



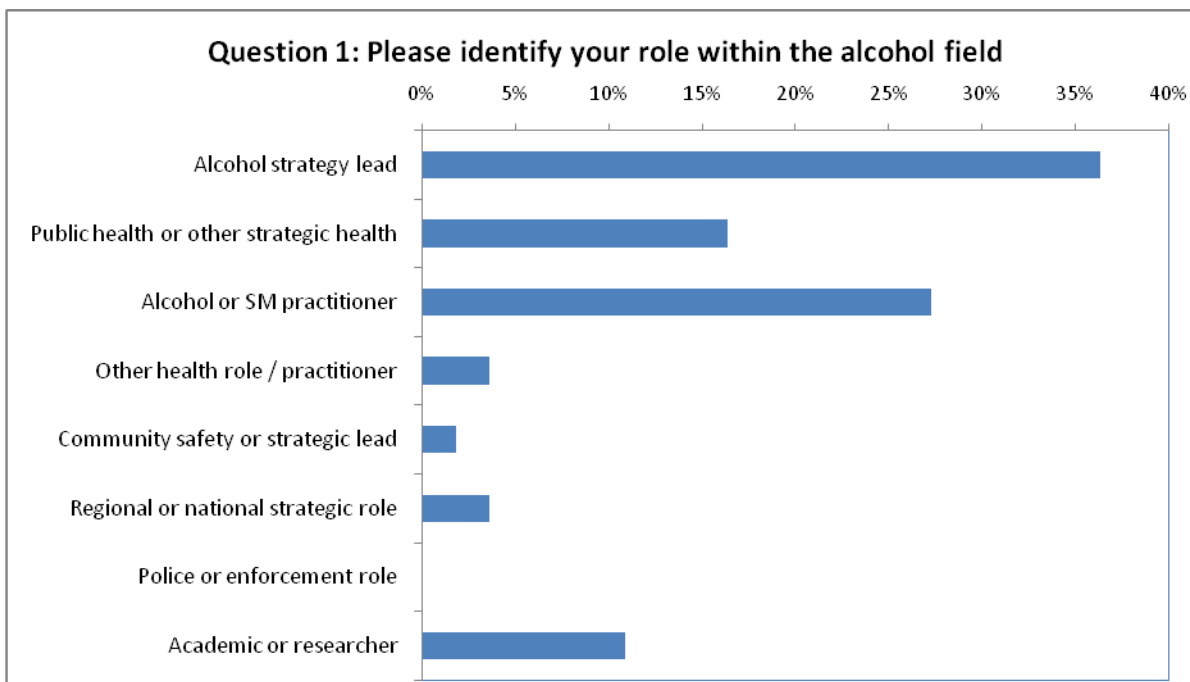
The AERC Alcohol Academy

1st year review survey results - September 2010

The Academy conducted an online survey seeking feedback on its first year and ideas for moving forward. The survey was targeted at roles within the alcohol harm reduction familiar with the Academy’s work and was open from 24.08.10 to 02.09.10. The survey was disseminated via Alcohol Policy UK, the Academy website and related virtual networks. Out of the total survey responses (n55), the following answers and comments were received.

Survey results

Job role

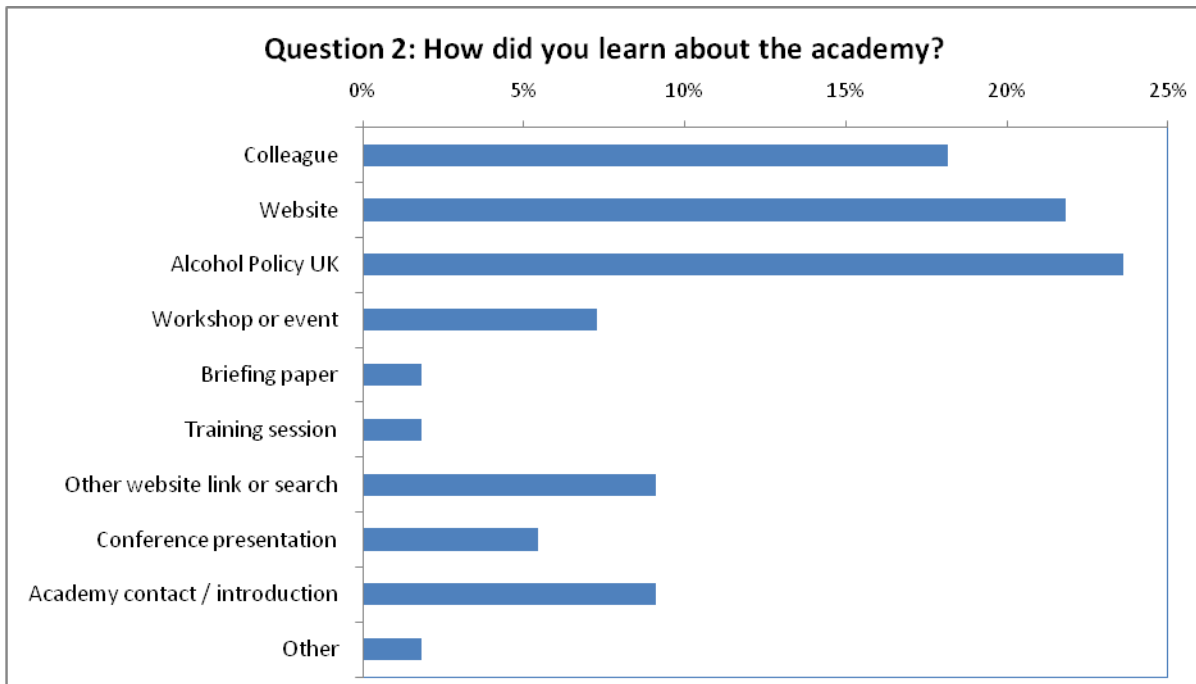


Other

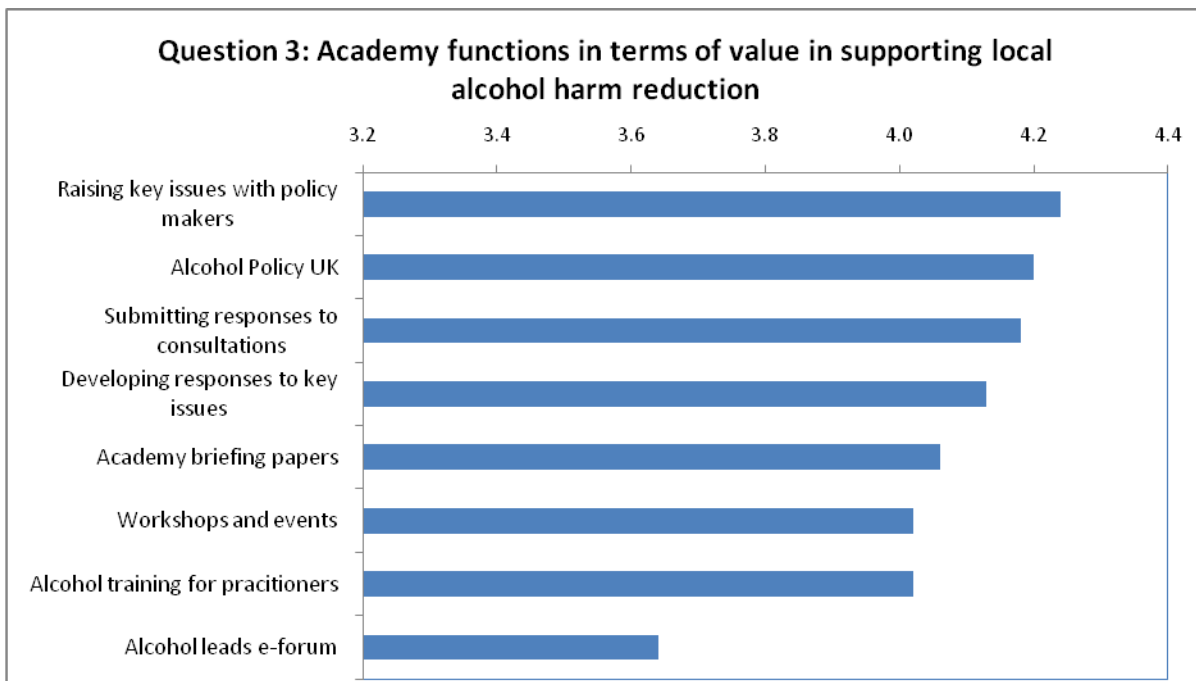
- Criminal Justice Alcohol Strategy Lead for Devon (jointly funded post by Devon DAAT and Devon & Cornwall Probation Trust)
- Local Govt Night-time Economy Consultant
- Care Home Registered for alcohol recovery
- Manager for Alcohol education charity
- independent consultant
- Service User Representative
- independent consultant
- Commissioner



The Academy



Value of Academy functions



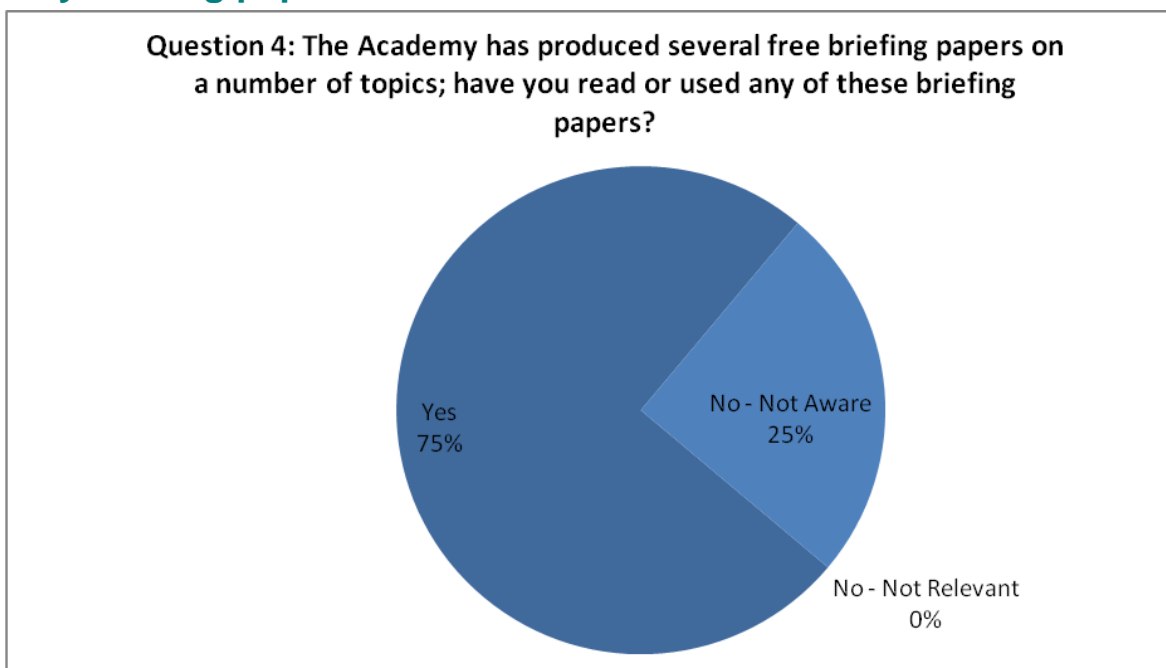
3. Please give your view on the following key Academy functions in terms of their value in supporting local alcohol harm reduction

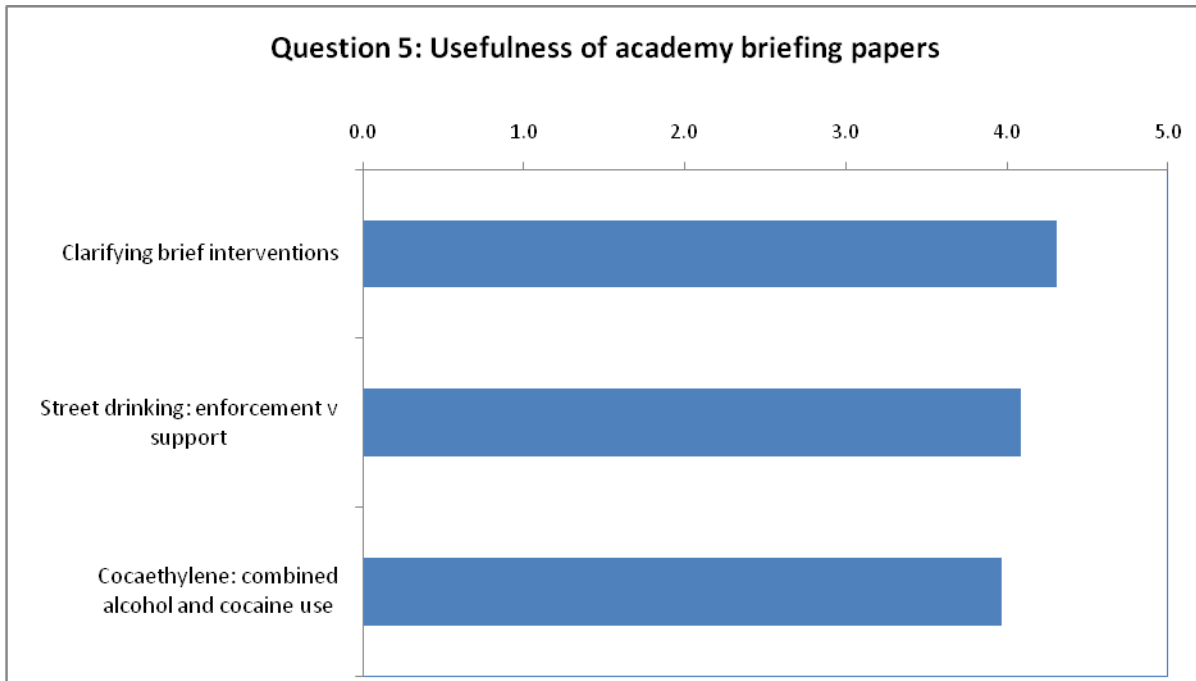
Answer Options	No value	Little value	Some value	High value	Very high value	Rating Average	Response Count
Academy briefing papers	0	0	11	22	14	4.06	47
News & updates via Alcohol Policy UK (www.alcoholpolicy.net)	1	0	4	25	16	4.20	46
The Academy alcohol leads e-forum	2	2	16	15	10	3.64	45
Free workshops and events for strategic alcohol leads	2	0	7	22	14	4.02	45
Free alcohol training for practitioners	1	2	7	20	15	4.02	45
Raising key issues facing alcohol leads to policy makers	0	2	4	20	19	4.24	45
Developing responses to key issues	0	2	6	21	16	4.13	45
Submitting responses to consultations (reflecting the view of members / alcohol leads)	0	2	7	17	19	4.18	45
Other Academy work you are aware of							3
<i>answered question</i>							49
<i>skipped question</i>							6

Other comments

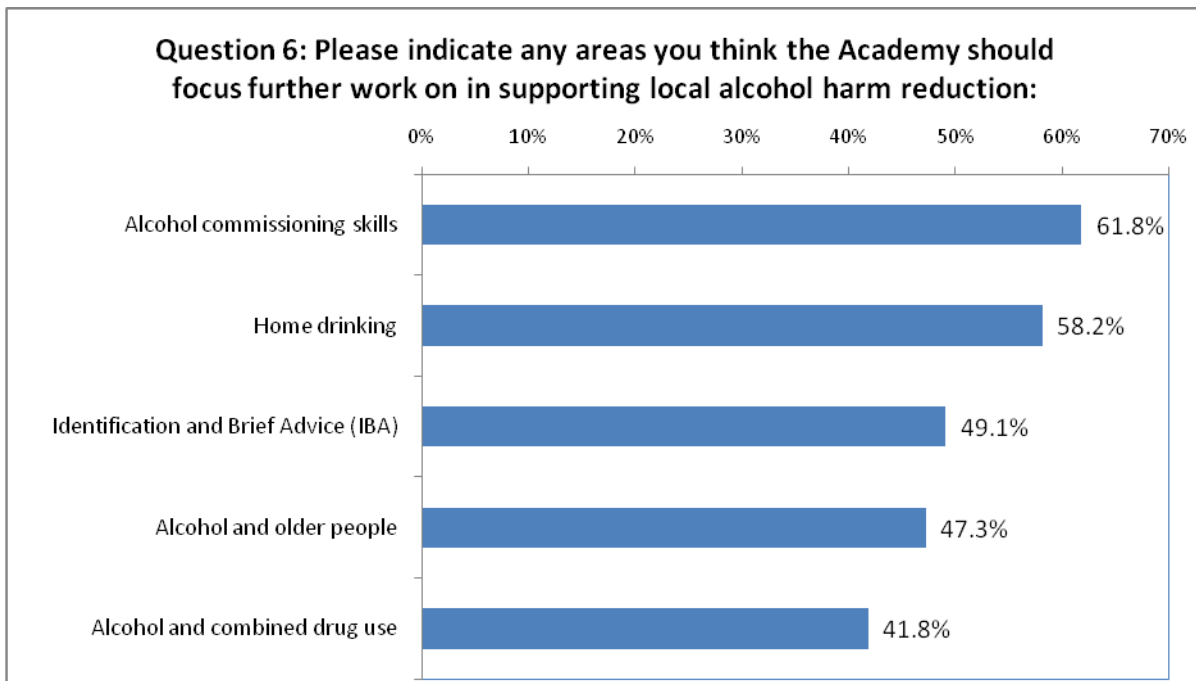
- Researching key areas to create an evidence base (i.e. Workplace Pilot)
- Opportunities for informal networking and free confidential consultation - v. high value
- brokering the exchange of information between academy members

Academy briefing papers





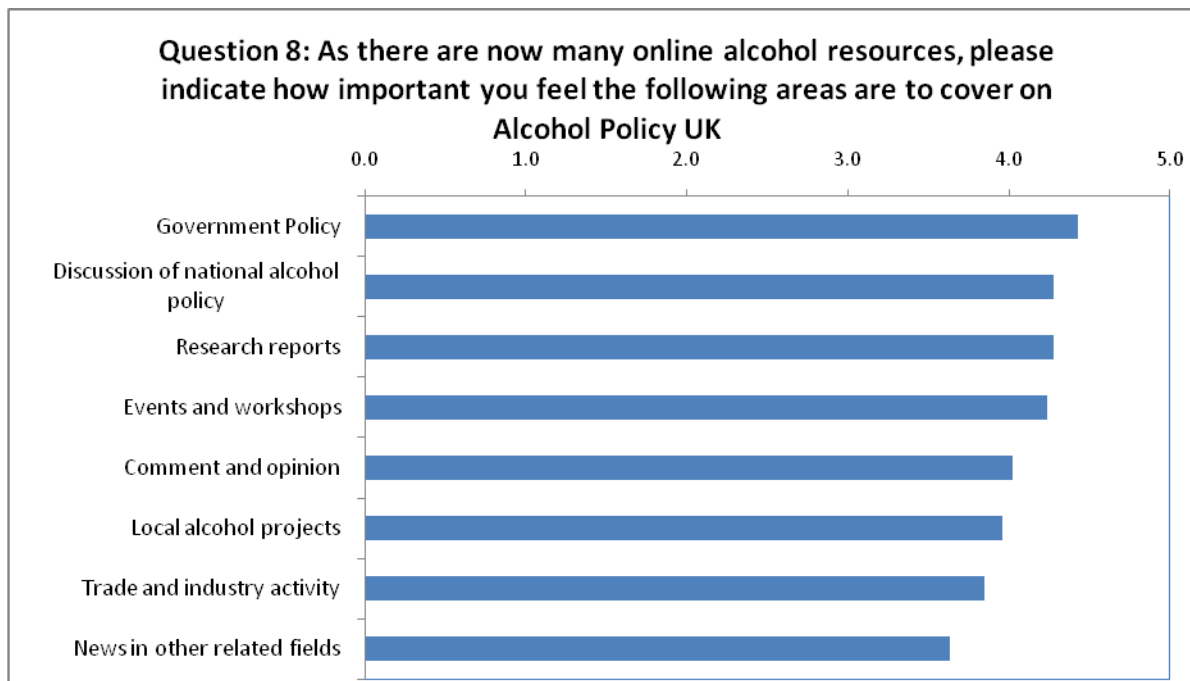
Priority areas of work



Other areas or issues identified

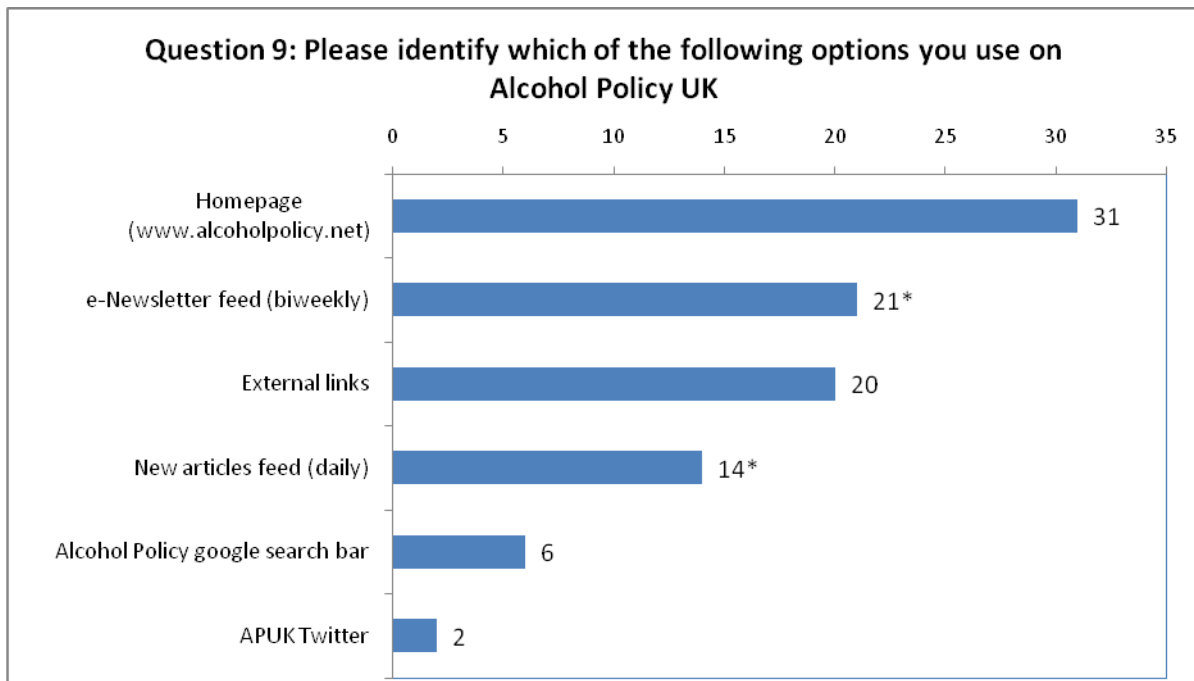
- Funding - it is very difficult providing effective services within very limited budgets, particularly compared to drugs.
- I have not selected commissioning skills as I feel there are other options available for this, which the Academy adds to. I have chosen specific areas that we all need to respond to
- Interventions in the Criminal Justice System - what makes a drinker offend? Effective CJ interventions, the evidence base, research etc.
- Examples of good practice in CJ Alcohol interventions. Training around strategy development for alcohol leads. How to work effectively in partnership.
- Alcohol and its relationship to patterns of offending behaviour and impact on crime rates.
- The Night-time Economy! neither the police, licensing, NHS or it seems AERC take any interest in what is the public trendsetting face of alcohol consumption
- Data coordination locally, getting data from all the sources that are collecting it. What to do with the data once collected
- Peer mentoring. Value of preventative work.
- Advocating for comprehensive implementation of policy and guidance rather than cherry picking e.g. NICE guidance including price and regulation as well as direct interventions with professionals. NB NICE recommends increasing alcohol treatment capacity (Tiers 3 & 4) in line with the anticipated increase in Tiers 1 & 2 activity - so long as the NICE public health guidance is fully implemented
- Looking at how we might look at positive examples of urban pubs similar to the 'pub is the hub' scheme in rural areas. I am trying to link this in to planning groups in my area
- There needs to be further recognition of alcohol peer led services, where ex service users are managers and founders of alcohol projects, as many alcohol practitioners within new small projects and social enterprises are not being listened to or not seen as professionals, even when trained and have policies and structures in place.... This support would be fantastic and would be willing to give my story to get the ball rolling, and lastly to start looking at the recovery agenda and abstinence as way forward by using others in recovery to show that recovery and abstinence is achievable
- alcohol and relationship/ domestic violence
- better service
- people's healthy
- Alcohol and the learning disability cohort
- families living with alcohol misuse

Alcohol Policy UK



8. The Academy has supported Alcohol Policy UK by regularly posting news, information and developments for the alcohol harm reduction field. As there are now many online alcohol resources, please indicate how important you feel the following areas are to cover on Alcohol Policy UK.

Answer Options	No importance	A little important	Some importance	Important	Very important	Rating Average	Response Count
Government policy (e.g alcohol documents/guidance)	0	1	2	20	24	4.43	47
Discussion and developments relevant to national alcohol policy (e.g pricing issues)	0	0	5	24	18	4.28	47
Local alcohol projects and approaches	0	3	10	20	14	3.96	47
New research reports and projects	0	0	3	28	16	4.28	47
Trade and industry activity	0	1	14	23	9	3.85	47
Alcohol-related events and workshops	0	0	9	17	20	4.24	46
Comment/opinion pieces on alcohol policy issues	0	2	9	21	14	4.02	46
News and developments in other related fields (e.g drugs agenda)	3	4	11	17	11	3.63	46
<i>answered question</i>							47
<i>skipped question</i>							8

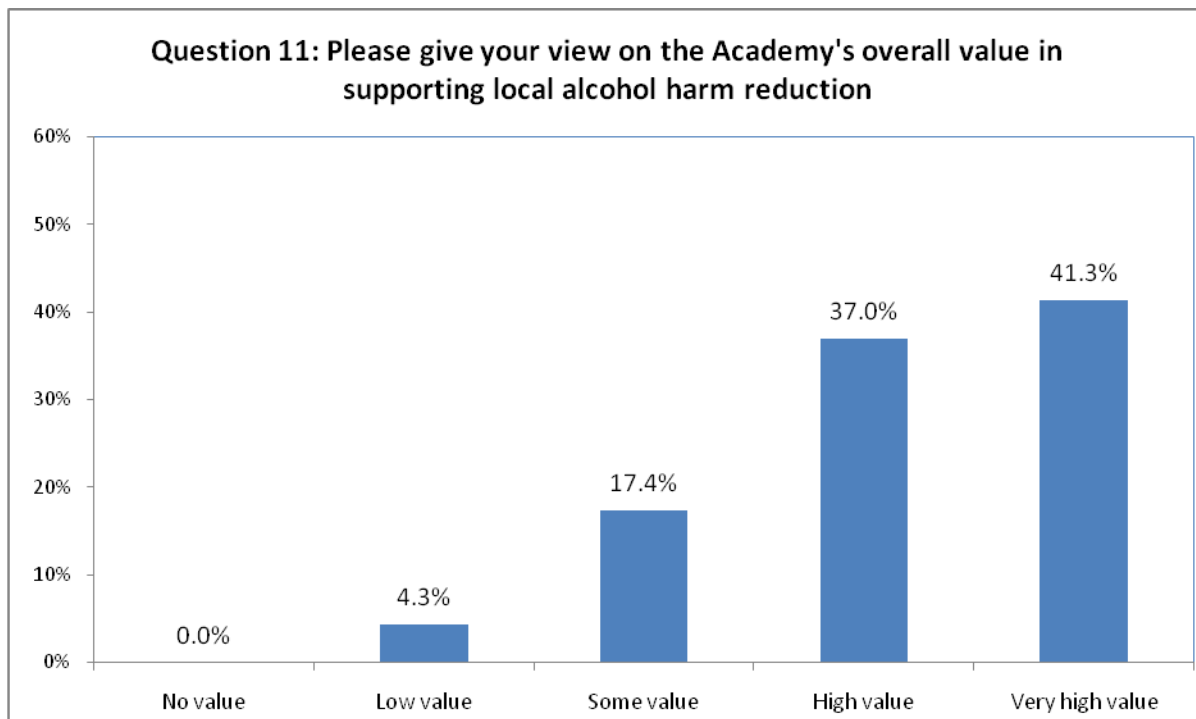


*N.B The newsletter and new articles feed have over 200 and 500 subscribers respectively

Other comments or suggestions for improving Alcohol Policy UK

- Given uncertainty over some of the other sources of information, the Academy may have to fill some gaps.
- They don't post best practice from the licensed trade on alcohol harm reduction even though this is some of the most cutting edge, preventative and cutting edge work is being done. It all seems to be public sector looking to other public sectors perpetuating the same lacunae year after year
- To involve services users and ex services users including peer led alcohol organisations and projects
- a good manage will give you a lot of money.
- advertisement

Overall value of the Academy



Other comments

- I have found the national policy context really useful when preparing work for our local groups and meetings. The quality of presentation of the Academy's papers is extremely and consistently high and has helped promote discussions and decision making.
- It is such a shifting theme it is useful to trust a site that does what it says on the tin.
- Time AERC got serious and looked to the public face of alcohol consumption. Need a more effective cultural response.
- The academy probably has more national relevance. I don't believe the academy has made any real and meaningful impact in particular local partnerships.
- good resource for practitioners

Further ideas or suggestions for the Academy

- Increased promotion of work/events/publications to ensure that more people are aware of the work being done
- Possible running more events outside of London
- Supporting the Your Evening Your City programme



- Associating the Academy with other reputable and quality conferences and activities
- By offering practitioners to attend local workshops
- I'm thinking ,
- Keeping and strengthening links with all similar agencies e.g. public health, police and councils
- It is really helpful when we get a summary overview so that we can use this locally as we often would not have time to undertake this ourselves but it is vital to our partnership work locally and keeping people onboard
- Involve and support peer led services to help in delivering projects and reports etc
- more interactive
- a good manager will give you more money.
- the bad effect , may be travel accident
- stick to the good idea

Next steps

The Academy is currently developing its board of non-executive directors and its strategic plan for the future. Updates will be reported via www.alcoholacademy.net.

For further comments or suggestions contact:

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