



Evidence and Research for Policy Making

Addressing the Needs of Legislators



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Structure of Presentation

- Understanding the Challenges Faced by Legislators
- Addressing their Needs Effectively

Roles of Legislators

- Legislative
- Oversight
- Financial
- Representative

Types of Activities

- Law Making
- Policy Oversight
- Committee Work
- Budget Approval
- Financial Oversight
- Representing Constituent Interests

Challenges faced by Legislators

- Time Management
- Technical Issues
- Conflicting Interests
- Lack of Clear Evidence

Structure of Presentation

- Understanding the Challenges Faced by Legislators
- Addressing their Needs Effectively

Understanding the Needs

- They have limited time
- They need quick response
- They are generalists looking at specialised areas
- They are inundated with information from interest groups

Essentials

- Credibility
 - Quality of Research
 - Perception as non-partisan
- Readability
 - Length
 - Simplicity of Language
 - No Jargon
- Response time
 - Anticipating issues

Credibility

- Well Researched
- Reflect diverse perspectives
- Use external expertise
- Provide evidence and analysis
- Cite all data sources
- No Judgement calls
- Review Process

Communication

- Written notes
 - Short (Max 6 pages)
 - Well structured and formatted
 - Graphs, charts
- Oral Briefings
 - Individual, groups, parties
 - Using external resources (risks!)

Communication

- Committees
 - Notes and oral evidence
- Response to Inquiries
 - Notes, email, phone call, face-to-face
 - Bespoke research tailored to needs
- Alert New Developments
 - Email, Website, Social Media

Timely Inputs

- Political awareness
- Anticipating issues
- Seasonality of work

Challenges

- Relevance
 - Usage statistics and feedback
- Perception as non-partisan
 - Party affiliation of users

Thank You

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