

**Feedback from Taking Part User Event**

**DCMS, 28 July 2015**

**Overview**

Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) held an event for users of the Taking Part Survey[[1]](#footnote-1) on 28 July 2015. The event included presentations from:

* DCMS – 10 Years of Taking Part
* The Audience Agency - Audience Spectrum
* TNS BMRB – Longitudinal data findings
* DCMS - Future of taking part
* Ed Humpherson – Director General for Regulation, UK Statistics Authority.

All presentations have been published on the [DCMS website](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2015-user-event-taking-part-survey)[[2]](#footnote-2).

There was also an opportunity for attendees to discuss their views on the questions set out in the DCMS request for views on Taking Part[[3]](#footnote-3).

**Feedback from group discussions**

Each group provided details of their priorities following the group discussion. A summary of these priorities is set out below.

Analysis and dissemination

* All groups requested a tool which would enable users to create their own more detailed tables (a replacement for NetQuest).
* More detailed analysis of the longitudinal data (including demographics and reasons for change) would be helpful.

Data collection

* More than one group referenced a desire to avoid reducing the sample size.
* Groups were happy for online (and one suggested telephone as an alternative) to be considered to help reduce costs but cautious about whether it would be possible to collect the same high quality data using these alternative methods and queries whether there would be implications for the National Statistics Status if there was a change in methodology.
* It was suggested that longitudinal data could be collected online after the first interview.
* Consideration should be given to whether the survey could alternate between a longer survey and shorter survey (e.g. headline measure collected every year, more detailed data collected every two or more years).
* There was a desire to see longitudinal data continue to be collected on an annual basis.
* There was support for the use of rotating modules.
* Attendees were keen to see Taking Part make use the National Pupil Database (NPD) for child data (sample selection and linking for analysis).

Content

* One group felt the free time activities section should be kept and would like to see frequency questions asked in relation to free time.
* Questions on activities participated in as a child were considered valuable.
* It was proposed that the digital sections could be based on activities rather than whether the respondent has visited a website (e.g. have you used the internet to stream live music?).
* It was suggested adult sport questions should be dropped if they were not being used as much as questions for other sectors. However, it was considered important that sport data stays for children and a different group suggested Taking Part should be used for headline sports figures and APS for the more detailed analysis.
* It was felt more could be done to look at harmonisation with other government departments to ensure there is no duplication.
* Users requested more local level data.

All Taking Part users are encourage to submit responses to the DCMS request for input3. The deadline for responses is 16 October 2015.

1. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/taking-part> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2015-user-event-taking-part-survey> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/447827/TP_consultation_document_final.docx> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)