

Expert Advisor and Content Oversight Roles

Briefing document

1. The roles

Expert advisors and content oversight advisors are specialists in the topic area that a deliberative process is considering. In this case, the citizens' jury is looking at whether assisted dying should be permitted and if so, under what circumstances.

The role of the Content Oversight Advisor is to:

The design

- Lead on ensuring that the evidence the citizens' jury hears is **balanced, comprehensive and accurate**. In other words that the evidence:
 - Covers all key view points and perspectives; none is omitted through bias or oversight;
 - Covers each view point to a similar level of detail, or that any difference is objectively justifiable rather than stemming from bias (e.g. the difference is because a greater level of detail is necessary for assembly members' understanding);
 - Is factually accurate;
- Help advise on speakers for the jury workshops;
- (Usually) Brief speakers for their roles in terms of the content they need to cover. Check speakers' draft presentations to ensure that they meet the brief.
- Advise on the outputs that the citizens' jury could seek to produce, including any options or alternatives that jury members may be asked to choose between;
- Advise (where relevant) on the key sub-questions the process could seek to address (i.e. what are the key trade offs and decisions facing decision-makers on the topic area);

The role of the Expert Advisors is to:

The design

- Support the Content Oversight Team to:
 - Brief speakers for their roles in terms of the content they need to cover. Check speakers' draft presentations to ensure that they meet the brief.
 - Advise on the outputs that the citizens' jury could seek to produce, including any options or alternatives that jury members may be asked to choose between;
 - Advise (where relevant) on the key sub-questions the process could seek to address (i.e. what are the key trade offs and decisions facing decision-makers on the topic area);

At the Jury itself

- Present and answer questions on content on behalf of the citizens' jury delivery team. This includes:
 - Presenting key background information (usually very similar to the content of any background briefings) where jury members are hearing evidence, and taking part in Q&As for clarification purposes;
 - Listening to speakers' presentations and Q&A answers to make sure the evidence they give is factually accurate;
 - Recapping the information presented by speakers or options jury members are choosing between (if relevant) as identified as necessary by the jury design;
 - Being on hand during jury members' deliberations to answer arising questions about the content.

IMPORTANT: At no point during the citizens' jury workshops can an Expert Advisor express a personal opinion. You are clarifying what the facts are and, where any questions are not (purely) factual, what the different perspectives are in terms of answers to them.

What are the other relevant roles

Government of Jersey: Will research the policy input needed for the Jury and sign-off the design, including decisions on key questions and outputs. They will help identify suitable speakers and will sign off the choice of speakers.

Independent Advisory Panel: Provide scrutiny, challenge and oversight to the whole process through regular meetings looking at balance of evidence, communications with stakeholders and helping to ensure the process is as robust as possible. Also act as spokespeople for the process where appropriate too.

Design team [Involve]: Will work closely with you to create the design. They will make sure that the key questions and outputs chosen are addressable/deliverable within the time, that there is sufficient time for deliberation at the jury workshops, and that evidence is broken up into manageable chunks for jury members. They will write the agenda for the weekends and facilitation plan. On speakers, they will provide advice on what criteria to think about when choosing speakers (e.g. knowledge, charisma, accessibility, diversity). They will also liaise with speakers about all logistics and help set-up the speaker briefings calls for you (if relevant). They will check speakers' briefings for accessibility and work with you to suggest edits purely on these grounds.

2. Values

Involve's work is underpinned by our commitment to:

- *Collaboration*: We undertake to be as transparent and accountable as possible with our partners, the members of the public with whom we work and society at large. We respect and value the contributions of different groups, including in building innovative solutions to collective problems.
- *Equality*: We believe that everyone in society has an equal right to be listened to and participate in decisions that affect their lives. It's crucial to address power imbalances so that people are not just *able* to participate, but comfortable doing so.
- *Purpose*: Participation shouldn't be done for the sake of it; there should always be a clear purpose. The time, money, and commitment invested by both institutions and members of the public should be treated with respect. Equally, public participation isn't the solution to every problem. Its contribution is part of the journey towards a more inclusive and sustainable world, which involves many different people and approaches.

We respectfully ask Expert Advisors and Content Oversight Advisors to share these values during the time they spend on the project, in order to help ensure it is an enjoyable and successful experience for everyone involved.