the event meet your expectations / deliver what you hoped?

Completely: (21) 58%
 Mostly: (14) 39%
 Partly: (1) 3%
 Not really: 0%
 Not at all: 0%

2 How satisfied were you with the briefing materials / information you received?

Very satisfied: (22) 61%
Fairly satisfied: (14) 39%
Not very satisfied: 0%
Not at all satisfied: 0%

3 How satisfied were you with the structure and organisation of the event?

Very satisfied: (28) 78%
Fairly satisfied: (7) 19%
Not very satisfied: (1) 3%
Not at all satisfied: 0%

4 What was the best part of the event you attended / what worked best?

- Group discussions: (11) 31%
- Getting others' views: (9) 25%
- All of it: (5) 14%
- Doing presentations: (2) 6%
- Polling: (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each):

- Guest speakers
- Outcome
- Taking part

"Enjoyed debating important issues and feeling like my opinion counted"

"Real eye opener - learnt a lot"

"Being educated about an area I had not really known much about"

"Discussing topical issues with people who I wouldn't necessarily speak to in my normal life"

"Everything was very informative so could not pick out one particular part"

5 What was the worst thing about the event / what worked least well?

- Nothing: (10) 28% (plus (2) 6% who said "enjoyed everything")
- Went on too long: (4) 11%
- Length of event: (2) 6% [not sure if too long or too short]
- Food: (2) 6%
- Group presentations: (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each):

- Size of groups
- Having to stop for breaks [enjoying it so much]
- Room (no windows)
- Tiring
- Sitting too long
- People getting confused / mixed up over questions

"Nothing. I really enjoyed it"

"Cross conversation e.g. people talking while others are putting forward a point"

"Payment should be more"

6 What would improve events like this?

- Nothing: (4) 11% (plus 6% who said "everything fine")
- Room: (2) 6% (stuffy, no windows)
- More time: (2) 6%
- Shorter (discussions): (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each):

- Food
- More intensive debate
- Less time on ice-breakers
- Few more fun tasks
- Keep active - role play?
- Less paper work
- More of these events
- More information in advance
- Make it over 2 days
- Knowing the schedule beforehand

- More feedback on results of events similar to this
- More organisations attending (to give information)
- More voting opportunities

"Chairperson controlling the input"

"Making more time for a subject of this importance to be discussed. One day is not enough. Too many issues pushed into too small a time. Should be spread over a few days"

7 What was the most important aspect, for you, of taking part in this event?

- Having my views listened to / being heard / able to voice opinion: (12) 33%
- Learning / awareness about drugs: (4) 11%
- Diversity of people attending: (4) 11%
- Listening to others' views: (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each):

- Listening to experts with real experience
- Taking part
- Talking to people close to drug-related issues
- Group presentations
- Punishments for drug use
- Police action
- Changes in drug use

"Giving input for my community"

"Everyone was centred on improving or attempting to resolve drug problems"

"Being able to contribute to something as important as this"

"Being honest with other about my views"

"My attitude to drug users / addicts has been modified. I feel I am able to approach people and talk openly with them"

"To give my view on each and every point"

"The variation of personalities present, with good views on all subjects discussed"

"To speak about my opinions and to clarify them"

"Most important aspect for me was finding out the punishments for drug use. Also what the police input is, and how hard their job really is"

"Finding out a lot of information which didn't already know"

Views on being involved

8 Have you ever been involved in this type of consultation before?

A lot: (2) 6%
 Quite a few times: (4) 11%
 Not much: (9) 25%
 Never: (21) 58%

9 How important do you think it is to involve the public in discussing these sorts of issues?

Very important: (32) 89%
 Fairly important: (4) 11%
 Not very important: 0%
 Not at all important: 0%

10 Do you think there should be more events for the public to discuss these sorts of issues?

Yes: (34) 94%
 No: 0%

11 Has being involved in this process made it more likely that you will want to get involved in these sorts of events in future?

Much more likely: (30) 83%
 A bit more likely: (5) 14%
 No difference: 0%
 Less likely: 0%
 A lot less likely: 0%

What do you think of the resources provided?

12 Which resources were most useful to you?

Briefing notes on the topic: (8) 22%

The scenarios: (11) 31%

Information from experts: (22) 61%

Information from the website: (2) 6%

Other (please specify): (3) 8%

- "discussions"
- "all resources had some valuable information"

13 Can you give an example of a specific piece of information that you remember as particularly useful or interesting?

- Liverpool highest county for Class A drug use: (3) 8%
- Views / information from experts: (2) 6%
- Drug laws: (2) 6%
- Stats on crime and drugs use in the UK: (2) 6%
- Everything: (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each):

- Penalties for drug possession
- That only 1 in 5 heroin addicts rehabilitate successfully after 10 years addiction
- Nicotine in bananas
- Classification of drugs
- ID cards
- How to help drug users
- Up to date facts and figures
- Action by police authorities
- Punishments
- There is such a drug problem in young children
- How policy track drug dealers
- Legal parameters
- Traffickers and suppliers and families
- Experiences of ex-addicts
- Alternatives to prison
- Penalties for possession

"Speaking to lady who had her life ruined by drug dealer in her neighbourhood"

"Shape of things to come"

"All information was interesting"

"Having use of the laptop and projector to look at, I found I learn more by reading"

"Knowing that the justice system now helps addicts and just not punish them"

"How big the drug problem is in Liverpool"

14 Who do you trust most to provide you with information on these topics?

Friends: (11) 31%

Health professionals (e.g. doctors and nurses): (18) 50%

Media (TV or newspapers): (1) 3%

Academics: (13) 36%

Family: (8) 22%

I don't trust anyone to give me information on these topics: (1) 3%

Other (please say what): (2) 6% (Project 8)

Your views on drugs

15 How do you think we should deal with illegal drug use in this country? (Please tick next to the answer that best reflects your views)

As a crime problem: (4) 11%

As a health problem: (5) 14%

As both a health problem and a crime problem: (24) 67%

In other ways (please say how): 0%

16. Which of the following is it most important for drug research to focus on in the future?

Drugs for mental health problems such as depression or schizophrenia: (10) 28%
Drugs that help prevent addiction: (19) 53%
Drugs for diseases of old age such as Alzheimer's Disease or dementia: (9) 25%
There should be some other focus for drug research (please specify): (2) 6% (cancer)

17 Which of the following do you think is the most effective way of preventing young people from getting involved in drug use?

Education and information: (29) 81%
Prevention measures such as random drug testing in schools: (7) 19%
Harsher penalties for drug use: (5) 14%
Family support services: (9) 25%
Other ways (please specify): 0%

18 If we invented a drug that makes you smarter and is relatively safe, would you take it?

Yes: (9) 25%
No: (18) 50%
Not sure: (6) 17%

Information about the participants

Gender

Female	(17) 47%
Male	(16) 44%

Ethnic background

White British	(25) 69%
White other	(1) 3%
Asian or Asian British	0%
Black or Black British	(5) 14%
Mixed	0%

Age

16 - 24	(4) 11%
25 - 39	(13) 36%
40 - 54	(10) 28%
55 - 65	(3) 8%
65 +	(1) 3%

Exeter: Drugs and society, 24 February 2007

Total of 33 questionnaires returned (out of 33 participants) = 100%

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The information provided was fair and balanced	(4) 12%	(18) 58%	(6) 18%	(2) 6%		
I would have liked more information in advance	(1) 3%	(14) 42%	(6) 18%	(9) 27%	(2) 6%	
The experts were helpful and clear	(7) 21%	(22) 67%	(3) 9%	(1) 3%		
I have been able to discuss the issues that concern me	(7) 21%	(21) 64%	(5) 15%			
There was enough time for me to say everything I wanted to	(8) 24%	(19) 58%	(2) 6%	(4) 12%		
It is clear to me how the results of this process will be collected and used	(2) 6%	(12) 36%	(10) 30%	(6) 18%	(1) 3%	(1) 3%
The results of the debate genuinely reflected the discussions we had	(6) 18%	(19) 58%	(5) 15%	(1) 3%		
I believe that the people who commissioned this event will take notice of the results	(4) 12%	(18) 55%	(9) 27%	(1) 3%		(1) 3%
The event was well organised and well structured	(9) 27%	(21) 64%	(3) 9%			
I enjoyed taking part	(14) 42%	(16) 48%	(2) 6%			
I learnt something I did not know before	(9) 27%	(19) 58%	(2) 6%	(2) 6%	(1) 3%	
Attending this event has helped me think more clearly about these issues	(13) 39%	(14) 42%	(3) 9%	(1) 3%		
Attending this event has reinforced the views I already had	(5) 15%	(16) 48%	(6) 18%	(3) 9%	(1) 3%	
Attending this event made no difference to my views	(2) 6%	(4) 12%	(7) 21%	(11) 33%	(4) 12%	(1) 3%
I changed my views as a result of attending this event	(2) 6%	(6) 18%	(10) 30%	(9) 27%	(1) 3%	(1) 3%

How do you feel about the event overall?

1 Did the event meet your expectations / deliver what you hoped?

Completely: (7) 21%
 Mostly: (12) 36%
 Partly: (6) 9%
 Not really: (3) 9%
 Not at all: 0%

2 How satisfied were you with the briefing materials / information you received?

Very satisfied: (13) 39%
Fairly satisfied: (18) 55%
Not very satisfied: (1) 3%
Not at all satisfied: 0%

3 How satisfied were you with the structure and organisation of the event?

Very satisfied: (17) 52%
Fairly satisfied: (16) 48%
Not very satisfied: 0%
Not at all satisfied: 0%

4 What was the best part of the event you attended / what worked best?

- Group discussions: (11) 33%
- Hearing others' views: (7) 21%
- Group presentation and preparation for those: (3) 9%
- Experts to talk to: (3) 9%
- Meeting others: (3) 9%
- Diversity of people: (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each):

- Morning discussions
- Set up and explanation
- Taking part
- Polling

"I really enjoyed the group discussions"

"The morning session discussions on things that I have never really thought about"

"Group discussion and input of the expert was very interesting"

"Experts were informative"

5 What was the worst thing about the event / what worked least well?

- Too long: (5) 15%
- Lunch: (3) 9%
- Nothing (plus 1 who said "fine"): (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each):

- More diversity in groups and experts
- Amount of people
- Lack of time
- Group presentations (especially talking in front of others)
- Sitting down too long
- More information
- Room (chilly)
- More scientific facts

"Didn't know the point"

"Not having all the answers"

"It was a long day - good breaks and refreshments though - thanks"

"Not being able to express my views because of lack of time"

"A long period after dinner to discuss an extremely difficult question!"

"Lots of 'ifs' - no real basis on current scientific research"

6 What would improve events like this?

- Nothing: (3) 9%
- More time: (3) 9%
- Feedback on how output used: (2) 6%
- More young people [requested by 16 - 24 year olds]: (2) 6%
- More information in advance: (2) 6%
- More / different experts speaking: (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each):

- Follow up group
- More public involved
- Smaller groups

- Swap groups more (to get diversity)
- Facts in answer to questions asked
- Information on who is attending beforehand
- Lunch
- More active
- More science

"It would be great to have a follow up group or information on how our information was used"

"I found everything to a high standard. I cannot thin of ways of improving what was already good"

"I would like to have known more about what this information will be used for in the future"

7 What was the most important aspect, for you, of taking part in this event?

- Hearing others' views / exchanging views: (9) 27%
- Being consulted / listened to: (7) 21%
- Discussions: (4) 12%
- Knowledge / information gained: (3) 9%
- Diversity of people: (2) 6%
- Taking part: (2) 6%
- Meeting new people: (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each):

- Money
- Group presentations at the end and discussions leading up to them
- Giving something back
- Drug prevention
- Stimulated thinking

"Meeting new people and listening to other people and having the money"

"The cross section of people"

"The taking part - being able to share my journey and thoughts with others"

"Putting my views across"

"Being able to take part in the public policy process"

"That my voice was heard and it could make a difference to people's lives"

"Got me thinking about issues that affect society where I normally wouldn't"

Views on being involved

8 Have you ever been involved in this type of consultation before?

A lot:	0%
Quite a few times:	0%
Not much:	(10) 30%
Never:	(22) 67%
Don't know:	0%

9 How important do you think it is to involve the public in discussing these sorts of issues?

Very important:	(30) 91%
Fairly important:	(2) 6%
Not very important:	0%
Not at all important:	0%

10 Do you think there should be more events for the public to discuss these sorts of issues?

Yes:	(32) 97%
No:	0%

11 Has being involved in this process made it more likely that you will want to get involved in these sorts of events in future?

Much more likely:	(20) 61%
A bit more likely:	(6) 18%
No difference:	(4) 12%
Less likely:	(2) 6%
A lot less likely:	0%

What do you think of the resources provided?

12 Which resources were most useful to you?

Briefing notes on the topic: (13) 39%

The scenarios: (5) 15%

Information from experts: (11) 33%

Information from the website: (1) 3%

Other (please specify): (4) 12%

- other group members
- discussions
- talking to people with drug problems
- others' opinions

13 Can you give an example of a specific piece of information that you remember as particularly useful or interesting?

• Drug addict affects 10,000 other people's lives: (2) 6%

• Pill to stop addiction: (2) 6%

• Others' experiences: (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each):

- Research into nicotine addiction
- Information sheets
- Charts
- Information on drug taking
- 1 in 3 have mental health issues
- How opinions of the group were on similar lines
- Depression
- Vaccine for nicotine

"Discussions with other people very insightful"

"That everyone has an opinion and a view on the topic we discussed"

"Nadine's problem"

"Found it all very interesting"

"Is addiction in your genes"

"One of the experts explained the research into a new drug being developed into the prevention of nicotine addiction. The drug absorbs nicotine into the blood rather than the brain"

"In our groups there was a chap 'Keith' who was part of a rehabilitation group. He was full of ideas and information - good recruiting!"

"That mental illness is in the top ten killers in the world"

"A drug addict telling me how useful counselling was to them"

14 Who do you trust most to provide you with information on these topics?

Friends: (11) 33%

Health professionals (e.g. doctors and nurses): (23) 70%

Media (TV or newspapers): (2) 6%

Academics: (5) 15%

Family: (7) 21%

I don't trust anyone to give me information on these topics: 0%

Other (please say what): (4) 12%

- "individuals with personal issues"
- "takes everyone to co-operate"

Your views on drugs

15 How do you think we should deal with illegal drug use in this country?

As a crime problem: (5) 15%

As a health problem: (6) 18%

As both a health problem and a crime problem: (21) 64%

In other ways (please say how): (1) 3% ("completely different approach")

16. Which of the following is it most important for drug research to focus on in the future?

Drugs for mental health problems such as depression or schizophrenia: (15) 45%

Drugs that help prevent addiction: (7) 21%

Drugs for diseases of old age such as Alzheimer's Disease or dementia: (6) 18%

There should be some other focus for drug research (please specify): (5) 15%

- HIV, cancer etc
- cancer and other killers
- cancer
- killer diseases

17 Which of the following do you think is the most effective way of preventing young people from getting involved in drug use?

Education and information: (28) 85%

Prevention measures such as random drug testing in schools: 0%

Harsher penalties for drug use: (3) 9%

Family support services: (11) 33%

Other ways (please specify): 0%

18 If we invented a drug that makes you smarter and is relatively safe, would you take it?

Yes: (8) 24%

No: (21) 64%

Not sure: (4) 12%

Information about the participants

Gender

Female	(16) 48%
Male	(17) 52%

Ethnic background

White British	(29) 88%
White other	(1) 3%
Asian or Asian British	0%
Black or Black British	0%
Mixed	(3) 9%

Age

16 - 24	(11) 33%
25 - 39	(9) 27%
40 - 54	(8) 24%
55 - 65	(4) 12%
65 +	0%

Glasgow: Drugs for a smarter brain, 3 March 2007

Total of 26 questionnaires returned (out of 28 participants) = 95%

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The information provided was fair and balanced	(6) 23%	(17) 65%	(1) 4%	(1) 4%	(1) 4%	
I would have liked more information in advance	(8) 31%	(8) 31%	(6) 23%	(3) 12%	(1) 4%	
The experts were helpful and clear	(16) 62%	(10) 38%				
I have been able to discuss the issues that concern me	(5) 19%	(12) 46%	(6) 23%	(3) 12%		
There was enough time for me to say everything I wanted to	(9) 35%	(10) 38%	(2) 8%	(4) 15%	(1) 4%	
It is clear to me how the results of this process will be collected and used	(6) 23%	(14) 54%	(3) 12%	(2) 8%	(1) 4%	
The results of the debate genuinely reflected the discussions we had	(6) 23%	(18) 69%	(3) 12%	(1) 4%		
I believe that the people who commissioned this event will take notice of the results	(9) 35%	(15) 58%	(1) 4%	(1) 4%		
The event was well organised and well structured	(17) 65%	(9) 35%				
I enjoyed taking part	(17) 65%	(9) 35%				
I learnt something I did not know before	(14) 54%	(12) 46%				
Attending this event has helped me think more clearly about these issues	(13) 50%	(10) 38%	(2) 8%			
Attending this event has reinforced the views I already had	(7) 27%	(5) 19%	(9) 35%	(2) 8%	(1) 4%	(1) 4%
Attending this event made no difference to my views		(4) 15%	(6) 23%	(7) 27%	(4) 15%	(1) 4%
I changed my views as a result of attending this event	(3) 12%	(8) 31%	(8) 31%	(1) 4%	(1) 4%	(2) 8%

How do you feel about the event overall?

1 Did the event meet your expectations / deliver what you hoped?

Completely: (9) 35%
 Mostly: (11) 42%
 Partly: (5) 19%
 Not really: 0%
 Not at all: 0%

2 How satisfied were you with the briefing materials / information you received?

Very satisfied: (14) 54%
 Fairly satisfied: (9) 35%
 Not very satisfied: (1) 4%
 Not at all satisfied: (1) 4%

3 How satisfied were you with the structure and organisation of the event?

Very satisfied: (18) 69%

Fairly satisfied: (7) 27%

Not very satisfied: 0%

Not at all satisfied: 0%

4 What was the best part of the event you attended / what worked best?

- Experts question and answer session: (5) 19%
- Polling: (5) 19%
- Group discussions: (4) 15%
- Group presentation and preparation: (3) 12%
- Listening to the views of others: (2) 8%
- Learning: (1) 4%

5 What was the worst thing about the event / what worked least well?

- Nothing: (4) 15% (only counted if specifically said 'nothing')
- Lunch: (4) 15%
- It was too long: (4) 15%
- The room: (2) 8%
- Not enough time to cover the subject: (2) 8%
- Were confused at first: (2) 8%

Others (1 mention each):

- Group presentations
- Wanted more information in advance
- More question time with experts
- Conflict and debate
- Experts Q & A too long

"All was very interesting. Would have preferred more questions to be asked of the experts"

"Having to give a presentation. We found it difficult to find someone willing to do this"

6 What would improve events like this?

- Nothing: (2) 8% (only counted if specifically said 'nothing')
- Better lunch: (2) 8%
- More information in advance: (2) 8%
- More people there: (2) 8%

Others (1 mention each):

- More information on the subject
- More time
- More of these sorts of events
- Shorter
- More breaks
- Not much

"I think it would have been useful to have received the leaflet on 'Drugs for a Smarter Brain' before coming today"

7 What was the most important aspect, for you, of taking part in this event?

- Learning / knowledge / understanding of the subject: (13) 50%
- Getting own views across: (3) 12%
- Listening to others opinions: (2) 8%
- Group discussions: (2) 8%

Others (1 mention each):

- Formulating own opinions
- Meeting others
- "Interesting and informative"
- Feeling own opinion counted
- Information on smarter drugs

*Increasing my knowledge and understanding of the issues dealt with. It was useful to hear other people's points of view"

Views on being involved

8 Have you ever been involved in this type of consultation before?

A lot: 0%
Quite a few times: (4) 15%
Not much: (6) 23%
Never: (15) 58%

9 How important do you think it is to involve the public in discussing these sorts of issues?

Very important: (19) 73%
Fairly important: (6) 23%
Not very important: 0%
Not at all important: 0%

10 Do you think there should be more events for the public to discuss these sorts of issues?

Yes: (25) 96%
No: 0%

11 Has being involved in this process made it more likely that you will want to get involved in these sorts of events in future?

Much more likely: (19) 73%
A bit more likely: (6) 23%
No difference: 0%
Less likely: 0%
A lot less likely: 0%

What do you think of the resources provided?

12 Which resources were most useful to you?

Briefing notes on the topic: (9) 35%
The scenarios: (6) 23%
Information from experts: (19) 73%
Information from the website: (1) 4%
Other (please specify): 0%

13 Can you give an example of a specific piece of information that you remember as particularly useful or interesting?

- Soldiers / Army using cognition enhancing drugs: (4) 15%
- Cognition enhancers: (2) 8%
- Drugs for children: (2) 8%

Others (1 mention each):

- Group presentations
- Amphetamines used for narcolepsy
- Drugs used as an answer to problems
- Legality of drug taking
- People's views on controlled drugs
- Long term effects not known
- Experts' answers
- Experimentation on fit volunteers to lead to possible cures for illnesses
- Students wanting to take drugs to get better exam results

"All interesting"

"These drugs could be used to help children from terrible family backgrounds (who would usually have little hope for a 'normal' life) to help provide them with a good education and hopefully a better future"

"If cognition enhancers are used in a regular activity then it will impair your performance rather than enhance it"

14 Who do you trust most to provide you with information on these topics?

Friends: (6) 23%
Health professionals (e.g. doctors and nurses): (17) 65%
Media (TV or newspapers): (2) 8%

Academics: (12) 46%
 Family: (4) 15%
 I don't trust anyone to give me information on these topics: 0%

Your views on drugs

15 How do you think we should deal with illegal drug use in this country?

As a crime problem: (2) 8%
 As a health problem: (2) 8%
 As both a health problem and a crime problem: (19) 73%
 In other ways (please say how): (2) 8% (as a social problem)

16. Which of the following is it most important for drug research to focus on in the future?

Drugs for mental health problems such as depression or schizophrenia: (14) 54%
 Drugs that help prevent addiction: (6) 23%
 Drugs for diseases of old age such as Alzheimer's Disease or dementia: (10) 38%
 There should be some other focus for drug research (please specify): (1) 4%

17 Which of the following do you think is the most effective way of preventing young people from getting involved in drug use?

Education and information: (23) 88%
 Prevention measures such as random drug testing in schools: (2) 8%
 Harsher penalties for drug use: (2) 8%
 Family support services: (7) 27%
 Other ways (please specify): 0%

18 If we invented a drug that makes you smarter and is relatively safe, would you take it?

Yes: (9) 35%
 No: (11) 42%
 Not sure: (5) 19%

Information about the participants

Gender

Female	(15) 58%
Male	(10) 38%

Ethnic background

White British	(20) 77%
White other	(1) 4%
Asian or Asian British	0%
Black or Black British	(2) 8%
Mixed	(1) 4%
Other	(1) 4%

Age

16 - 24	(8) 31%
25 - 39	(7) 27%
40 - 54	(8) 31%
55 - 65	(2) 8%
65 +	0%

Belfast: Drugs and young people, 10 March 2007

Total of 33 questionnaires returned (out of 41 participants) = 81%

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The information provided was fair and balanced	(6) 18%	(22) 67%	(2) 6%	(2) 6%		
I would have liked more information in advance	(3) 9%	(11) 33%	(14) 42%	(4) 12%	(1) 3%	
The experts were helpful and clear	(9) 27%	(21) 64%	(2) 6%			
I have been able to discuss the issues that concern me	(7) 21%	(20) 61%	(4) 12%	(2) 6%		
There was enough time for me to say everything I wanted to	(10) 30%	(19) 58%	(2) 6%	(1) 3%		(1) 3%
It is clear to me how the results of this process will be collected and used	(13) 39%	(11) 33%	(5) 15%	(2) 6%		(1) 3%
The results of the debate genuinely reflected the discussions we had	(11) 33%	(17) 52%	(4) 12%			
I believe that the people who commissioned this event will take notice of the results	(12) 36%	(13) 39%	(6) 18%	(1) 3%		(1) 3%
The event was well organised and well structured	(15) 45%	(15) 45%	(2) 6%			
I enjoyed taking part	(15) 45%	(15) 45%	(3) 9%			
I learnt something I did not know before	(11) 33%	(19) 58%		(3) 9%		
Attending this event has helped me think more clearly about these issues	(13) 39%	(12) 36%	(4) 12%	(1) 3%		
Attending this event has reinforced the views I already had	(8) 24%	(14) 42%	(8) 24%	(1) 3%		
Attending this event made no difference to my views	(4) 12%	(6) 18%	(4) 12%	(11) 33%	(3) 9%	(1) 3%
I changed my views as a result of attending this event	(2) 6%	(8) 24%	(10) 30%	(4) 12%	(5) 15%	

How do you feel about the event overall?

1 Did the event meet your expectations / deliver what you hoped?

Completely: (9) 27%
 Mostly: (20) 61%
 Partly: (3) 9%
 Not really: 0%
 Not at all: 0%

2 How satisfied were you with the briefing materials / information you received?

Very satisfied: (13) 39%
Fairly satisfied: (19) 58%
Not very satisfied: 0%
Not at all satisfied: 0%

3 How satisfied were you with the structure and organisation of the event?

Very satisfied: (21) 64%
Fairly satisfied: (9) 27%
Not very satisfied: (2) 6%
Not at all satisfied: 0%

4 What was the best part of the event you attended / what worked best?

- Professional advice / speakers: (6) 18%
- Group discussions / interaction: (5) 15%
- Polling: (4) 12%
- Information / new information: (4) 12%
- Diversity of opinion: (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each)

- Group presentations
- Food
- Good organisation
- Voice own opinion
- Informal atmosphere
- Important occasion
- Meeting new people

"The talks by the professional bodies on the ground as it is"

5 What was the worst thing about the event / what worked least well?

- Nothing / not much: (4) 12%
- Lunch: (4) 12%
- Too long: (3) 9%
- Group presentations: (2) 6%
- More information before: (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each)

- Too narrow focus
- Could be longer
- Questionnaire
- Room (cold air)

"Missed rugby"

"Poor organisation after lunch"

"Experts talked so much"

"Very much sided with the drugs and alcohol addiction issues. Mental health problems are a whole other issue"

"Nothing it was all very educational and informative to me"

"Not knowing previously about the possibility of presenting in front of the group"

6 What would improve events like this?

- More information before: (3) 9%
- Nothing: (2) 6%
- Should be shorter: (2) 6%
- Full / better lunch: (2) 6%
- More information before: (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each)

- More time
- Smaller groups
- Better facilitators
- Mixing groups more
- * More young people
- More interaction
- Clearer instructions

"Have a balanced approach including having a mental health 'expert'"
"More of them"
"Stimulating more"
"Maybe a pre-seminar leaflet to give an insight"

7 What was the most important aspect, for you, of taking part in this event?

- Knowledge / awareness / understanding: (10) 30%
- Getting different views from public / others: (7) 21%
- Giving my views / being listened to: (3) 9%

Others (1 mention each)

- Views from experts

"Drugs everywhere"

"Money"

"Interesting"

"Getting more balanced opinion"

"Trying to understand more"

"Learned to ask questions"

"The ignorance that still exists among the general population on addiction and mental illness"

"Giving my opinion. £50!"

Views on being involved

8 Have you ever been involved in this type of consultation before?

A lot: (1) 3%
Quite a few times: (6) 18%
Not much: (10) 30%
Never: (15) 45%

9 How important do you think it is to involve the public in discussing these sorts of issues?

Very important: (27) 82%
Fairly important: (5) 15%
Not very important: 0%
Not at all important: 0%

10 Do you think there should be more events for the public to discuss these sorts of issues?

Yes: (32) 97%
No: 0%

11 Has being involved in this process made it more likely that you will want to get involved in these sorts of events in future?

Much more likely: (20) 61%
A bit more likely: (11) 33%
No difference: (1) 3%
Less likely: 0%
A lot less likely: 0%

What do you think of the resources provided?

12 Which resources were most useful to you?

Briefing notes on the topic: (12) 36%
The scenarios: (10) 30%
Information from experts: (20) 61%
Information from the website: (2) 6%
other (please specify): (1) 3%
• table discussions

13 Can you give an example of a specific piece of information that you remember as particularly useful or interesting?

- Idea of testing for possible addiction: (3) 9%
- What support is available: (2) 6%
- Information from experts: (2) 6%
- All: (2) 6%

Others (1 mention each)

- Graphs and stats on drug use
- Information on harm reduction
- Drugs effects on mental health
- Group presentation

"Lady from Drugs Awareness, Belfast"

"Silos of professionals"

"Babies born with drug addiction"

"Most people recover from mental illness"

"Not hereditary"

"Letting young people know the dangers of drugs"

"I found it interesting how much people focussed on the addiction again and promoted the stigma of mental illness"

"Information from experts - difference of opinion in relation to how helpful GPs and social services would be with drug addiction issues"

14 Who do you trust most to provide you with information on these topics?

Friends: (9) 27%

Health professionals (e.g. doctors and nurses): (19) 58%

Media (TV or newspapers): (3) 9%

Academics: (6) 18%

Family: (12) 36%

I don't trust anyone to give me information on these topics: 0%

Other (please say what): (5) 15%

- outreach workers
- mix of all
- young people with experience
- personal research
- range of resources

Your views on drugs

15 How do you think we should deal with illegal drug use in this country?

As a crime problem: (3) 9%

As a health problem: (8) 24%

As both a health problem and a crime problem: (20) 61%

In other ways (please say how): (1) 3%

- "social related problem"

16. Which of the following is it most important for drug research to focus on in the future?

Drugs for mental health problems such as depression or schizophrenia: (15) 45%

Drugs that help prevent addiction: (15) 45%

Drugs for diseases of old age such as Alzheimer's Disease or dementia: (13) 39%

There should be some other focus for drug research (please specify): 0%

17 Which of the following do you think is the most effective way of preventing young people from getting involved in drug use?

Education and information: (28) 85%

Prevention measures such as random drug testing in schools: (1) 3%

Harsher penalties for drug use: (7) 21%

Family support services: (9) 27%

Other ways (please specify): (3) 9%

- harsher penalties for drug dealers / suppliers (2 people)
- "open-mindedness, allowing people to talk openly"

18 If we invented a drug that makes you smarter and is relatively safe, would you take it?

Yes: (9) 27%
No: (15) 45%
Not sure: (7) 21%

Information about the participants

Gender

Female	(16) 48%
Male	(17) 52%

Ethnic background

White British	(26) 79%
White other	(5) 15%
Asian or Asian British	0%
Black or Black British	0%
Other	(2) 6%

Age

16 - 24	(10) 30%
25 - 39	(12) 36%
40 - 54	(8) 24%
55 - 65	(2) 6%
65 +	(1) 3%

Merthyr Tydfil: Drugs and mental health, 24 March 2007

Total of 37 questionnaires returned (out of 40 participants) = 93%

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The information provided was fair and balanced	(11) 30%	(25) 68%	(1) 3%			
I would have liked more information in advance	(1) 3%	(17) 46%	(6) 16%	(9) 24%		(1) 3%
The experts were helpful and clear	(16) 43%	(16) 43%	(2) 5%			
I have been able to discuss the issues that concern me	(11) 30%	(20) 54%	(4) 11%	(1) 3%		
There was enough time for me to say everything I wanted to	(12) 32%	(21) 57%	(3) 8%			
It is clear to me how the results of this process will be collected and used	(7) 19%	(23) 62%	(4) 11%			(1) 3%
The results of the debate genuinely reflected the discussions we had	(13) 35%	(21) 57%	(1) 3%			
I believe that the people who commissioned this event will take notice of the results	(11) 30%	(18) 49%	(4) 11%	(1) 3%		(3) 8%
The event was well organised and well structured	(15) 41%	(20) 54%	(1) 3%			
I enjoyed taking part	(17) 46%	(14) 38%	(4) 11%			
I learnt something I did not know before	(14) 38%	(19) 51%	(3) 8%			(1) 3%
Attending this event has helped me think more clearly about these issues	(16) 43%	(18) 49%	(1) 3%			(1) 3%
Attending this event has reinforced the views I already had	(10) 27%	(13) 35%	(7) 19%	(2) 5%		
Attending this event made no difference to my views	(2) 5%	(8) 22%	(8) 22%	(10) 27%	(2) 5%	
I changed my views as a result of attending this event	(4) 11%	(10) 27%	(12) 32%	(4) 11%		(1) 3%

How do you feel about the event overall?

1 Did the event meet your expectations / deliver what you hoped?

Completely: (19) 51%
 Mostly: (13) 35%
 Partly: (4) 11%
 Not really: 0%
 Not at all: 0%

2 How satisfied were you with the briefing materials / information you received?

Very satisfied: (20) 54%
Fairly satisfied: (16) 43%
Not very satisfied: 0%
Not at all satisfied: 0%

3 How satisfied were you with the structure and organisation of the event?

Very satisfied: (26) 70%
Fairly satisfied: (10) 27%
Not very satisfied: 0%
Not at all satisfied: 0%

4 What was the best part of the event you attended / what worked best?

- Group discussions: (7) 19%
- Others / different views: (4) 11%
- Whole thing enjoyable / everything: (4) 11%
- Diversity of people: (3) 8%
- Polling / voting: (2) 5%
- Views listened to: (2) 5%
- Group presentations: (2) 5%
- Others experiences of problems: (2) 5%

Others (I mention each)

- Information
- Feedback and plenary

"Meeting different people from all walks of life"

"Plenty of interaction and discussions. Introduction to keypad voting system was both fun and informative. Plenty of opportunity to air views, and listen to opinions and standpoints of others"

"Feeling that my opinion is of worth and also meeting a variety of people involved in these issues - either as carers, workers or people affected by mental illness"

"I learnt a lot about drugs for the elderly and people who take drugs for the fun of it"

"Gaining the knowledge of what people need in the community to overcome the need of un-needed drugs"

5 What was the worst thing about the event / what worked least well?

- Nothing: (7) 19%
- Food / refreshments: (4) 11%
- Making presentations: (2) 5%
- People going off subject / interrupting: (2) 5%

Others (1 mention each)

- Hearing bad news
- Room arrangements (stairs)
- Time
- Too long
- Broader age range
- Multiple choice questions

"Got a bit lost in afternoon session"

"Too much after lunch"

"Having to stand up and give an introduction, as a qualified individual. I need more confidence!"

"Some people could feel intimidated in group situations due to illness(es). Also refreshments were not readily available"

"Learning that Alzheimers illness cannot be cured as yet"

"Having to stand up and talk"

6 What would improve events like this?

- Nothing: (3) 8%
- More regular events / more events like this: (3) 8%

Others (1 mention each)

- More information
- Information on other organisations
- Talking about mental health
- Working towards solutions

- Video scenarios
- More people
- Sound system

"Some group presentations too long"

"Having more events such as this one that will improve people's knowledge and understanding of different issues"

"More information / sharing of other organisations and their roles. This will benefit people in the local community who suffer from mental illness by providing them with more data on services that are available"

"The event I attended was very well run and I don't think it could be improved upon"

"The event was really good"

7 What was the most important aspect, for you, of taking part in this event?

- Having my views heard / giving views: (6) 16%
- Learning about drugs: (5) 14%
- Interaction / group discussions: (4) 11%
- Knowledge and understanding: (3) 8%
- Others views / opinions: (3) 8%

Others (1 mention each)

- Helping future research
- All of it

"All questions answered"

"Helping us as individuals to take away some understanding of how the 'system' of prescribed drugs works within society"

"Interaction and group work"

"Being involved in something of national importance and of importance to so many people today"

"It was a pleasure to be able, comfortable and attending"

"Hoping that notice will be taken of people wanting alternative therapies and not just hand pills out"

"Helping us to understand about the use of drugs"

Views on being involved

8 Have you ever been involved in this type of consultation before?

- A lot: (2) 5%
- Quite a few times: (6) 16%
- Not much: (5) 14%
- Never: (22) 59%
- Don't know: (1) 3%

9 How important do you think it is to involve the public in discussing these sorts of issues?

- Very important: (30) 81%
- Fairly important: (6) 16%
- Not very important: 0%
- Not at all important: 0%

10 Do you think there should be more events for the public to discuss these sorts of issues?

- Yes: (36) 97%
- No: 0%

11 Has being involved in this process made it more likely that you will want to get involved in these sorts of events in future?

- Much more likely: (22) 59%
- A bit more likely: (10) 27%
- No difference: (3) 8%
- Less likely: (1) 3%
- A lot less likely: 0%

What do you think of the resources provided?

12 Which resources were most useful to you?

Briefing notes on the topic: (8) 22%
The scenarios: (12) 32%
Information from experts: (24) 65%
Information from the website: (2) 5%
Other (please specify): 0%

13 Can you give an example of a specific piece of information that you remember as particularly useful or interesting?

- Alzheimers information: (4) 11%
- Mental health / illness: (2) 5%
- Not enough funding for drugs by government / drugs people need: (2) 5%

Others (1 mention each)

- Funding of prescribed meds and who is allowed to take them
- Drug use for mental health
- Cognitive behaviour therapy to help treat depression
- Organisations involved in mental health
- Legal issues
- Questions and answers

"I think all of the information discussed today is of importance. However, knowing that in the future new drugs could come along to assist people further is very important and necessary"

"Information on the ongoing development in medication both in this country and globally"

"No - I have generally been given much food for thought"

"Understanding of older generation with dementia and alzheimers" (16 - 24 year old)

"Didn't realise that mental health illness covered such a wide variety of illnesses"

14 Who do you trust most to provide you with information on these topics?

Friends: (10) 27%
Health professionals (e.g. doctors and nurses): (27) 73%
Media (TV or newspapers): (1) 3%
Academics: (3) 8%
Family: (7) 19%
I don't trust anyone to give me information on these topics

Other (please say what): (3) 8%

- Voluntary sector
- Members of carers group
- Specialist doctors and nurses

Your views on drugs

15 How do you think we should deal with illegal drug use in this country?

As a crime problem: (8) 22%
As a health problem: (7) 19%
As both a health problem and a crime problem: (22) 59%
In other ways (please say how): 0%

16. Which of the following is it most important for drug research to focus on in the future?

Drugs for mental health problems such as depression or schizophrenia: (9) 24%
Drugs that help prevent addiction: (13) 35%
Drugs for diseases of old age such as Alzheimer's Disease or dementia: (22) 59%
There should be some other focus for drug research (please specify): 0%

17 Which of the following do you think is the most effective way of preventing young people from getting involved in drug use?

Education and information: (26) 70%
Prevention measures such as random drug testing in schools: (7) 19%
Harsher penalties for drug use: (7) 19%
Family support services: (10) 27%
Other ways (counselling specified): (1) 3%

18 If we invented a drug that makes you smarter and is relatively safe, would you take it?

Yes: (9) 24%
No: (20) 54%
Not sure: (7) 19%

Information about the participants

Gender

Female	(24) 65%
Male	(13) 35%

Ethnic background

White British	(36) 97%
White other	0%
Asian or Asian British	0%
Black or Black British	0%

Age

16 - 24	(3) 8%
25 - 39	(9) 24%
40 - 54	(13) 35%
55 - 65	(8) 22%
65 +	(3) 8%

Annex 4

Analysis of Brainbox questionnaires

Brainbox 1: Birmingham, 2 - 3 February 2007

Pre-event questionnaire: 23 returned (out of 25 participants) = 92%

1 Why have you decided to get involved in this process?

- Interested in drug issues (10) 43%
- The money plus another reason (e.g. then got interested; a friend asked me etc) (7) 30%
- Learning about drugs (4) 17%
- Personal experience of illness (2) 9%
- Taking part (2) 9%

Others (1 mention each)

- Future decisions for family on drug use
- Just the money
- Interested in public consultation
- Make a contribution
- General interest

2 What did you want the process to achieve?

- Give the public a chance to find out more / gain information (8) 35%
- Give feedback / make input (3) 13%
- Help people who need life-saving drugs (2) 9%
- Influence the experts / allow voices to be heard (2) 9%
- Stop illegal drug taking (2) 9%

Others (1 mention each)

- Feedback to participants
- Safer drugs
- Cheaper more efficient drugs
- Better future drug use

3 What did you hope to get out of the process personally?

- Knowledge and understanding of drugs (21) 91%
- Hear other people's views (6) 26%
- Chance to meet new people (2) 9%

Others (1 mention each)

- Find out about drug companies
- Find out about Academy work on this
- Intelligent stimulating conversation
- Build up confidence in giving opinion

4 How satisfied were you with the briefing materials / information you received?

Very satisfied: (10) 43%
Fairly satisfied: (11) 48%
Not very satisfied: (2) 9%
Not at all satisfied: 0%

5 How clear are you about the purpose of this process at this point?

Very clear: (5) 22%
Fairly clear: (17) 74%
Not very clear: 0%
Not at all clear: (1) 4%

6 How clear are you about your role in this process and what you will be expected to do?

Very clear: (12) 53%
Fairly clear: (9) 39%
Not very clear: (1) 4%
Not at all clear: (1) 4%

7 Which of the following best describes how you feel about taking part in this event?

Interested: (20) 87%
Nervous: (3) 13%
Unsure about what I can offer to the discussion: (2) 9%
Confident about my ability to add to the discussion: 0%
Other (please say): 0%

Your views on drugs

8 How do you think we should deal with illegal drug use in this country?

As a crime problem: (5) 22%
As a health problem: (7) 30%
As both a health problem and a crime problem: (15) 65%
In other ways (please say how): (2) 9%
• As a social problem
• Education mainly

9 Which of the following is it most important for drug research to focus on in the future?

Drugs for mental health problems such as depression or schizophrenia: (9) 39%
Drugs that help prevent addiction: (5) 22%
Drugs for diseases of old age such as Alzheimer's Disease or dementia: (14) 61%
There should be some other focus for drug research (please specify): (3) 13%
• to save people's lives

10 Which of the following do you think is the most effective way of preventing young people from getting involved in drug use?

Education and information: (18) 78%
Prevention measures such as random drug testing in schools: (6) 26%
Harsher penalties for drug use: (8) 35%
Family support services: (3) 13%
Other ways: 0%

11 If we invented a drug that makes you smarter and is relatively safe, would you take it?

Yes: (1) 4%
No: (13) 57%
Not sure: (8) 35%

Information about the participants

Gender

Female	(9) 39%
Male	(12) 52%

Ethnic background

White British	(16) 70%
White other	(1) 4%
Asian or Asian British	(3) 13%
Black or Black British	(1) 4%

Age

16 - 24	(4) 17%
25 - 39	(6) 26%
40 - 54	(5) 22%
55 - 65	(4) 17%
65 +	(3) 13%

Brainbox 2: Birmingham, 30 - 31 March 2007

Post-event questionnaire: 22 returned (out of 23 participants) = 96%

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The information provided was fair and balanced	(7) 32%	(15) 68%				
I would have liked more information in advance	(4) 18%	(8) 36%	(7) 32%	(2) 9%		
The experts were helpful and clear	(10) 45%	(12) 55%				
I have been able to discuss the issues that concern me	(11) 50%	(10) 45%	(1) 5%			
There was enough time for me to say everything I wanted to	(8) 36%	(6) 27%	(2) 9%	(5) 23%	(1) 5%	
It is clear to me how the results of this process will be collected and used	(3) 14%	(9) 41%	(6) 27%	(4) 18%		
The results of the debate genuinely reflected the discussions we had	(7) 32%	(15) 68%				
I believe that the people who commissioned this event will take notice of the results	(5) 23%	(7) 32%	(8) 36%			(2) 9%
The event was well organised and well structured	(10) 45%	(11) 50%	(1) 5%			
I enjoyed taking part	(12) 55%	(10) 45%				
I learnt something I did not know before	(14) 64%	(8) 36%				
Attending this event has helped me think more clearly about these issues	(16) 73%	(6) 27%				
Attending this event has reinforced the views I already had	(6) 27%	(7) 32%	(5) 23%	(3) 14%		
Attending this event made no difference to my views	(3) 14%	(4) 18%	(2) 9%	(7) 32%	(4) 18%	(1) 5%
I changed my views as a result of attending this event	(4) 18%	(6) 27%	(2) 9%	(5) 23%		(2) 9%

How do you feel about the event overall?

1 Did the event meet your expectations / deliver what you hoped?

Completely: (7) 32%
 Mostly: (14) 64%
 Partly: (1) 4%
 Not really: 0%
 Not at all: 0%

2 How satisfied were you with the briefing materials / information you received?

Very satisfied: (13) 59%
 Fairly satisfied: (9) 41%
 Not very satisfied: 0%
 Not at all satisfied: 0%

3 How satisfied were you with the structure and organisation of the event?

Very satisfied: (15) 68%

Fairly satisfied: (7) 32%

Not very satisfied: 0%

Not at all satisfied: 0%

4 What was the best part of the event you attended / what worked best?

- Speakers / experts: (11) 50%
- Learning about drugs: (3) 14%
- All aspects: (2) 9%

Others (1 mention each)

- Information
- Chocolates
- Discussion throughout

"Learning a lot of new information that I didn't know before/ It opened my eyes a lot"

"Information from experts opened my mind"

"Day 3 was excellent"

5 What was the worst thing about the event / what worked least well?

- The food / catering: (4) 18%
- Limited time / rushed last day: (4) 18%
- Nothing: (3) 14%

Others (1 mention each)

- The duration
- Layout of rooms / stairs
- Not enough time with experts
- Not enough information

"Felt there was a hidden agenda"

"Confusing at times but became clear later"

"First full day very repetitive - words on wall and putting them into categories. Seemed pointless as we knew what it was getting at"

"Going over the previous work several times on 30 March"

"Felt under pressure at times"

6 What would improve events like this?

- More presentations from / time with experts: (4) 18%
- Nothing: (3) 14%
- More time: (2) 9%

Others (1 mention): More video

"Having a more unbiased delivery team"

"Should be carried out in the community"

"Get more experienced ex-users or people with personal experience to talk"

"Having the days closer together so information would be gathered together in my mind"

7 What was the most important aspect, for you, of taking part in this event?

- Understanding, awareness and education / knowledge about drugs: (12) 55%
- Getting my views across: (2) 9%
- Future developments of drugs: (2) 9%

Others (1 mention each)

- Diversity of views
- Listening to others
- Being listened to
- Listening to experts with hands-on knowledge

"The ability to discuss issues and learn new things"

"My views are noted and used to decide future policy"

"Hope the group's views will be taken into account"

"I learnt a lot and it has made me keen to learn more"

"Being given the opportunity to make my views known"

Views on being involved

8 Have you ever been involved in this type of consultation before?

A lot: 0%
Quite a few times: (3) 14%
Not much: (2) 9%
Never: (16) 73%
Don't know: (1) 5%

9 How important do you think it is to involve the public in discussing these sorts of issues?

Very important: (20) 91%
Fairly important: (1) 5%
Not very important: 0%
Not at all important: 0%

10 Do you think there should be more events for the public to discuss these sorts of issues?

Yes: (22) 100%
No: 0%

11 Has being involved in this process made it more likely that you will want to get involved in these sorts of events in future?

Much more likely: (19) 86%
A bit more likely: (2) 9%
No difference: 0%
Less likely: (1) 5%
A lot less likely: 0%

What do you think of the resources provided?

12 Which resources were most useful to you?

Briefing notes on the topic: (10) 45%
The scenarios: (4) 18%
Information from experts: (21) 95%
Information from the website: (4) 18%
other (please specify): 0%

13 Can you give an example of a specific piece of information that you remember as particularly useful or interesting?

- Presentations / information from experts: (4) 18%
- Information from drug users: (3) 14%
- Cognition enhancers: (3) 14%

Others (1 mention each)

- Future development of drugs
- Presentation by Dr Danielle Turner
- About children
- Group participation
- Drug types

"Users are not necessarily encouraged to get off the drugs"

"That there is such a thing as a drug that can improve your mind"

"Number of population who will suffer mental health problems in future years"

"That there is no help with mental health problems other than hospitals"

"Rebecca talking about positive mental health promotion"

"Cognition enhancers used to keep soldiers [awake] for 64 hours without giving them a choice"

"The lady who used to use drugs but wasn't offered any help as she didn't commit a crime and worked to feed her habit"

"The talks from the recreational drug charities - experts and ex-users. The lack of support and funding provided is disgusting"

"The drugs counsellors were very interesting"

14 Who do you trust most to provide you with information on these topics?

- Friends: (2) 9%
- Health professionals (e.g. doctors and nurses): (14) 64%
- Media (TV or newspapers): (5) 23%
- Academics: (8) 36%
- Family: (2) 9%
- I don't trust anyone to give me information on these topics: 0%
- Other (please say what): (3) 14%
 - NICE / FDA
 - Ex-drug users
 - People with experience of issues

Your views on drugs

15 How do you think we should deal with illegal drug use in this country?

- As a crime problem: (4) 18%
- As a health problem: (2) 9%
- As both a health problem and a crime problem: (12) 55%
- In other ways (please say how): (1) 5%
 - Target dealers

16. Which of the following is it most important for drug research to focus on in the future?

- Drugs for mental health problems such as depression or schizophrenia: (9) 41%
- Drugs that help prevent addiction: (4) 18%
- Drugs for diseases of old age such as Alzheimer's Disease or dementia: (12) 55%
- There should be some other focus for drug research (please specify): 0%

17 Which of the following do you think is the most effective way of preventing young people from getting involved in drug use?

- Education and information: (16) 73%
- Prevention measures such as random drug testing in schools: (3) 14%
- Harsher penalties for drug use: (3) 14%
- Family support services: (3) 14%
- Other ways (please specify): 0%

18 If we invented a drug that makes you smarter and is relatively safe, would you take it?

- Yes: (6) 27%
- No: (7) 32%
- Not sure: (6) 27%

Information about the participants

Gender

Female	(10) 45%
Male	(12) 55%

Ethnic background

White British	(17) 77%
White other	(1) 5%
Asian or Asian British	(2) 9%
Black or Black British	(2) 9%
Mixed	0%

Age

16 - 24	(2) 9%
25 - 39	(7) 32%
40 - 54	(6) 27%
55 - 65	(3) 14%
65 +	(4) 18%

Annex 5

Questions for interviews

Questions for interviews with public participants

Range of people / representation / fairness

- Was there a good mix of people at the event you attended? Were there any types of people that you feel should have been there but weren't? [This question not to be asked for outreach events, which were targeted at specific groups]
- Did you feel everyone there had an equal chance to have their say and that no single view was allowed to dominate the discussion?
- Did you feel able to talk about the things you wanted to on drugs and brain science? If not, why not?
- Was there enough time to get through all the main issues?

Information

- Did you feel that the information provided was fair and balanced (written information and information from experts)?
- Was there enough information provided in advance and on the day to enable you to take part fully in the discussions?
- Did you find the information clear and understandable?
- Did you look at the DrugsFutures website? If so, how did you use it (e.g. background information, completed the questionnaire)?
- Was there any particular piece of information that you picked up that made a real impact on what you thought? If yes, what was it? And where did it come from (e.g. written, from something another participant said, something an expert said, something someone said in a presentation)?
- Generally, what forms of information did you find most useful (e.g. written information, the DrugsFutures website, other participants, experts, presentations)?
- Was there anything missing from the information provided, either in terms of written material or input from experts?

Openness / transparency / influence / issues of conflict and consensus

- Are you clear about how the event you took part in fitted in to the overall DrugsFutures project? If not, what were you not clear about?
- Are you clear about how the information collected at the event is being used?
- Do you think the Academy of Medical Science, who ran this project, will take notice of what you said when they make their recommendations to government? If not, why not?
- At your event, was there pretty much overall agreement on some issues? Which issues can you remember as being the ones that everyone agreed on?
- Were there some issues where there was real disagreement? Which ones?
- Were there some issues that seemed really important at the time that you think were not picked up or followed through? Which ones?
- Were there any issues raised at the workshop that you have discussed since with friends and family? If so, which ones? Are you still interested in these issues?

Benefits (and costs) of the process

- Did you learn anything as a result of taking part (e.g. about the specific issues, about participation, about government, about policy-making)? Give examples.
- Did being involved make any difference to what you think about drugs and brain science? If so, in what ways?
- Did being involved make any difference to what you think about consulting the public consultations on issues of science and technology? If so, in what ways?
- Overall, what were the main things that you got out of being involved in this project?
- Are you satisfied with how you contributed to the consultation, or did you have any disappointments with your involvement (e.g. something missing, something wrong with how the event was run)? What could have made this better?

- Public consultation obviously has financial costs. Do you think it is money well spent, or not?
- As a result of your involvement, are you more likely to want to get involved in discussions on science and technology in future, or not?
- Do you have any ideas about how you might like to get involved in future?

Lessons for the future

- Overall, what do you think worked best in terms of how you were involved?
- What do you think worked least well, and should be changed in future similar initiatives?
- Was there anything missing from the process; something you think should have happened but didn't?
- Are there any specific lessons about involving people that you would like the AMS and the government to take from this initiative?
- Is there anything else you want to know about AMS work in this area? If so, what do you want to know? And how would you like to be informed (e.g. email, printed information, website).
- Is there anything else you would like to say about the DrugsFutures project and your involvement with it?

Questions for interviews with experts

Your activities and role in the project

- 1 Have you been involved in this sort of public consultation before? If so, what (specific examples)?
- 2 What did you do at the DrugsFutures event you attended (e.g. make a presentation, answer questions, join in with the small groups working)?
- 3 Were you happy with that role? If not, why not?
- 4 Were you completely clear and comfortable with your role generally at the workshop? If not, what was wrong?
- 5 Do you think the public participants were clear about your role? If not, why not?
- 6 Was there anything that would have helped clarify your role and make your activities at the workshop easier?
- 7 Was there any additional information you would have liked before you attended? If so, what?

Views on the workshop

- 8 Did you think there were enough people, and a good enough mix of people, at the workshop to get a good discussion? If not, why not?
- 9 Did you think that the timetable and process for the event were appropriate? If not, why not?
- 10 What did you think of the motivation, interest and commitment of the public participants?
- 11 What did you think of the information provided to the public participants by the people running the workshop:
 - was there enough information?
 - was it the right sort of information for them to use?
 - was it fair and unbiased?
 - did it provide a good range of different perspectives on the issues?
- 12 What did you think of the quality of discussions among the public participants?
- 13 What did you think of the quality of the conclusions / final outputs from the workshop (during it and at the end)?
- 14 Were there any particular issues you remember that provoked particular agreement or disagreement among the public? If so, what?
- 15 Were there any issues that were raised by the public that seemed really important but that may not have been adequately picked up by the organisers? If so, what?

Benefits of the process

- 16 Were there any benefits to you personally or professionally as a result of being involved in this consultation process? If so, what?
- 17 Was there anything that came out of the workshop that was useful to you in your own work? If so, please give examples?
- 18 Did being involved affect your views of public engagement? If so, how?
- 19 Public consultation obviously has financial costs. Do you think it is money well spent, or not?

Lessons for the future

- 20 Overall, what do you think worked best in the workshop you attended?
- 21 What do you think worked least well, and should be changed in future similar initiatives?
- 22 Was there anything missing from the process; something you think should have happened but didn't?
- 23 Is there anything else you would like to say about the DrugsFutures project and your involvement with it?

Questions for interviews with policy makers

Your activities and role in the project

- 1 Have you been involved in this sort of public consultation before? If so, in what ways? If so, how was the DrugsFutures project different from your previous experience?
- 2 What did you do at the DrugsFutures events you attended (e.g. observe, listen, make a presentation, answer questions, join in with the small groups working)?
- 3 Did you feel there were positive interactions between yourself (and other Working Group members) and the public? Why was that?
- 4 Do you think the public participants were clear about your role? If not, why not?
- 5 How well do you think the type of involvement / role you had worked (e.g. very well, quite well, not very well, not well at all)? Why was that?
- 6 What do you think would have improved the ways in which you were involved?

Views on the events you attended

- 7 Do you feel that the design of the process used with the public worked well to get the sort of information you needed to come to your conclusions, or not? Yes / No ... any comments?
- 8 Do you think the delivery of the process worked well or not? Yes / No ... any comments?
- 9 Was there anything that you think worked particularly well, and that you would recommend to future projects of this sort?
- 10 Was there anything that did not work well, and should not be done again?
- 11 Was there anything missing from the engagement process that would have been useful and should have been included?
- 12 Did you think there were enough people, and a good enough mix of people, at the events to get a good discussion? If not, why not?
- 13 What did you think of the information provided to the public participants by the people running the workshop:
 - was there enough information?
 - was it the right sort of information for them to use?
 - was it fair and unbiased?
 - did it provide a good range of different perspectives on the issues?
- 14 What did you think of the role and contribution from the other 'experts' attending the event?
- 15 What did you think of the interest and enthusiasm of the public participants?
- 16 What did you think of the quality of discussions among the public participants at the events you attended?
- 17 What did you think of the quality of the conclusions / final outputs from the events you attended (during it and at the end)?

Using the outputs from the public engagement

- 18 What were the most useful forms of outputs from the public engagement in terms of helping the Working Group come to its conclusions? For example:
 - listening directly to the views of the public and their discussions
 - hearing the conclusions of each event that you attended
 - getting feedback from the people delivering the process regularly to the Working Group
 - seeing responses to the website
 - reading the final report on the consultation
 - any others?
- 19 Did you feel that the results of the public engagement clarified where there were areas of public consensus, disagreement or uncertainty on brain science, addiction and drugs and that therefore contributed to the Working Group's discussions? Yes / No ... any comments?

- 20 Can you give any specific examples of areas of public consensus, disagreement or uncertainty that became more apparent through the process and/or from the final report?
- 21 In terms of integrating data from the public engagement activities with other data from stakeholders, conventional research and the expert knowledge of the working group in coming to your conclusions:
- How was that integration done, to your knowledge?
 - How was this different from the way the AMS usually comes to conclusions on this sort of project?
 - Did you / the Working group give different weight to the different input from different sources? If yes, how was that weighting done?
 - Did you feel that integration process worked well, or not? Why was that?
 - Can you suggest ways of integrating findings from different sources that would have worked better?
- 22 Were the findings of the consultation what you needed for your decision-making process? Please say why and what, if anything, would have improved the usefulness and value of the findings.

Impacts / influence of the public engagement

- 23 To what extent do you think the information from the public engagement process changed the final working group recommendations: a great deal / quite a lot / some / very little / not at all?
- 24 Could you give examples of changes that happened as a result of the results of the public engagement process? For example:
- any ideas / recommendations removed
 - any ideas / recommendations downgraded in importance
 - any ideas / recommendations added
 - any ideas / recommendations increased in importance
- 25 Did you personally change any of your views on any of the issues of the BSAD project as a result of what you heard from the public? If so, in what ways?
- 26 Do you feel that the information gained from the public engagement process improved the value and quality of the final conclusions of the AMS Working Group? If it did, in what ways? If it did not, why not?
- 27 Are you more likely to want to engage the public in this sort of project in future, as a result of your experience here? Why is that?
- 28 Were you surprised at anything you experienced during this public engagement process, for good or bad? Please say what and why.
- 28 Did you personally change any of your views on public engagement as a result of being involved in this process? If so, in what ways?

Finally ...

- 29 Overall, do you think that the public engagement in the DrugsFutures project was successful? Please say why.
- 30 Can you suggest any specific lessons from the public engagement in this project, especially any factors for success to make future activities work well?
- 31 Is there anything else you would like to say about the public engagement in DrugsFutures that we have not covered?

Annex 6

Guiding principles for public dialogue

DIUS Sciencewise:

The government's approach to public dialogue on science and technology

The need for public dialogue on science and technology

- 1 The Government believes that if the UK is to take full advantage of the opportunities for creating wealth and improving quality of life offered by scientific discovery and technological development, it is crucial that we develop new approaches to bring scientists and the public together in a constructive dialogue to explore emerging issues.
- 2 Our **aim** is for a society where the public, the broad science community and policy makers feel comfortable in handling issues raised by science and technology and feel a joint sense of purpose in ensuring that the full benefits of science and technology are realised for society.
- 3 Our **objective** is to build confidence in decision-making related to the undertaking, development and overall governance of science and technology; to build on the public's generally positive views of science - and to both maximise the opportunities offered by new areas of science and technology and minimise potential downsides.
- 4 We want to elicit both the aspirations and concerns of the UK population in the development of new areas of science and technology. Our **approach** will be to enrich decision-making by gathering and analysing broad intelligence on the full range of issues (technological, scientific, environmental, social, ethical, legal and economic) related to emerging new areas of science and technology and their governance. Such dialogue will inform, rather than determine policy and decision-making by those empowered to do so.
- 5 We will **facilitate** this through robust, timely, inclusive and properly resourced dialogue that is clearly linked into decision-making processes around science and technology. Such dialogue will involve the public, scientists (both publicly and privately funded), policy makers and other perspectives, and will explore existing or potential opportunities as well as concerns related to ethical, health, safety and environmental issues.
- 6 We will ensure that dialogue is **informed**, drawing on evidence and information from a wide variety of sources. It will operate according to the principles of **openness, honesty and fairness**, designed to generate **mutual understanding** of views and underpinned by a **willingness to take account of the outcomes** of such dialogue in decision-making. We will communicate the reasons for our decisions widely and in a clear and timely manner.
- 7 We are committed to **listening to and taking account** of views expressed in our policy and decision making. We believe strongly that public dialogue will help us to identify and deal with the issues arising.
- 8 We are committed to **embedding and improving our approach** to public dialogue on science and technology. We will promote a coherent approach across Government and beyond; continually reviewing policy, guidance and experience to ensure that our approach is compatible with and contributes to good practice. We will ensure that the learning gained from this approach is disseminated widely within the science, engineering and technology community and beyond.

Principles for public dialogue on science and technology

- 9 Based on theoretical understandings and practical experience, the essential elements of public dialogue on science and technology are set out below. The Government has adopted the approach set out in this document, but recognises that this guidance will continue to be refined as experience grows.
- 10 The key principles for public dialogue seek to ensure that:
 - the conditions leading to the dialogue process are conducive to the best outcomes (**Context**)¹
 - the range of issues covered in the dialogue are relevant to participants' interests (**Scope**)
 - ensuring that the dialogue process itself represents best practice in design and execution (**Delivery**)
 - the outputs of dialogue can deliver the desired outcomes (**Impact**)
 - the process is shown to be robust and contributes to learning (**Evaluation**).

¹ The means by dialogue can impact upon policy and decision-making will be specific to each organisation involved in the dialogue process and each issue under consideration. It is important, therefore, that organisations involved dialogue address their own institutional arrangements and working practices to ensure effective application of dialogue processes.

11 In fulfilling these principles, it is recognised that the specific context of each issue will determine the relative importance of each of the following principles. However as far as practicable, public dialogue on science and technology aims to:

12 Context²

- a) Be clear in its purposes and objectives from the outset
- b) Be well timed in relation to public and political concerns. It will commence as early as possible in the policy/decision process
- c) Feed into public policy – with commitment and buy-in from policy actors
- d) Take place within a culture of openness, transparency and participation with sufficient account taken of hard to reach groups where necessary
- e) Have sufficient resources in terms of time, skills and funding
- f) Be governed in a way appropriate to the context and objectives.

13 Scope

- a) Cover both the aspirations and concerns held by the public, scientists in the public and private sector, and policy-makers.
- b) Be focussed on specific issues, with clarity about the scope of the dialogue. Where appropriate we will work with participants to agree framings that focus on broad questions to encourage more in-depth discussion. For example we might start by asking, “How do we provide for our energy needs in the future?” rather than starting by asking “should we build new nuclear power stations?”
- c) Be clear about the extent to which participants will be able to influence outcomes. Dialogue will be focussed on informing, rather than determining policy and decisions.
- d) Involve a number and demographic of the population that is appropriate to the task to give robustness to the eventual outcomes³

14 Delivery

- a) Ensure that policy-makers and experts promoting and/or participating in the dialogue process are competent in their own areas of specialisation and in the techniques and requirements of dialogue. Measures may need to be put in place to build the capacity of the public, experts and policy makers to enable effective participation.
- b) Employ techniques and processes appropriate to the objectives. Multiple techniques and methods may be used within a dialogue process, where the objectives require it.
- c) Be organised and delivered by competent bodies
- d) Include specific aims and objectives for each element of the process
- e) Take place between the general public and scientists (including publicly and privately funded experts) and other specialists as necessary. Policy-makers will also be involved where necessary.
- f) Be accessible to all who wish to take part – with special measures to access hard to reach groups, including considerations of appropriate venues and technical equipment in line with the Disability and Discrimination Act 1995⁴. Where the objectives require it, media partners may be needed to ensure that the process reaches the wider population.
- g) Be conducted fairly - with no in-built bias; non-confrontational, with no faction allowed to dominate; all participants treated respectfully; and all participants enabled to understand and question experts claims and knowledge.
- h) Be informed - This will include providing participants with information and views from a range of perspectives, and access information from other sources.
- i) Be deliberative – allowing time for participants to become informed in the area; be able to reflect on their own and others' views; and explore issues in depth with other participants. The context and objectives for the process will determine whether it is desirable to seek consensus, or to map out the range of views.
- j) Be appropriately ‘representative’ – the range of participants may need to reflect both the range of relevant interests, and pertinent socio-demographic characteristics (including geographical coverage). At times, there may be a need to enable participants to be self-selecting. In these circumstances, there will be measures in place to take account of potential any bias this may cause.

² It is probably advisable to embark upon a dialogue process, where these requirements cannot be met.

³ Where advice is sought very early on in decision-making on an issue that is not yet known about by the public this may be a “narrow but deep” approach, where there is some knowledge and the impact is likely to be wide-ranging, soon, and or controversial, an approach involving a wider number of people may be appropriate. This must be decided on a case by case basis.

⁴ Download the Disability Rights Commission’s very useful guide to access at http://www.drc-gb.org/library/publications/services_and_transport/organising_accessible_events.aspx?basket=add&pub=Organising+Accessible+Events%7cSP13

NOTE: Public dialogue does not claim to be fully representative, rather it is a group of the public, who, after adequate information, discussion, access to specialists and time to deliberate form considered advice which gives a strong indication of how the public at large feel about certain issues. The methodology and results need to be robust enough to give policy makers a good basis on which to make policy.

15 Impact

- a) Ensure that participants, the scientific community and policy-makers and the wider public can easily understand the outputs across the full range of issues considered.
- b) Ensure that participants' views are taken into account, with clear and transparent mechanisms to show how these views have been taken into account in policy and decision-making.
- c) Influence the knowledge and attitudes of the public, policy-makers and the scientific community towards the issue at hand.
- d) Influence the knowledge and attitudes of the public, policy-makers and the scientific community towards the use of public dialogue in informing policy and decision-making.
- e) Encourage collaboration, networking, broader participation and co-operation in relation to public engagement in science and technology
- f) Be directed towards those best placed to act upon its outputs⁵.

16 Evaluation

- a) Be evaluated in terms of process and outcome, so that experience and learning gained can contribute to good practice
- b) Ensure that evaluation commences as early as possible, and continues throughout in the process
- c) Ensure that evaluation addresses the objectives and expectations of all participants in the process
- d) Be evaluated by independent parties (where appropriate)

The purpose and status of this document

- 17 This document sets out a set of guiding principles by which the process of public dialogue on science and technology-related issues might effectively be taken forward. This has been developed by the OSI in collaboration with policy-makers, practitioners, academics and representatives of the scientific and business communities working in the areas of science policy and public engagement. The OSI is very grateful to all those who have contributed to the development of these principles.
18. These guidelines are compatible with the Government's code of practice on consultation (published January 2004)⁶, and provide more detail on the Government's proposed approach to public dialogue set out in the Science and Innovation Investment Framework 2004-2014 (published July 2004)⁷.
19. This document should, therefore, be considered in relation to the following:
 - Consultations and Public Dialogue activities on specific science and technology related issues to be carried out by (or on behalf of) departments, advisory committees, agencies or Non Departmental Public Bodies (including Research Councils).
20. This document will be kept under review, and the guidance will be revised and reissued periodically.

⁵ For example, directing dialogue on aspirations to the scientific and business communities will help to inform decisions on setting research priorities. Similarly, Government will gain a better view of the potential of new technologies. Directing dialogue on concerns to the Government will help inform decisions on regulatory responses - scientists and businesses will also increase their understanding of (and responsiveness to) the public.

⁶ www.cabinet-office.gov.uk/regulation/consultation/code.htm. As with the code on consultation, UK non-departmental public bodies and local authorities are encouraged to follow this guidance. Devolved Administrations are free to adopt this guidance should they wish to do so.

⁷ www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/spending_review/spend_sr04/associated_documents/spending_sr04_science.cfm