

NUFFIELD
COUNCIL ON
BIOETHICS

Annual Report 2007

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About the Council

The Nuffield Council on Bioethics examines ethical issues raised by new developments in biology and medicine, with a view to providing independent advice to policy makers and stimulating debate in bioethics. It does this by setting up expert Working Parties on specific topics, which consider the issues over a period of one to two years. After listening to the views of stakeholders, a thorough analysis of the evidence and a public consultation, the Council publishes its conclusions and recommendations. In the past, we have considered topics as diverse as genetic screening, genetically modified crops, the treatment of premature babies and the use of animals in research. The Council is an independent body funded jointly by the Nuffield Foundation, the Medical Research Council and the Wellcome Trust. In 2007, it published two major reports, on the forensic use of bioinformation and public health.

The Council's terms of reference require it:

1. to identify and define ethical questions raised by recent advances in biological and medical research in order to respond to, and to anticipate, public concern;
2. to make arrangements for examining and reporting on such questions with a view to promoting public understanding and discussion; this may lead, where needed, to the formulation of new guidelines by the appropriate regulatory or other body;
3. in the light of the outcome of its work, to publish reports; and to make representations, as the Council may judge appropriate.

Detailed information about the Council and its work can be found at: www.nuffieldbioethics.org

Council members



Professor Sir Bob Hepple QC FBA (Chairman, until December 2007)
Bob Hepple is Emeritus Master of Clare College, Emeritus Professor of Law at the University of Cambridge, and a barrister at Blackstone Chambers, London. In 2007, he was appointed judge of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal. In 2006–7, Professor Hepple chaired the Council's Working Party on *The forensic use of bioinformation*.



Professor Peter Smith CBE FMedSci (Deputy Chairman)
Peter Smith is Professor of Tropical Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and a Governor of the Wellcome Trust. His research interests include large-scale trials of vaccines and other interventions against tropical diseases.



Professor Roger Brownsword
Roger Brownsword is Director of the Centre for Technology, Law, Ethics and Society (TELOS), School of Law, King's College London, and Honorary Professor in Law at the University of Sheffield. Research interests include legal theory, bioethics and the regulation of technology.



Professor Sir Kenneth Calman KCB FRSE
Kenneth Calman is Chancellor of the University of Glasgow. He was Vice-Chancellor of Durham University until 2007. He trained in surgery and was formerly Chief Medical Officer for Scotland and England, and Chairman of the WHO Executive Board. From 2003 until January 2008 Professor Calman chaired the Council's sub-group on Reaching Out to Young People.



Professor Sian Harding FAHA
Sian Harding is Professor of Cardiac Pharmacology at the National Heart and Lung Institute, a Division of the Faculty of Medicine, Imperial College London. She is a member of the Central Ethical Review Committee for Animal Studies and a Designated Person for administration of the Human Tissue Act.



Professor Peter Harper
Peter Harper is University Research Professor in Human Genetics, Cardiff University. His research interests include inherited neurological disorders, especially Huntington's disease and myotonic dystrophy. He has been extensively involved in the practice and development of genetic counselling.



The Rt Rev Lord Harries of Pentregarth DD FKC FRSL HonFMedSci
Lord Harries was Bishop of Oxford from 1987 to 2006. He is Chair of the Ethics and Law Advisory Group at the HFEA, and was formerly Dean of King's College, London where he is Honorary Professor of Theology. He chaired the House of Lords Select Committee on Stem Cell Research.



Professor Ray Hill FMedSci
Ray Hill is Head of Licensing and External Research for Europe at Merck, Sharp and Dohme. He is a pharmacologist with a special interest in pain and headache research and is a Visiting Professor at Bristol, Surrey and Strathclyde Universities. He is a non-executive Director of the Babraham Institute, Cambridge.



Professor Søren Holm
Søren Holm is Professorial Fellow in Bioethics at Cardiff Law School, and part-time Professor of Medical Ethics at the University of Oslo, Norway. He is a medical doctor and philosopher and was a member of the Danish Council of Ethics from 1994–1999. He is the President-Elect of the European Society for the Philosophy of Medicine and Health Care.



Professor Tony Hope (from November 2007)
Tony Hope is Professor of Medical Ethics, University of Oxford, and an Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist. In 1997 he co-founded the Oxford Centre of Ethics and Communication Skills in Health Care Practice (Ethox). His research areas include mental health and neuroscience and clinical ethics. Professor Hope is Chair of the Council's Working Party on *Dementia: ethical issues*, and a co-opted member of the Council for the duration of the group's work.



Mr Anatole Kaletsky
Anatole Kaletsky is Editor at Large of *The Times of London* and a founding partner of an economic, political and financial consultancy firm. He has 30 years of experience as a journalist on publications such as *The Financial Times* and *The Economist*.



Dr Rhona Knight FRCGP
Rhona Knight has a portfolio career in medicine. She works as a General Practitioner and is involved in medical education in Leicester. She has a particular interest in making bioethical issues accessible and understandable to non-specialist audiences. Dr Knight is a member of the Council's Reaching Out to Young People Advisory Group.



Lord Krebs Kt FRS FMedSci (until November 2007)
Lord Krebs is Principal of Jesus College, Oxford. He is the former Chairman of the Foods Standards Agency and former Chief Executive of the Natural Environment Research Council. His areas of interest include ecology and behaviour, and the relationship between science and policy. Lord Krebs chaired the Council's Working Party on *Public Health: ethical issues* and was a co-opted member of the Council for the duration of the committee's work.



Image credit: Howard Guest

Professor Peter Lipton FMedSci (deceased, November 2007)
Peter Lipton was Head of the Department of History and Philosophy of Science and Fellow of King's College at the University of Cambridge (see page 4).



Professor Alison Murdoch FRCOG
Alison Murdoch is Professor of Reproductive Medicine, a consultant gynaecologist and Head of the NHS Newcastle Fertility Centre at Life. She is involved in setting clinical standards, embryo research, stem cell derivation and the associated practical, political and ethical issues.



Dr Bronwyn Parry
Bronwyn Parry is Reader in Geography at Queen Mary, University of London. She is an economic and cultural geographer interested in the way human-environment relations are being recast by technological, economic and regulatory changes. She has acted as consultant to the UK Government and the United Nations.



Professor Hugh Perry FMedSci
Hugh Perry is Professor of Experimental Neuropathology at the University of Southampton and Director of Southampton Neuroscience Group. He is currently Chair of the Wellcome Trust Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience Committee.



Lord Plant of Highfield (until October 2007)
Lord Plant was Master of St Catherine's College, Oxford from 1994 to 2000 before returning to Southampton University as Professor of European Politics until 2002. He is now Professor of Legal and Political Philosophy at King's College London.



Professor Nikolas Rose
Nikolas Rose is the James Martin White Professor of Sociology at the London School of Economics and Political Science, and Director of the LSE's BIOS Centre for the Study of Bioscience, Biomedicine, Biotechnology and Society. His current research is on the social and political implications of the new sciences of the brain.



Dr Alan Williamson FRSE (until January 2007)
Alan Williamson is a consultant on biotechnology. He is a member of the Advisory Council to the National Human Genome Research Institute of the National Institutes of Health, USA. He was Vice-President, Basic Research, Immunology and Inflammation and Research Strategy Worldwide MRL, Merck & Co. Inc.

Changes in membership

After leading the Council for the past five years, Professor Sir Bob Hepple's chairmanship of the Council came to an end in December 2007. Professor Hepple chaired the Council's Working Party on *Genetics and human behaviour* in 2002, before being appointed Chair of the Council at the beginning of 2003. More recently he headed the Working Party on *The Forensic use of bioinformation*. He is succeeded by Professor Albert Weale, Professor of Government at the University of Essex.



Professor Albert Weale (Chairman from January 2008)
Albert Weale is Professor of Government at the University of Essex where his academic interests focus on political theory and public policy. He is co-editor of the British Journal of Political Science.

The Council welcomed Professor Tony Hope, who is co-opted to the Council for the period of the Working Party on *Dementia: ethical issues*, which he is chairing. Dr Alan Williamson and Lord Plant reached the end of their term on Council in 2007. Lord Krebs was a co-opted member for the duration of the Working Party on public health. At the start of 2008, the Council welcomes new members Dr Amanda Burls and Professor Jonathan Wolff.



Image credit: Howard Guest

Professor Peter Lipton (9th October 1954 – 25th November 2007)

We were shocked and saddened by the news that Professor Peter Lipton died suddenly on 25th November 2007. Peter was a popular, dedicated and highly respected member of Council, whose articulate and lively contributions to our debates will be sorely missed: in the words of Lord Harries, "when I think of Peter Lipton, two qualities come immediately to mind: his courtesy and clarity of mind, which always enhanced any discussion of which he was a part". He chaired the Council's Working Party on *Pharmacogenetics* from 2002–2003, before becoming a full member of Council at the end of 2003. Peter was the long-serving head of the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Cambridge.

A tribute by Professor Albert Weale

'An email message is perhaps not qualitatively different from a hand-written letter; but it does not follow from this that the introduction of email technology cannot substantially change people's lives.' I remember Peter Lipton uttering these words one day in the Working Party on *Pharmacogenetics*, words that eventually found their way into the report itself.

A simple, easily graspable analogy like this is just one small example of the sparkling intelligence that Peter brought to the Working Party, as he brought to the work of the Council generally. Anyone can complicate issues; it takes insight and intelligence to put difficult matters in a straightforward way without losing the essential point. Peter had just these qualities.

Council working parties need many things. They need a good issue to think about, good briefings from Council staff and good working relationships among their members. Above all, however, they need someone in the chair who can think in a clear and informed way so as to guide discussion bringing all those other qualities together to best advantage. Over the months that the Working Party met, Peter led us through the complex issues of the science behind pharmacogenetics and its implications for research and development, regulation and public policy and the ethical issues in treatment and clinical practice. His ability to put into words the thoughts that the Working Party was wrestling with meant that the production of the report proceeded smoothly and with dispatch.

Understanding the implications of pharmacogenetics requires an ability to follow the technicalities, but it also requires an ethical sensibility in matters of justice and potential discrimination as well as the responsibility of individuals, companies and the professions. Of Peter Lipton it could truly be said that 'on the lips of him who has understanding wisdom is found' (*Proverbs, 10:13*). The Working Party was only one of his many achievements, but his contribution embodied the virtues of understanding and wisdom.

An obituary by Peter's colleagues at the University of Cambridge can be found at:
www.hps.cam.ac.uk/news/peterlipton.html

The Secretariat

Hugh Whittall
Director (from February 2007)

Dr Catherine Moody
Deputy Director (until March 2007)

Harald Schmidt
Assistant Director

Katharine Wright
Assistant Director (from May 2007)

Dr Carole McCartney
Project manager of the Working Group on *The forensic use of bioinformation: ethical issues*

Carol Perkins
PA to the Director and Secretariat Administrator

Catherine Joynson
Communications & External Affairs Manager

Caroline Rogers
Senior Research Officer

Julia Trusler
Research Officer

Audrey Kelly-Gardner
Secretary

Kate Harvey
Information Officer (from July 2007)





Foreword by the Chairman

Towards the end of 2007 and in early 2008 the question was again raised whether the United Kingdom should have a state-sponsored national bioethics council. The occasion was the debate in the House of Lords on the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill, when the establishment of a National Bioethics Commission was proposed as an amendment to the Bill. Baroness Warnock said that "if the proposed [Commission] is intended above all to be neutral and non-political...the Nuffield [Council] fulfils those criteria well, because it is independently funded." She and other peers praised the valuable, informed and authoritative reports produced by the Council.

However, advocates of a National Bioethics Commission expressed two concerns about the Council. The first, raised by Lord Patten was, "Does the Nuffield Council...have any statutory weight, and are its conclusions referred to the Government or Parliament for endorsement?". The answer given by Lord Harries, a Council member, was that, "Because of its expertise and authority, its reports, which always go to the Government, are taken very seriously. The Government regards them as intrinsically authoritative because of the expertise and work that lie behind them. There is no obligation for the Government to take them into account, but the fact is that they do." Lord Harries' statement has been vindicated in the case of the two major reports published by the Council in 2007, with *Public health: ethical issues* and *The forensic use of bioinformation: ethical issues*. In relation to the first of these, we have already received a significant level of interest from policy-makers and other relevant stakeholders. The second has elicited an encouraging response from bodies such as the new Ethics Group of the National DNA Database, and the report will form part of the evidence to be considered by the Human Genetic Commission's Citizens' Inquiry into the forensic use of DNA and genetic information.

A second concern expressed about the Council, by Lord Tombs, was that it has "strong science links and is supported by the Wellcome Foundation, which is a medical research charity of great power and influence". Lord Krebs, who was an ex officio member of Council while chairing the Working Party on *Public Health: ethical issues*, responded: "The fact that [the Council] is independent of the Government makes it a more trusted body. I speak again from personal experience, having chaired the Food Standards Agency - a government body where it is much harder to persuade the public that one is genuinely independent. Independence is important and I could add parenthetically that the funders - the Nuffield Foundation and the Wellcome Trust - exert absolutely zero pressure on those publishing or producing the reports in terms of the conclusions." After seven years on the Council (including five as Chairman) I can confirm that

parenthetic remark by Lord Krebs. The Council sets its own programme, appoints (on recommendation of a committee which is independently chaired) its own members and also members of working groups, appoints its own Secretariat, produces its own reports and adopts conclusions, without the slightest interference from the funders mentioned above or the other funder, the Medical Research Council.

The funders do, of course, need to be satisfied at each quinquennial review, that we are fulfilling our role as defined in our terms of reference. They enthusiastically renewed our funding on this basis from the beginning of 2007. The funders also select the Chairman of Council, after consultation. It has been my privilege and pleasure to act as Chairman for the past five years. A privilege because the Council works at the cutting edge of bioethical issues raised by recent developments in biology and medicine, and we produce in-depth expert reports which have a significant influence on public policy, not only in the UK but also internationally. A pleasure because it has involved working with a stimulating group of scientists, clinicians, philosophers, social scientists and lawyers, from whom I have learned an enormous amount. It is the interdisciplinarity of the Council that is its greatest strength.

I am delighted that my successor, from 1 January 2008, is an old friend and colleague Professor Albert Weale, who served as a member of Council for six years. He returns, I am sure refreshed from a few years' respite, to give the Council the leadership and public face that will take it to new heights of achievement.

I want to express my appreciation for their support and friendship to all those who have made this a rewarding experience for me, including the members of Council and working groups past and present, our excellent successive Directors Sandy Thomas and Hugh Whittall, the members of the Secretariat, Baroness Onora O'Neill, Anthony Tomei and Sharon Witherspoon at the Nuffield Foundation and Mark Walport at the Wellcome Trust. I want to mention specially two dear friends and colleagues who sadly died in 2007, Anne McLaren, a founder member of Council, and Peter Lipton, a serving member, both wonderful human beings who showed how one can be a leading scientist or philosopher and at the same time be committed to the highest ethical and social values.

Professor Sir Bob Hepple QC FBA



A note from the Director

When I arrived at the Nuffield Council at the beginning of 2007 I had the privilege of joining an organisation that had developed a strong national and international profile and reputation, based on the quality of its work over many years. I arrived in time to witness two Working Parties preparing reports for publication before the end of the year, and the Council had just secured a further five year grant from its three funding bodies - the Nuffield Foundation, the Wellcome Trust, and the Medical Research Council. All of this I could have anticipated, as I had been viewing the Council from a distance, with considerable admiration, for a number of years. What I had not quite appreciated until I stepped through the door was the extent of the abilities, commitment and energy of the members and staff of the Council, and of the generous contribution of its Working party members. The first thing I must do, therefore, as we reach the end of my first year, is to acknowledge all of these people for their individual and collective efforts in maintaining the excellence and relevance of the Nuffield Council on Bioethics. I must also pay tribute to Sandy Thomas who, as Director, built the Council over the course of nine years into its current position of strength. Thanks are due also to Dr Catherine Moody who returned to the Medical Research Council in March 2007 after three years as Deputy Director of the Council - I am most grateful for her generous support during my earliest days.

The events and achievements of the last year have been notable. The publication of two reports - *The forensic use of bioinformation* and *Public health* - both of which had a strong and immediate impact, was a remarkable achievement for a small team of staff. There is little time to rest, however, and already a new Working Party, on the ethical issues arising from dementia, is underway, for which we are delighted to have Professor Tony Hope as our Chair.

The published reports make headlines, but there are other achievements of which we can be proud such as our collaboration with the Nuffield Curriculum Centre in preparing educational materials on the use of animals in research for 14-19 year-olds and their teachers. To give support to the teaching and learning of ethics in the context of science

and citizenship curricula is possibly one of the more valuable things we can do, and we plan to build on this work over the coming years.

We have also, throughout 2007, continued to build our links and our influence in the international arena through talks, presentations and collaborative work with colleagues in the EU, the Council of Europe, WHO and UNESCO. These are fora in which we can not only promote the work of the Council, but also assist in the development of bioethics on a worldwide basis. We look forward to helping take this agenda forward once more in 2008.

Finally, I would like to reiterate my personal thanks to the staff of the Council, all of whom have helped immeasurably in making 2007 a rewarding first year for me and, more importantly, in making it yet another great year for the Council. We welcomed two new staff to the Council during the year - Katharine Wright and Kate Harvey - both of whom have already become highly valued colleagues. I would like to thank the members of the Council itself for their continued support, guidance, wisdom and commitment. And, most particularly, while welcoming Professor Albert Weale as the new Chair, I would like to thank Professor Sir Bob Hepple for his calm and authoritative leadership; for his good natured but firm guidance; and for his lasting contribution to the work of the Nuffield Council on Bioethics, including the important and timely report on *The forensic use of bioinformation: ethical issues*.

Even as we follow up with the dissemination of the recently published reports, 2008 is already giving rise to a growing agenda of issues that demand attention from scientists, policy-makers and the public. We look forward to working on these, with a wide range of colleagues and collaborators, over the coming year.

Hugh Whittall

Publications during 2007

The forensic use of bioinformation: ethical issues



Introduction

The UK now has by far the largest forensic DNA database in the world, per head of population, with its four million samples representing six per cent of the population. Many criminals have been, and will continue to be, caught and convicted through the forensic use of DNA. However, the establishment of the National DNA Database and subsequent extensions to police powers were effected without thorough consideration of the ethical issues nor any meaningful public debate. Therefore, the Council decided that a critical examination of the subject was needed.

A Working Group was appointed in 2006, which included members with expertise in law, genetics, philosophy and social science. As part of its work, the committee held a public consultation, eliciting 135 responses. These revealed a wide range of views, from those who wholeheartedly welcomed the expansion of forensic databases, to those who viewed the increase in police powers with deep suspicion. The Council published its report *The forensic use of bioinformation: ethical issues* in September 2007, along with a newly-designed accompanying short guide to the report.

Terms of Reference

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>1. To identify and consider the ethical, social and legal issues raised by current and potential future uses of bioinformation for forensic purposes.</p> | <p>d) arguments for and against population-wide forensic databases;</p> <p>e) access to and use of forensic databases for purposes of research;</p> <p>f) admissibility and use of bioinformation in criminal proceedings;</p> <p>g) sharing of bioinformation for forensic purposes across international boundaries;</p> <p>h) use for forensic purposes of bioinformation collected for non-forensic purposes; and</p> <p>i) governance of research conducted by or for forensic laboratories.</p> | <p>3. To identify the ethical and legal principles and procedures which should govern the forensic use of bioinformation, and to make recommendations.</p> |
| <p>2. To consider, in particular:</p> <p>a) the interpretation of the information;</p> <p>b) the collection, storage and retention of profiles and samples;</p> <p>c) issues of informed consent, privacy and confidentiality in the light of data protection and human rights legislation;</p> | | <p>4. To draft a Report on these issues.</p> |

Membership of the Working Group

Professor Sir Bob Hepple QC FBA (Chair)

Emeritus Master of Clare College and Emeritus Professor of Law, University of Cambridge; Chairman of the Nuffield Council on Bioethics

Mr Graham Cooke

Barrister, King's Bench Chambers, Bournemouth

Professor Søren Holm

Professorial Fellow in Bioethics, Cardiff Law School and part-time Professor of Medical Ethics, University of Oslo, Norway; member of the Council

Professor Graeme Laurie

Professor of Medical Jurisprudence at the University of Edinburgh and Director, Arts and Humanities Research Council Research Centre for Studies in Intellectual Property and Technology Law, University of Edinburgh

Dr Bronwyn Parry

Reader in Social and Cultural Geography, Queen Mary, University of London; member of the Council

Professor Andrew Read

Chair of Human Genetics, University of Manchester

Professor Robin Williams

Professor of Sociology, School of Applied Social Sciences, University of Durham

Dr Carole McCartney

Project manager
Lecturer in Criminal Law and Criminal Justice, University of Leeds



The report findings

The Council broadly endorses a rights-based approach, which both recognises the importance to human beings of respect for their individual liberty, autonomy and privacy, and the need, in appropriate circumstances, to restrict these rights either in the public interest or to protect the rights of others. The principle of 'proportionality' is at the heart of the recommendations in the report. This means that any interference with legally enforceable human rights, such as the right to respect for private and family life, must be proportionate to the need to fight crime.

DNA can currently be taken, without consent, from any person arrested for a 'recordable' offence (mostly offences that can lead to a prison sentence). Since 2003, the police in England and Wales have been able to store this DNA permanently on the National DNA Database even if the individual is never charged, or is later found to be innocent. We found little evidence that keeping the DNA of people not charged or convicted increases crime detection rates. At the same time, many people are concerned about the implications and stigma associated with their DNA being on the Database. Given this

and pending further research, the Council recommends that the police should only be allowed to keep the DNA of people who are convicted of a crime. The exception would be the DNA of people charged with serious violent or sexual offences, which should be kept for up to five years even if they are not convicted. This would bring the law in England, Wales and Northern Ireland into line with that in Scotland. Instead of focusing on longer or indefinite retention, we would like to see the police put more resources into the collection of DNA from crime scenes. At present, fewer than 20 percent of crime scenes are forensically examined.

The report included a number of other recommendations relating to storing the DNA of witnesses, victims, volunteers and children, and the expanding uses of the DNA Database, for example, for research and inferring the ethnicity of potential suspects.



The report launch

The Council launched the report at a public seminar held in London on 18th September 2007. Working Group members presented the findings during the first session, which was followed by a general discussion facilitated by the writer and broadcaster Vivienne Parry. Around 80 people attended the launch, including policy makers, academics, representatives of pressure groups and other interested individuals. Audio recordings of the presentations are available to download from the Council's website.

Approximately 700 copies of the report were sent to relevant organisations and interested individuals. In addition, a one-page summary of the report's conclusions and recommendations was sent to all Members of Parliament, Members of the Scottish Parliament and Members of the European Parliament.

Highlights of media coverage

The report received extensive and very favourable coverage in the national and local print and broadcast media. Coverage on the day of the launch included the following:

Date	Media	Details
18 Sept	BBC Breakfast News, Sky News, GMTV News	Interviews with members of the Working Group
	BBC Radio 4, 5, World Service, and regional stations; Independent Radio News	Interviews with members of the Working Group
	The Times	"DNA database 'puts innocent under suspicion'"
	The Guardian	"Police must not store DNA details of the innocent - report"
	The Telegraph	"Storing DNA of innocent people 'unethical'"
	The Financial Times	"Call for rethink on DNA of innocent"
	The Daily Mail	"The great DNA divide"
	The Mirror	"DNA database slammed by ethics expert"

"It should be compulsory reading for anyone involved in the criminal process"

Counsel (The Journal of the Bar in England and Wales), December 2007

Post-launch activities

Members of the Working Group have been involved in a number of meetings and events since the launch in order to disseminate the findings to policy makers and promote public debate of the issues. Additionally, the Secretariat and members of the Working Party have submitted articles based on the findings of the report to relevant journals and responded to calls for evidence and consultations where appropriate.



Members of the Working Group: Professor Graeme Laurie, Dr Bronwyn Parry, Dr Carole McCartney and Professor Andrew Read

Presentations

Date	Event	Speakers and details
25 Sept	Fringe event at the Labour Party Conference 2007, Bournemouth	Members of the Working Group were joined by Under-Secretary of State for the Home Office, Meg Hillier MP and Dr Ian Gibson MP to discuss the report's recommendations with delegates
27 Sept	'DNA in the Dock', The Dana Centre at the Science Museum, London	A public discussion event about the report was facilitated by Dr Carole McCartney. The speakers were Graham Cooke, Dr Tim Clayton (Forensic Science Service), Anna Fairclough (Liberty) and Professor Steve Bain (DNA Database Strategy Board)
12 Oct	Forum of National Ethics Committees	Hugh Whittall presented the report to representatives of European National Ethics Committees
26 Oct	Manchester Science Festival, The NOWGEN Centre	Dr Carole McCartney gave a talk about the report
19 Nov	Royal Institution/Nuffield Foundation 6th Form Conference, ThinkTank, Birmingham	Dr Carole McCartney gave a talk and led a discussion about the DNA Database
28 Nov	Royal Institution/Nuffield Foundation 6th Form Conference, Royal Geographical Society, London	Dr Bronwyn Parry gave a talk and led a discussion about the the DNA Database
5 Dec	Meeting with the British Academy of Forensic Sciences, London	Members of the Working Group met representatives of the BAFS to discuss the recommendations in the report

By the end of the year the report had been downloaded from the Council's website nearly 24,000 times.

Publications during 2007

Public health: ethical issues



Introduction

Public health measures are designed to improve health across the population. In the past, they have included the provision of clean housing and water, and vaccination schemes. Some measures restrict personal freedom more than others and deciding what kind of measure is appropriate and justifiable is an age-old problem for government and for policy makers.

In February 2006, the Council set up a Working Party to consider the issues, which included members with expertise in health economics, law, philosophy, public health policy, health promotion and social science. To inform discussions, the group held a public consultation and met with representatives from a range of relevant organisations. The report *Public health: ethical issues* was published in November 2007, accompanied by a short guide to the report.

Terms of Reference

1. To identify and consider ethical, legal and social issues arising when designing measures to improve public health.
2. To consider, by means of case studies:
 - a) the variety of aims for such measures, such as informing individual choices and protecting the wider community, and their relative priorities;
 - b) the role of autonomy, consent and solidarity;
 - c) issues raised by decisions about, and perceptions of, risk;
 - d) the special situation of children and those who are poor or socially excluded.
3. To examine the implications of the above for the development of frameworks for policy making in public health.

Membership of the Working Party

Lord Krebs Kt FRS FMedSci (Chair)

Principal, Jesus College, University of Oxford

Dr Raghieb Ali

Clinical Lecturer, Department of Clinical Pharmacology, Green College, University of Oxford

Professor Tom Baldwin

Professor of Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, University of York

Professor Roger Brownsword

Director, Centre for Technology, Law, Ethics and Society (TELOS), School of Law, King's College London; member of the Council

Professor Sir Kenneth Calman KCB FRCS DL FRSE

Chancellor, University of Glasgow; member of the Council

Professor Christine Godfrey

Professor of Health Economics, Department of Health Sciences, University of York

Professor Trisha Greenhalgh OBE

Professor of Primary Healthcare, Department of Primary Care and Population Sciences, Whittington Hospital, London

Professor Anne Johnson FMedSci

Head, Department of Primary Care and Population Sciences, Royal Free and University College Medical School, London

Professor Sally Macintyre FRSE CBE

Director, Medical Research Council Social and Public Health Sciences Unit, Glasgow

Professor Jonathan Montgomery

Professor of Health Care Law, University of Southampton, and Chair, Hampshire Primary Care Trust

Ms Julia Unwin CBE

Director, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, York

The Stewardship Model

We propose a 'stewardship model' that outlines the appropriate goals and constraints of public health measures. Acceptable public health goals include:

- reducing the risks of ill health that people are exposed to as a result of other people's actions or behaviours, for example reducing drink-drinking and passive smoking;
- reducing causes of ill health relating to environmental conditions, such as drinking water safety and housing standards;
- protecting and promoting of the health of children and other vulnerable people;
- helping people to overcome addictions and other unhealthy behaviours;
- ensuring that it is easy for people to lead a healthy life, for example by providing convenient and safe opportunities for exercise;
- reducing unfair health inequalities.

At the same time, public health programmes should:

- not attempt to coerce adults to lead healthy lives;
- minimise interventions that are introduced without individual consent of those affected, or without procedural justice arrangements (such as democratic decision-making procedures) which provide adequate mandate;
- seek to minimise interventions that are perceived as unduly intrusive and in conflict with important personal values.

The report findings

The report proposes a 'stewardship model' which sets out guiding ethical principles for designing public health programmes, and an 'intervention ladder' that provides a way of thinking about the acceptability of different measures. Drawing on these principles in four case studies, the report considers the obligations of the state, third parties (such as food and drinks industries) and of individuals. The case studies focus on alcohol and tobacco, obesity, infectious disease and fluoridation of water supplies. Some of the conclusions and recommendations are summarised below.



The Intervention Ladder

We propose the 'intervention ladder' as a useful way of thinking about the acceptability and justification of different public health policies. The ladder of possible government action is as follows:

Eliminate choice. Regulate in such a way as to entirely eliminate choice, for example through compulsory isolation of patients with infectious diseases.

Restrict choice. Regulate in such a way as to restrict the options available to people with the aim of protecting them, for example removing unhealthy ingredients from foods, or unhealthy foods from shops or restaurants.

Guide choice through disincentives. Fiscal and other disincentives can be put in place to influence people not to pursue certain activities, for example through taxes on cigarettes, or by discouraging the use of cars in inner cities through charging schemes or limitations of parking spaces.

Guide choices through incentives. Regulations can be offered that guide choices by fiscal and other incentives, for examples offering tax-breaks for the purchase of bicycles that are used as a means of travelling to work.

Guide choices through changing the default policy. For example, in a restaurant, instead of providing chips as a standard side dish (with healthier options available), menus could be changed to provide a more healthy option as a standard (with chips as an option available).

Enable choice. Enable individuals to change their behaviours, for example by offering participation in an NHS 'stop smoking' programme, building cycle lanes, or providing free fruit in schools.

Provide information. Inform and educate the public, for example as part of campaigns to encourage people to walk more or eat five portions of fruit and vegetables per day.

Do nothing or simply monitor the current situation.

Alcohol and tobacco

While restrictions on smoking have been a recent government priority, the Council recommends that more coercive strategies should be implemented to reduce the harm caused by excessive alcohol consumption. For example, increasing taxes on alcoholic drinks and restricting hours of sale have been shown to be effective in reducing consumption. Producers, advertisers and sellers of alcohol should also take more responsibility for preventing harm to health.



Obesity

The Food Standards Agency is currently assessing the effectiveness of different types of front-of-pack labels on food packaging in influencing healthier choices. When the results are published, we recommend that the food industry should adopt the labelling scheme found to be the most effective. If it does not, there would be ethical justification for the UK Government to enforce it through legislation. We also recommend that town planners and architects should be trained to include measures that encourage people to be physically active in the design of buildings and public spaces.

Infectious disease

After weighing up the evidence and ethical considerations, we conclude that introducing more stringent policies for childhood vaccination (for example, penalties for those who do not comply) would not be justified at present in the UK.

Global surveillance of new and existing infectious diseases can be compromised when countries do not have the capacity for effective monitoring or where they decide not to cooperate fully with international surveillance efforts. We recommend that the UK Government should help to improve the capacities of developing countries to monitor infectious diseases effectively.

Fluoridation of water supplies

Fluoride has been added to the water supply for over 50 years in some parts of the UK, with the aim of improving dental health. There has long been debate over whether this should continue, and whether it should be rolled out in other areas of the UK. We conclude that the most appropriate way of deciding whether fluoride should be added to water supplies is through regional democratic decision-making procedures. This should be supported by better and more balanced information for the public and policy makers.

The report launch

The Council launched the report at a public seminar held in Westminster, London on 13th November 2007. Around 200 people attended, including policy makers, academics, students and others interested in the topic. Working Party members presented the findings of the report and took questions from the audience. Audio recordings of the presentations are available to download from the Council's website.

Around 1,500 copies of the report were sent to relevant organisations and others with an interest in the area. A one-page summary of the report was also sent to Members of Parliament, Members of the Scottish Parliament, UK Members of the European Parliament, and peers.



Lord Krebs

Highlights of media coverage

The report featured widely in the media during the week of the launch. The Council's recommendations on alcohol received particularly high coverage, possibly due to the launch on the same day of the Alcohol Health Alliance, a consortium of organisations campaigning to reduce harm caused by alcohol. Media coverage included:

Date	Media	Details
13 Nov	BBC Television News, Channel 4 News, ITV News	Interviews with members of the Working Party
	BBC Radio 1, 4, World Service, local stations	Interviews with members of the Working Party
	The Telegraph	"Experts condemn 24-hour drinking"
	The Guardian	"Group calls for higher tax on booze"
	The Daily Express	"Group calls for higher tax on booze"
14 Nov	The Mirror	"Wasted youth: Binge drinking violence on rise"
	The Daily Mail	"Booze is a middle-class problem, claims Health Minister"
	The Sun	"Girl boozers are wrecking livers"
19 Nov	The Guardian	Leader article: "Ethical inequalities"
1 Dec	The Lancet	Editorial: "The ethics of public health"

"...the Nuffield Council on Bioethics dropped a gift in the government's lap: a cogently argued case for large-scale public involvement in the protection and promotion of the nation's health – and a potent argument for doing it."

The Guardian, Leader 19th November

"With the global rise of obesity, alcohol, and smoking-related illnesses, the report from the Nuffield Council demands careful consideration by other governments, WHO, industry, and all those interested in protecting and promoting public health."

The Lancet, Editorial 1st December

Post-launch activities

Lord Krebs and members of the Secretariat were invited to meet the Rt Hon James Purnell MP, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, to discuss the report's recommendations on reducing alcohol consumption. The report was also mentioned on numerous occasions in the House of Lords and the House of Commons in the days and weeks after the launch, for example by MPs Dr Evan Harris, Theresa May and Dr Howard Stoate, and by Lord Avebury, Lord Darzi and Lord Maginnis. The Rt Hon Dawn

Primarolo MP, Minister of State for Public Health, referred to the report several times in the Faculty of Public Health Annual Public Health Lecture (London, December).

Working Party members and the Secretariat have also taken part in a number of events and meetings since the launch in order to disseminate the findings to a wider audience. The Secretariat has responded to relevant consultations, and articles based on the findings of the report have been submitted to relevant journals.

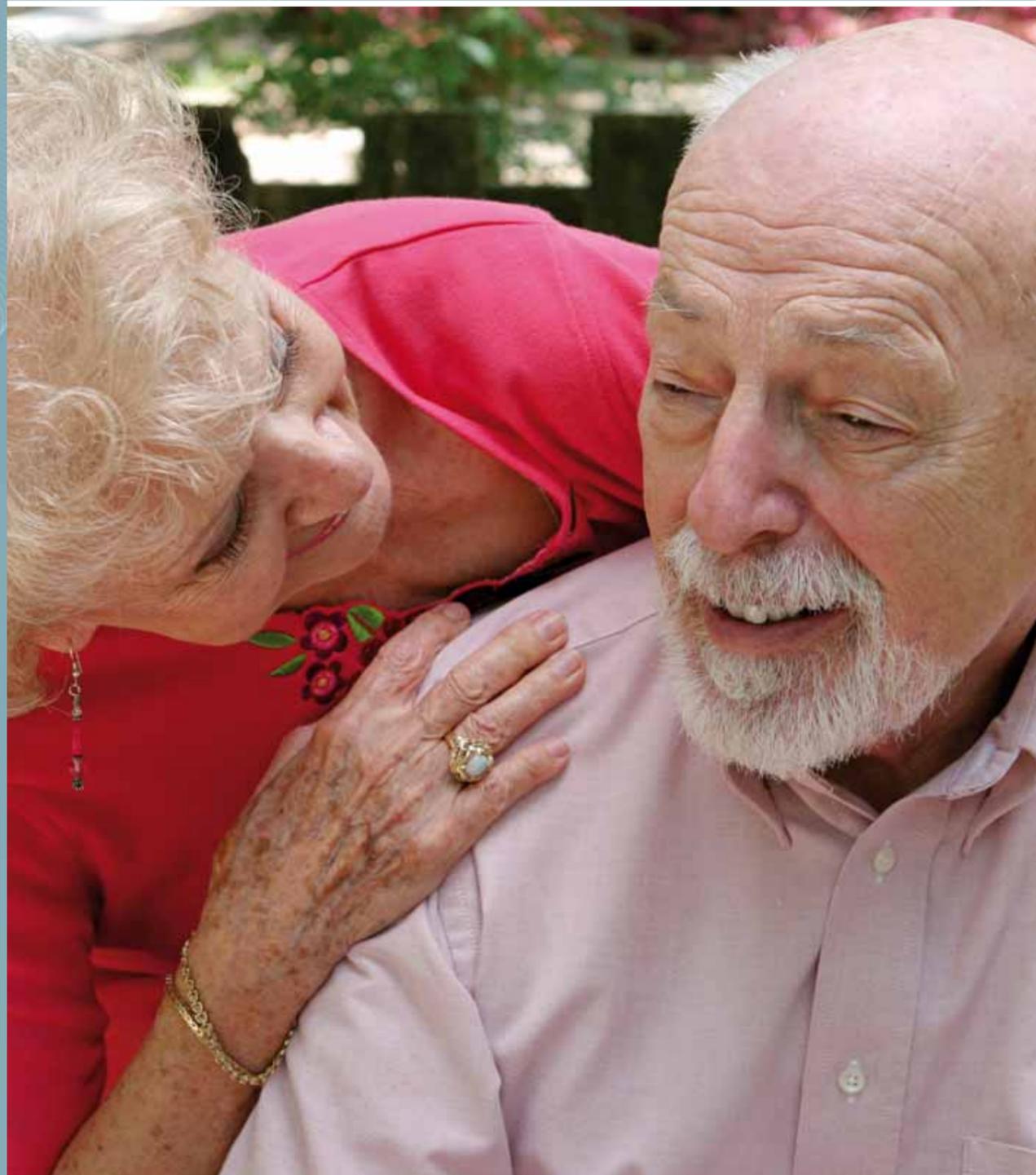
Presentations

Date	Event	Speakers and details
15 Nov	'Public health and individual choice', Dana Centre at the Science Museum, London	A public discussion event about the report was facilitated by Hugh Whittall. The speakers were Professor Andrew Hall (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine), Dr Rachel Seabrook (Institute of Alcohol Studies) and Dr Andrew Jones (University of East Anglia)
3 Dec	A meeting with staff and students at Essex University, Colchester	Presentation by Harald Schmidt
5-6 Dec	National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) Annual Conference 2007, Manchester	Lord Krebs gave a presentation about the report and met delegates at the Council's exhibition stand
10 Dec	The King's Fund, London	Presentation by Harald Schmidt
14 Dec	National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence Public Health Interventions Advisory Committee	Presentation by Professor Tom Baldwin

The report had been downloaded over 43,000 times by the end of the year.

New projects

Dementia: ethical issues



Dementia is the term for diminished brain function caused by diseases such as Alzheimer's and vascular dementia. Due to the UK's ageing population, increasing numbers of people, their families, healthcare staff and carers are having to deal with the difficulties that these conditions can cause. At the same time, developments in neuroscience and technologies are improving our understanding of these conditions and could have the potential to help us to provide better treatment and care.

Following an exploratory workshop held in March 2007, the Council has established a Working Party to examine the ethical, legal and social issues raised by dementia, chaired by Tony Hope, Professor of Medical Ethics at the University of Oxford.

The group is considering:

- how decisions are made by or for people with dementia and how dementia care is provided;
- the role of advance decisions or 'living wills' which set out what treatment a person would like to have, or not have, at a point in the future when they are unable to make decisions for themselves;
- whether it is acceptable to restrict a person's freedom for their own safety, for example by locking doors, or deceive them for their own good, for example by disguising medication in food;
- whether and how people with dementia should be involved in research;
- how conflicts between the interests of the individual and their carers can be resolved, for example where a husband benefits from his wife's care, but she can no longer cope;

- the implications of changes in behaviour for the individual and for their relationships with other people.

The Working Party will be seeking the views of people with dementia, carers, health and social care professionals, policy makers and members of the public on these issues during spring and summer 2008. A report with conclusions and recommendations will be published in mid-2009.



Dementia exploratory workshop

Membership of the Working Party

Professor Tony Hope (Chair)
 Professor of Medical Ethics, University of Oxford

Professor Janet Askham
 Director of Research, Picker Institute

Mary Baker MBE
 President, European Federation of Neurological Associations

Harry Cayton
 Chief Executive of the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence, former National Director for Patients and the Public at the Department of Health and former Chief Executive of the Alzheimer's Society

Chris Chaloner
 Ethics Advisor, Royal College of Nursing

Dr Jim Eccles
 Consultant Physician, The Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

Dr Julian Hughes
 Consultant in Old Age Psychiatry, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Rhona Knight
 General Practitioner; member of the Council

Dr Gemma Jones
 Neuropsychologist and nurse working with people with Alzheimer's and their carers

Dr John McMillan
 Senior Lecturer in medical ethics, The Hull York Medical School

Professor Jill Peay
 Professor of Law, London School of Economics

Professor Hugh Perry
 Professor of Experimental Neuropathology, University of Southampton; member of the Council

Professor Ruud Ter Meulen
 Professor of Ethics in Medicine, University of Bristol

Dr David Wilkinson
 Consultant in Old Age Psychiatry, Moorgreen and Western Community Hospitals, Southampton

Future work

The Council considers new topics at its annual 'Forward Look' seminar in May. This year, discussion centred around two areas: the impact and implications of the Human Genome Project, and the allocation of healthcare resources.

The increasing understanding about the structure and function of genes as a result of the Human Genome Project and other sources of genetic research is already beginning to change biomedical research and clinical practice. For example, cancer drugs that are effective in people with particular genetic characteristics have been developed. Technology is advancing at such a rate that full personal genome sequencing may be available for US\$1,000 within five years. However, will this technology actually offer any health benefits to the individual? Council members and invited experts considered the implications of new genetic knowledge at the Forward Look seminar. A number of the Council's previous reports had already covered some of these issues, however, and members decided not to pursue the topic further for the time being.

The allocation of public healthcare resources often has three competing objectives: to provide comprehensive care, to provide high quality care, and to provide care freely available on the basis of need. These raise a number of difficult questions for people making prioritisation decisions. For example, should the wealthy and the poor, and the old and the young always be treated the same? Should small, but certain benefits to many people be more or less important than large, but uncertain benefits for a few people, if both can be achieved with the same available resources? What about people who chose to lead unhealthy lifestyles? Who should make rationing decisions, and by reference to which criteria? To complicate things further, evidence about the effectiveness of treatments is often incomplete, and people with the financial means can buy treatments privately, regardless of whether the NHS chooses to provide it.

The Council decided that issues raised by the allocation of healthcare resources should be explored in more depth, and a one-day workshop with guest experts was held in December for this purpose.

Previous work

Presentations

The Council carries out dissemination activities for a year or so after the publication of a report. For example, Working Party members often give presentations to stakeholders to encourage uptake of recommendations, or simply to promote debate. A selection of presentations in 2007 on previous reports is listed below.

Date	Event	Speakers and details
February	Cafe Scientifique, Croydon	Dr Catherine Moody gave a presentation and led a discussion on life and death decisions about newborn babies
June	5th World Congress on Pediatric Critical Care, Geneva	Professor Linda Franck gave a presentation on critical care decisions in neonatal and fetal medicine
July	Annual Meeting of the Nuffield Foundation Oliver Bird Rheumatism Programme, Aberdeen	Professor Kenneth Boyd gave a presentation on research ethics: humans, animals and embryos
July	31st British International Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, London	Professor Charles Rodeck gave a presentation on critical care decisions in fetal medicine
August	6th World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences, Tokyo, Japan	Baroness Perry of Southwark gave a talk on the ethics of animal research
September	Symbiosis - 13th European Congress on Biotechnology, Barcelona	Harald Schmidt gave a presentation on the use of GM crops in developing countries

Critical care decisions in neonatal and fetal medicine: seminar to discuss the report one year on



Critical care decisions follow-up seminar

The *Critical care decisions in fetal and neonatal medicine: ethical issues* report was published in November 2006. Feedback since then has been very positive, but has also suggested that implementation of some of the recommendations would require joint efforts by professional bodies, the government and organisations representing parents. To facilitate discussion between such organisations, the Council held a seminar in December 2007 to consider the recommendations one year on. Representatives attended from the relevant Royal Colleges, BLISS, the General Medical Council, the Neonatal Nurses Association, the Department of Health and others. The discussion focussed on developing guidance and training for healthcare professionals and providing information to parents. The Council will publish the outcomes on its website in 2008.

External relations



The website

The Council's website is one of the most important ways in which it communicates with other people and organisations. The site is regularly updated with news and activities, and the number of visitors to its pages reached nearly two million last year. All our publications are available on the website, and

there were nearly 390,000 downloads of our reports in 2007. The website also makes available responses received to the Council's consultations (with the permission of respondents), and, more recently, audio recordings of presentations given at launch events.

Report	Downloads for 2007
Public health: ethical issues	43,374
The forensic use of bioinformation: ethical issues	23,642
Critical care decisions in fetal and neonatal medicine: ethical issues	17,326
The ethics of research involving animals	150,824
The ethics of research related to healthcare in developing countries: a follow-up Discussion paper	3,552
The use of genetically modified crops in developing countries: a follow-up Discussion paper	2,021
Pharmacogenetics: ethical issues	3,502
Genetics and human behaviour: the ethical context	22,634
The ethics of patenting DNA	5,826
The ethics of research related to healthcare in developing countries	27,227
Stem cell therapy: ethical issues	3,038
Genetically modified crops	24,625
Mental disorders and genetics: the ethical context	6,836
Animal-to-human transplants: the ethics of xenotransplantation	11,100
Human tissue: ethical and legal issues	13,341
Genetic screening: ethical issues	31,408

UPDATE newsletter

This year the Council launched an e-newsletter, UPDATE, which is sent out three times a year to those who have expressed an interest and is also posted on the website. So far, the Council communicates its news in this way to over 1,200 people. To sign up, contact: update@nuffieldbioethics.org.

www.nuffieldbioethics.org/go/news/latest_28.html

Media

The way in which many people hear about the Council or the issues we consider is by reading an article in a newspaper, seeing an item in the news or watching a programme on the television. Talking to journalists is therefore a very important activity for us and we try to take part in as many interviews and debates as possible. The Council was featured at least 180 times in the print, broadcast and online media in 2007. We would like to thank the Science Media Centre for continuing to provide excellent support and advice on the Council's media relations.

All of the Council's press releases can be found here:
www.nuffieldbioethics.org/go/news/latest_28.html

"Call for rethink on DNA of innocent"

The *Financial Times* headline on the Council's report *The forensic use of bioinformation: ethical issues* in September

"Experts condemn 24-hour drinking"

The *Telegraph* headline on the Council's report *Public health: ethical issues* in November

Presentations and conferences

The Council very much values face-to-face interaction with its stakeholders and the wider public. Members of the Council and the Secretariat enjoyed giving presentations, taking part in debates, holding seminars, and taking part in exhibitions at a wide range of conferences and meetings last year.



The Council's stand at the 2007 NICE Annual Conference

Engagement with policy makers

To encourage uptake of the Council's recommendations, an important activity after a report has been published is communicating with policy makers. We often arrange one-to-one meetings with relevant Ministers or Government officials, and we ensure Parliamentarians are aware of our findings. This year the Council held a fringe event at the Labour Party Conference in Bournemouth to discuss with delegates its report *The forensic use of bioinformation: ethical issues*.

The Council has had discussions and meetings with the following individuals/bodies in the past year:

- Bioindustry Association
- British Medical Association
- Department for Culture, Media and Sport
- Department of Health
- Home Office
- Israeli Ministry of Health
- Medical Research Council
- Members of Parliament
- National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE)
- NC3Rs
- Parliamentary and Scientific Committee
- Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology

Consultations

The Council responds to the consultations of other organisations when appropriate. In the past year it has submitted responses to the following bodies:

- House of Commons Home Affairs Select Committee
- Department for Communities and Local Government
- Home Office
- National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
- Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Draft Human Tissue and Embryos Bill
- Scottish Government
- World Medical Association

All the Council's responses to formal consultations are available on its website:
http://www.nuffieldbioethics.org/go/aboutus/externalactivitiespage_192.html



International activities

Trilateral

The Council hosted the first 'trilateral' meeting with the Comité Consultatif National d'Ethique (CCNE - the national ethics committee for France) and the Nationaler Ethikrat (NER - the national ethics committee for Germany) on 4th June 2007. The three organisations discussed: ethical issues in biometrics, the role and contribution of ethics advisory bodies, and the rationing of healthcare resources. Presentations on behalf of the Council were given by Dr Carole McCartney, Hugh Whittall and Harald Schmidt.



Professor Jean-Claude Ameisen, CCNE



Trilateral meeting with CCNE and NER

World Medical Association

In August 2007, the Council contributed to the World Medical Association's consultation on revising the Declaration of Helsinki. It proposed amendments and offered observations about how the status of the Declaration of Helsinki could be clarified.

UNESCO

The Council continued its cooperation with UNESCO's Division of the Ethics of Science and Technology through involvement in the Assisting Bioethics Committees (ABC) initiative. The programme developed out of UNESCO's adoption of the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights and seeks to assist developing countries that are in the process of establishing national ethics committees (or similar bodies). In 2007, Harald Schmidt was a member of the Task Force for Anglophone countries and participated in missions to Jamaica and Malawi in June and July 2007.

Other international activities

- Global Perspectives on BioPolicy: Biocentre's 2007 Symposium Series at the Royal Society of Medicine, March 2007
Harald Schmidt attended and discussed the idea of human dignity in the UNESCO Declaration
Location: London
- EU National Ethics Council Forum, including joint meetings with the European Group on Ethics (EGE) and with the European National Conference on National Ethics Committees (COMETH) of the Council of Europe, May 2007 and EU National Ethics Council Forum, October 2007
First meeting attended by Professor Hugh Perry, Hugh Whittall and Harald Schmidt
Second meeting attended by Hugh Whittall, who presented on *The forensic use of bioinformation*, and Caroline Rogers
Location: Berlin, Lisbon
- The Eighth Global Forum on Bioethics Research, June 2007
Attended by Hugh Whittall, who gave a presentation on the UK's ethics advisory structure
Location: Lithuania
- Research Consortium on the Protection, Promotion and Regulation of Biotechnology in Developing Countries, November 2007
Attended by Hugh Whittall
Location: Argentina

Educational activities – Reaching Out to Young People

Discussion of ethics has become an integral part of the national curriculum, and many of the Council's reports provide an ideal basis for debate in the classroom. The Council's Reaching Out to Young People Group advises the Council on how it can promote discussion on bioethics among young people. Professor Sir Kenneth Calman chaired this group from its inception in 2003 until January 2008, when his term on Council ended. Dr Rhona Knight has now taken up the post of Chair, and Professor Calman will remain on the group as a member.

Teaching resources

In 2007, the Group worked with the Nuffield Curriculum Centre to produce a set of teaching resources on the ethics of animal research. The resources, which are available to download from the Centre's citizenship website and the Council's website, are designed to be used in science and citizenship lessons and are aimed at helping students to develop informed opinions about the use of animals in research.

http://www.nuffieldbioethics.org/go/aboutus/externalactivitiespage_908.html

Consultation with schools

As a pilot scheme, the Group plans to involve 20 specialist science schools in the Council's consultation on dementia during the spring and summer of 2008. Teachers from the schools will receive training on how ethical issues can be brought into the curriculum, particularly around the topic of dementia, and they will then put this into practice in the classroom. These schools will be encouraged to liaise with other local schools over the teaching of this material. The views of the students involved will be recorded and used to inform the Council's Working Party on dementia. The initiative aims to encourage cross-curricula teaching of ethics, and give students the chance to take part in policy making in the UK. We hope that these and other schools will be involved with future consultations of the Council.



Membership of the Reaching Out to Young People Advisory Group

Professor Sir Kenneth Calman KCB FRSE (Chair)
Chancellor, University of Glasgow; member of the Council

Angela Hall
Director, Nuffield Curriculum Centre

Dr Rhona Knight
General Practitioner and lecturer; member of the Council

Dr Sarah Lindfield
Deputy Head, Haberdashers' Aske's School for Girls

Revd Professor Michael Reiss
Professor of Science Education, Institute of Education

Ian Richardson
HMI Specialist Adviser for Science

Steven Tomlinson
Head of Citizenship Department, Central Foundation Girls' School

Jenny Wales
Director, Education for Citizenship, Nuffield Foundation

Financial report

Financial Report for the year to 31 December 2007 (unaudited)

	2007 Actual £	2006 Actual £
Expenditure		
Salaries and staffing costs	383,442	406,894
Reviewers' and consultants fees	5,202	–
Other costs including premises	12,169	8,478
Stationery and press cuttings	9,396	11,705
Photocopy, post, phone, fax	36,168	35,933
Committee and meeting costs	47,416	71,970
Printing and publicity of Reports	46,354	33,108
Web and other technology costs	3,315	6,955
Net direct expenditure	543,462	575,043
Funding due		
Nuffield Foundation	213,792	137,154
Medical Research Council	213,792	137,154
Wellcome Trust	213,792	137,154
Reports sold	-1,396	-1,938
Other	310	468
	426,498	409,992
Overheads met by Nuffield Foundation	323,114	301,259

List of publications to date

Genetic screening: ethical issues
Published December 1993

Human tissue: ethical and legal issues
Published April 1995

Animal-to-human transplants: the ethics of xenotransplantation
Published March 1996

Mental disorders and genetics: the ethical context
Published September 1998

Genetically modified crops: the ethical and social issues
Published May 1999

The ethics of clinical research in developing countries: a discussion paper
Published October 1999

Stem cell therapy: the ethical issues – a discussion paper
Published April 2000

The ethics of research related to healthcare in developing countries
Published April 2002

The ethics of patenting DNA: a discussion paper
Published July 2002

Genetics and human behaviour: the ethical context
Published October 2002

Pharmacogenetics: ethical issues
Published September 2003

The use of genetically modified crops in developing countries: a follow-up Discussion Paper
Published December 2003

The ethics of research related to healthcare in developing countries: a follow-up Discussion Paper
Published March 2005

The ethics of research involving animals
Published May 2005

Genetic screening: a Supplement to the 1993 Report by the Nuffield Council on Bioethics
Published July 2006

Critical care decisions in fetal and neonatal medicine: ethical issues
Published November 2006

The forensic use of bioinformation: ethical issues
Published September 2007

Public health: ethical issues
Published November 2007

The Council's reports and other publications can be downloaded and hard copies can be ordered from its website:
www.nuffieldbioethics.org/go/publications/latest_30.html

