

Consultations

Going beyond surveys

Michelle Brook



The Democratic Society

Key aims

- State who Demsoc are
- Reflect on current consultation practice
- Highlight emerging models of consultation



Who are Demsoc?



The Democratic Society

The short...

Better democracy, everywhere



A world in which...

- ... people and institutions have the desire, opportunity and confidence to participate together...
- ... people become involved in the decisions that affect their lives and have the skills to do this effectively...
- .. governments, parliaments and other organisations want to involve citizens in decision making..



The long...

- Promoting a culture of openness and participation in public services.
- Delivering practical, empowering participatory projects, products and services that enhance and support collaboration between citizens and public services.
- Advocating for new and innovative methods of participation, the culture change that organisations need to make this happen and the skills citizens need to become active participants.
- Promoting an evidence-based approach that demonstrates good practice, effective use and clear, strategic benefits.
- Producing and publishing resources that support learning and effective participation.
- Providing sectoral and thought leadership around democracy, democratic strengthening and effective participation.



The meaningful....

- Research and thinking
- Delivering practical projects
- Advocacy and culture change



The meaningful....

- Research and thinking
 - Impacts of Digital Transformation (DG Connect)
 - Open Government and the EU (Open Society Foundation)
 - Consultation Platform Discovery (GDS)



The meaningful....

- Delivering practical projects
 - Participatory Budgeting (Scottish Government)
 - Supporting civic activism in Northern Ireland (Building Change Trust)
 - Coventry City Council



The meaningful....

- Advocacy and culture change
 - Incubator for participatory democracy (Council of Europe)
 - Partnership for Good Governance (Council of Europe)
 - Suffolk County Council



Reflect on current consultation practice



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What is consultation...?

- No fixed legal definition
- Involving public(s) and stakeholders in the process through which ‘the Government’ makes a decision.
- No statutory requirements for what it must look like
 - Lots of case law and principles



Gunning principles

- Used to assess whether a consultation is adequate, and applied in the case of judicial review:
 - The policy must be a formative stage - the authority can have a preferred option, but they must have an '*open mind*' to change.
 - Respondents to a consultation must be given sufficient information about the proposals to give the matter intelligent consideration
 - Adequate time must be provided for consideration and response.
 - Decision-makers must give conscientious consideration to what they have heard



[Home](#)

Guidance

Consultation principles: guidance

From: [Cabinet Office](#)
Part of: [Civil service reform](#)
Published: 17 July 2012
Last updated: 14 January 2016, [see all updates](#)

The government is improving the way it consults by adopting a more proportionate and targeted approach.

Document



[Consultation principles](#)

PDF, 79.9KB, 2 pages



Government consultation principles

- Consultations should be clear and concise
- Consultations should have a purpose
- Consultations should be informative
- Consultations are only part of a process of engagement
- Consultations should last for a proportionate amount of time
- Consultations should be targeted
- Consultations should take account of the groups being consulted
- Consultation should facilitate scrutiny
- Government responses to consultations should be published in a timely fashion





Frustrations and comments

- Where data is held
- Cost of platforms and tools
- Analysis of results
- Lack of accessibility – language and density of documents
- Not enough visual content/alternative media
- Not easy to find out about/easy to share
- Too many/too repetitive





Highlight emerging models of consultation

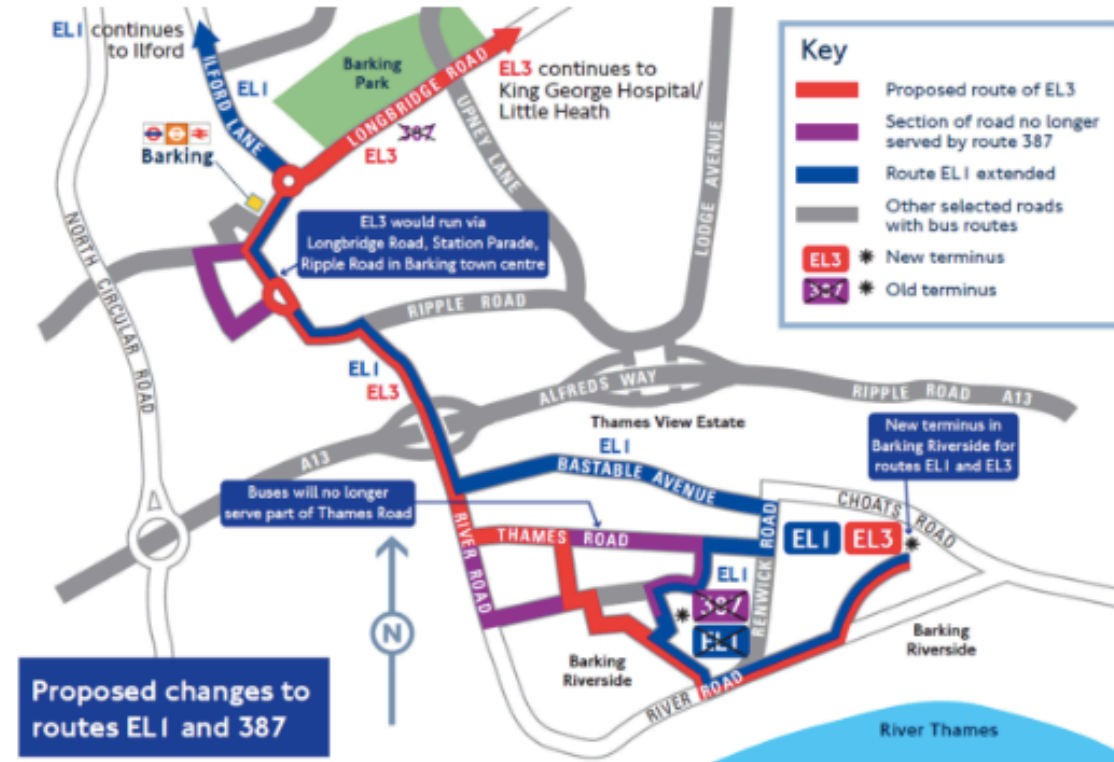


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Data visualisations

Maps

Please see the maps below for further details of the changes to routes and how this may affect your journey.



[Please click here to view a larger version of the above map \(PDF\)](#)



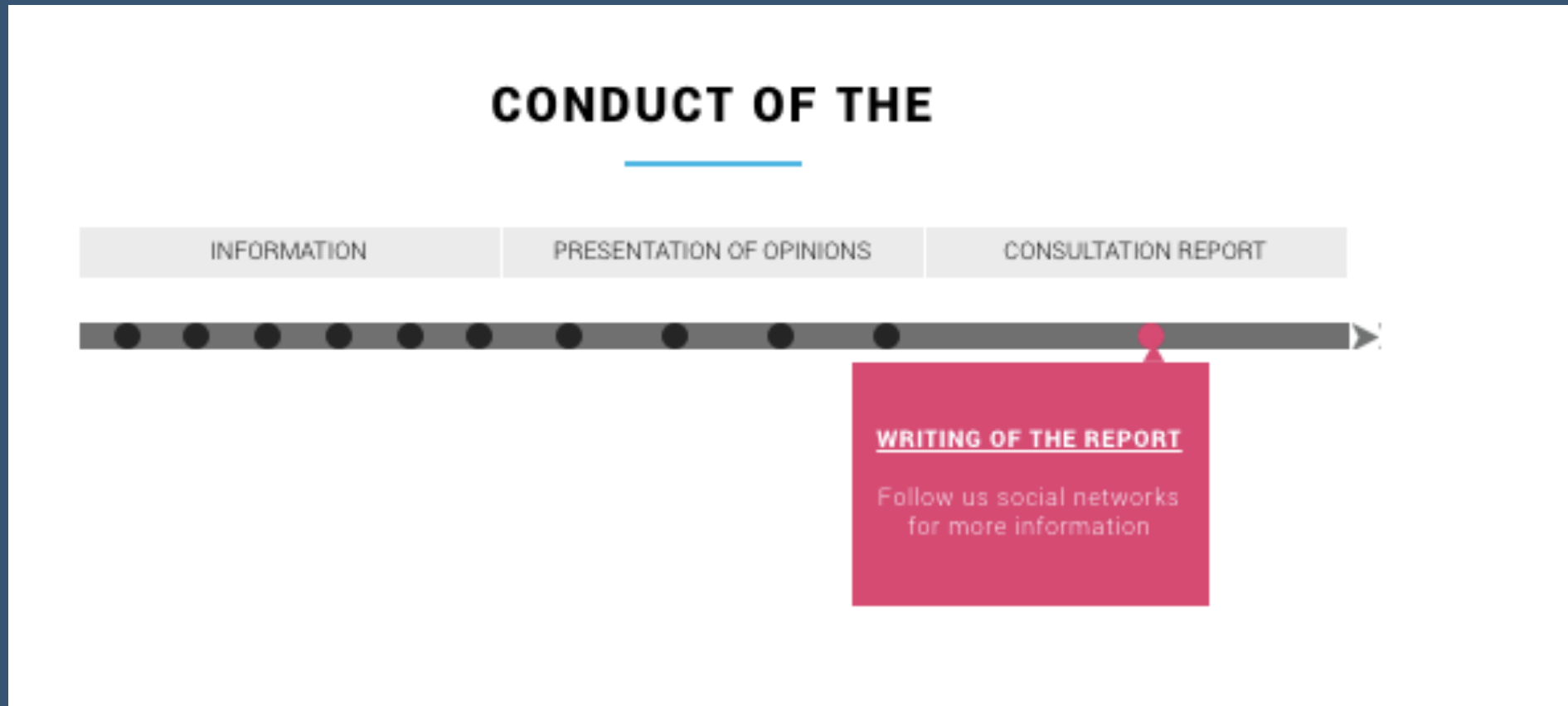
Publishing responses

Showing all 39 responses

Unique ID	Name/orgname	◆	View Response
45372077			View Response
46497371	Coeliac UK		View Response
51169818	Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh		View Response
53877130	Janice Martin		View Response
87323004	Nourish Scotland		View Response
89811791			View Response
103844439	Michelle Stevenson		View Response
130775102			View Response
134358050	Scottish Independent Hospitals Association		View Response
204527985	Vegetarian for Life		View Response
219157591			View Response



Showing the process....



Betri Reykjavík

Betri Reykjavík er samráðsvettvangur íbúa Reykjavíkurborgar. Elskaðu borgina þína. <3
#betrireykjavik

🔍 5,309 💬 11,334 👤 6 👥 57 🗳️ 15,895



COMMUNITIES (6)

NEWS

OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA

Taktu þátt og gerðu þitt hverfi enn betra



Hverfið mitt 2016

Opið fyrir hugmyndir að nýframkvæmdum og viðhaldsverkefnum í Reykjavík. Þú getur sett inn eins margar hugmyndir og þú vilt, hvar sem er í borginni. Opið er fyrir hugmyndir til 15. júní 2016

Nú er tækifærið til að skila inn betri tillögum











Þín rödd í ráðum borgarinnar

Hér er að finna ýmis verkefni sem unnin hafa verið á Betri Reykjavík.



Deliberative discussion

THREADS	
	Guidance notes NZGOAL Software Extension · Sun
	Alternative decision question for GPL/MIT NZGOAL Software Extension · 6 Jul
	How To Use Loomio NZGOAL Software Extension · 16 Jun
	Human readable work in progress NZGOAL Software Extension · 18 May
	OSS or FOSS? NZGOAL Software Extension · 18 May
	Code forking (section 29-30) NZGOAL Software Extension · 17 May
	Source code/project catalogue (discovery tool) NZGOAL Software Extension · 16 May
	What happens next?



Line-by-line commenting

electronics, maintaining state-of-the-art capabilities over many years.

The initial prototype, funded by environmental sensors (e.g., temperature, humidity, etc.) at private facilities at the University of Chicago for testing purposes, with installation occurring in summer 2016.

Beginning in summer 2016 a series of prototype nodes were installed on external building walls. The program operators will develop a process for prototyping, or demonstration purposes identified later in this document. A set of prototype nodes are mounted on external building walls and the results of each review will be published.

Sensor readings will be processed and stored in a database managed by the program operators. A period of evaluation and calibration will be required for each sensor; this period will vary based on the sensor or data that is collection. As one function of the program, the evaluation process will also involve a determination as to whether a particular sensor is producing accurate data reliably. Once evaluation determines that the sensor is producing accurate and reliable data, and once calibration is complete, the sensor will enter operation. Sensor data will be made publicly available via the City's Data Portal to support application development and data analysis. An operational sensor data will be publicly available as open data, owned by the University of Chicago. The program operators have designed the AoT system to protect privacy. This document describes the processes, procedures, and technologies that will be used to collect and publish sensor data is both correct and, where necessary, anonymized before publication. Any images and other data collected by AoT nodes for calibration will be protected by information security controls, and available only to authorized individuals and only for research purposes.

2 Technical Objectives

Avoid language of "data ownership"—data cannot legally be owned (in the United States). This is not just cosmetic, it's important not to introduce a legally indefensible concept into a document that will (we hope) be a binding understanding of how the AoT will work. The idea that data will not only be owned by someone, but by the University of Chicago particularly, adds a level of political sensitivity that is unnecessary and possibly counterproductive.

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stowed and published by the University of Chicago.

edit

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Comments

12 nodes equipped with a collection of environmental sensors (e.g., temperature, humidity, etc.) at private facilities at the University of Chicago for testing purposes, with installation occurring in summer 2016.

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2

2 collaborators | 1 comment

4

2 collaborators | 1 comment

1

1 collaborator | 0 comments







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 - Lots of scope for change – but barriers



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 - Lots of scope for change – but barriers
- Highlight emerging models of consultation
 - Some incremental steps e.g. publishing results
 - Some more radical shifts to different ways of engaging. But expensive and time-consuming



Thank you!

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