

AGENDA ITEM 6

Emerging Science and Bioethics Advisory Committee

ESBAC Forum

INTRODUCTION

1. This paper presents the updated proposal for ESBAC's first open meeting ('Forum') with external stakeholders and members of the public.

PROPOSAL

2. The proposal is to hold a one day event for 60-80 attendees in London during April or May with the aim of:
 - Engaging and consulting with stakeholders on the Focus Group proposals being taken forward.
 - Seeking feedback from stakeholders on ESBAC's approach to horizon scanning and using the Forum as a mutual opportunity for horizon scanning, knowledge capture, and networking.
3. An outline agenda is contained in Annex A.

CONTENT

4. The Forum will provide an excellent opportunity to seek views and participation from a range of attendees (stakeholders, partners, individuals) on ESBAC's workplan and the Focus Group proposals being taken forward. The Forum will also serve to test ESBAC's approach to horizon scanning and as a horizon scanning opportunity in itself.
5. Following a welcome and introduction from the ESBAC Chair, the Chief Medical Officer has agreed to deliver a keynote speech (diary commitments permitting). This would be followed by a presentation on the background to ESBAC and the Committee's role before interactive sessions on ESBAC's workplan and horizon scanning, which would form the substantive part of the day.

6. The draft outline for the main session on ESBAC's workplan and horizon scanning is included below:
 - Scene-setting presentations
 - Outline the development of ESBAC's workplan to date
 - Update on the Focus Group proposals being taken forward
 - Update from the Horizon Scanning Steering Group
 - Group discussions with focused questions to elicit specific feedback on:
 - The Focus Groups proposals being taken forward
 - ESBAC's approach to horizon scanning
 - Issues likely to arise/emerge over the next 12-24 months that ESBAC might want to keep on the radar
 - Output captured on flipchart
 - Feedback from Group discussions and plenary

ATTENDANCE

Targeted invites

7. It is proposed that all ESBAC Members would attend the Forum in addition to any external members of the topic focus groups, which are in the process of being set up.
8. The Secretariat has previously provided some examples of organisations (including international organisations) that the Committee might want to consider inviting to the ESBAC Forum. This list is not exhaustive and can be refined and amended once the outline agenda for the Forum is closer to being finalised.

Some suggested examples include:

- ABI genetics committee chair and/or team
- Academy of Medical Royal Colleges
- Association of Medical Research Charities
- Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council
- Council of Europe Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO)
- Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
- European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies to the European Union (EGE)

- European Commission Directorate General for Health and Consumers
- Health Research Authority (HRA)
- NHS Commissioning Board
- MHRA
- INVOLVE
- International Association of Bioethics
- National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) (including the NIHR Horizon Scanning Centre)
- Other Scientific Advisory Committees
- UNESCO International Bioethics Committee
- WHO Ethics and Health Initiative

Question for Members

- Who should ESBAC invite to the Forum?

Open invitations and advertising

9. It is proposed that the Forum is advertised externally to generate wider interest and to ensure that the workshop is open to all. Suggested mechanisms for advertising the workshop include:
 - BioNews (published by Progress Educational Trust)
 - GSE Network
 - ESBAC website
 - *via* Members
 - Nuffield Council on Bioethics newsletter
10. In advertising the event, consideration needs to be given to media engagement and whether this should be proactive. Advice from DH Press Office will be sought, but Members are asked for their views on when and how to engage with relevant media.

WORKSHOP OUTPUTS

11. A summary of the workshop would be published on the ESBAC website, including the knowledge capture around the workplan and horizon scanning as appropriate.

Questions for Members

- Do Members have any comments on the outline agenda and proposed content?
- Who should ESBAC invite to the Forum?

ANNEX A

FORUM DRAFT AGENDA

The Emerging Science and Bioethics Advisory Committee

ESBAC Forum

[April/May – timing to be agreed]

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 10:00 | Registration & refreshments |
| 10:30 | Welcome and introduction (Professor Sir Alasdair Breckenridge, ESBAC Chair) |
| 10:40 | Keynote speech (Dame Sally Davies, Chief Medical Officer) (diary permitting) |
| 10:55 | Background to ESBAC and its role (Dr Mark Bale, Director of Health Science and Bioethics, Department of Health) (includes time for Q&A) |
| 11:25 | ESBAC's Horizon Scanning Steering Group presentation |
| 11:55 | ESBAC's workplan <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outline the development of ESBAC's workplan (including ESBAC's Framework)• Update on the Focus Group proposals being taken forward• Update from Horizon Scanning Steering Group• Questions |
| 13:00 | Buffet lunch and networking opportunity |
| 14:00 | Group discussions |
| 15:30 | Plenary - feedback on group discussions |
| 16:00 | Closing comments from the Chair |
| 16:15 | Close |