

## Morning Event 2019

# Report on the #ESRCFestival WHESS [escr.ukri.org/festival](http://escr.ukri.org/festival)

The #ESRCFestival WHESS Morning Event 2019 was held on Thursday morning 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019, as the first public and patient involvement and engagement event run with the Welsh Health Economics Support Service, on behalf of the Centre for Health Economics and Medicines Evaluation (CHEME), Bangor University.

The event was an opportunity to come together to celebrate social science research, giving local people a chance to discover, debate and discuss. This was part of a celebration including more than 470 events in the UK to show how social science research affects our lives - both now and in the future.



**Image: Professor Rhiannon Tudor Edwards, #ESRCFestival, Reichel Hall, Bangor University, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019.**

Funding for the events was awarded by the ESRC, with Dr Llinos Haf Spencer, Research Officer and Public Involvement and Engagement Lead for WHESS (North Wales) leading the application, with support from Dr Mary Lynch (Senior Lecturer) and Lucy Bryning (Research Officer at CHEME). Match funding for the event was provided by WHESS through event organiser time contribution (a combination of in-kind and paid time). Additional administrative support was provided by Abraham Makanjuola (MRes Student) and Ann Bowden Lawton (WHESS Administrator at CHEME).

Sixteen members of the public attended the event along with 9 members of Bangor University staff.

The delegates were provided with an insight into the work conducted by the Centre for Health Economics and Medicines Evaluation (CHEME) and affiliated partners. Professor Rhiannon Tudor Edwards welcomed the delegates on behalf of Bangor University and highlighted the importance of a value-based health and social care sectors.

Presentations were provided on a number of ongoing studies at the Centre for Health Economics and Medicines Evaluation (CHEME), Bangor University.

Dr Ned Hartfiel, Research Officer at CHEME, spoke about the Health Precinct project at Colwyn Bay which has included two members of the public on their project advisory board. This study is to be finalised this autumn, however the main message from Ned was that “physical activity in community settings contribute positively to peoples’ lives”. And a public representative added “motion is lotion: once you start moving, everything gets better”.



**Image: Dr Ned Hartfiel, (with assistance from Abraham Makanjuola, MRes Student) showing a video about the Health Precinct project.**

Dr Mary Lynch, Senior Lecturer at the School of Health Sciences spoke about social prescribing as a method to reduce visits to the GP. A pilot evaluation that Mary has been involved with is now being turned into a bigger study with more GP surgeries involved. One of the main messages from this presentation is that loneliness and social isolation are big issues for the primary care services and simple interventions can be beneficial to reduce the amount of GP appointments from frequent attenders.

Professor Rhiannon Tudor Edwards reflected on the health economics of caring through the life course, and highlighted work by Dr Nathan Bray, Dr Lorna Tuersley, and Dr Carys Jones, and reports written by CHEME staff (with funding from Public Health Wales) on prevention through the life course:

- Transforming Young Lives (2016)  
<https://cheme.bangor.ac.uk/documents/transforming-young-lives/CHEME%20transforming%20Young%20Lives%20Full%20Report%20Eng%20WEB%202.pdf>,
- Living well for longer (2018)  
<https://cheme.bangor.ac.uk/documents/livingwell2018.pdf>
- Wellness in Work (2019) <https://cheme.bangor.ac.uk/documents/Wellness-in-Work-Report.pdf>

Dr Emily Holmes discussed her CHEME pharmacoeconomics research, with an emphasis on patient preferences for medication. Emily said that that “Considering evidence on patient preferences alongside clinical trials could lead to better use of medicines.” One of the main messages from this presentation was that the clinically best medication is not always the best for the individual patient, and sometimes other factors have to be taken into consideration.



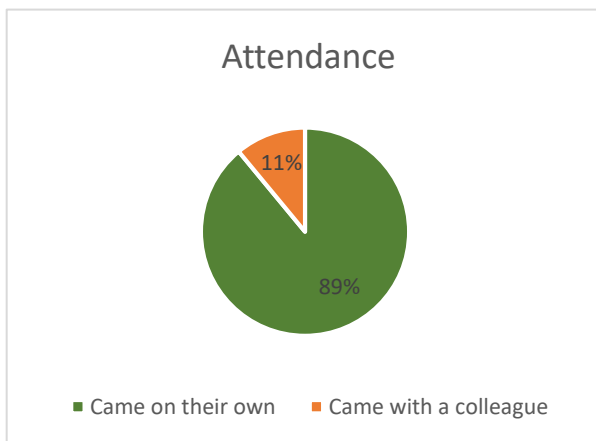
**Image: Dr Emily Holmes talking about her pharmacoeconomics projects.**

Dr Leah McLaughlin and Dr Joanna Charles spoke about their dialysis choices project which is still currently on-going. Leah said that “By working in partnership together we want to create more sustainable services and better care for people living with kidney disease and their family members in Wales.” One of the main messages from this presentation was that dialysis unit services in Wales are struggling and home dialysis may be a more suitable option for many more kidney patients in Wales.

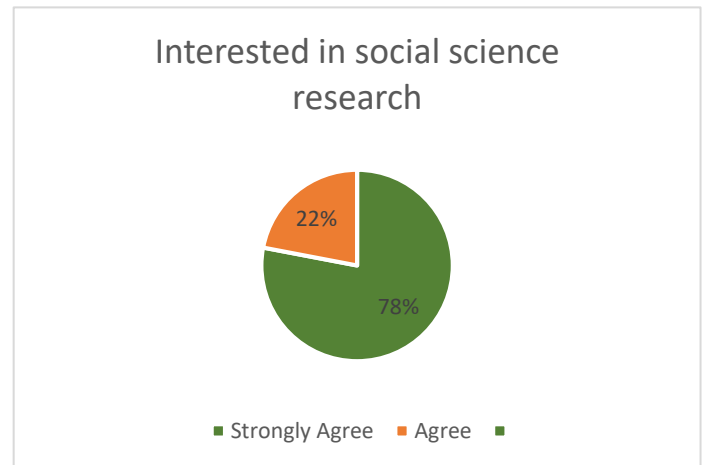


**Image: Dr Leah McLaughlin and Dr Joanna Charles talking about their on-going Dialysis Options project.**

At the end of the morning event, delegates were requested to complete their feedback forms and hand them back to the organisers (bilingual forms presented in the packs). Feedback were collected from 18 of 29 delegates (62% response rate). Most of the respondents (n=16) came on their own to the event, and two came with a colleague. See Figure 1.1. Most of the respondents (n=14) strongly agreed that they were interested in social sciences, and four said that they agreed. See Figure 1.2.

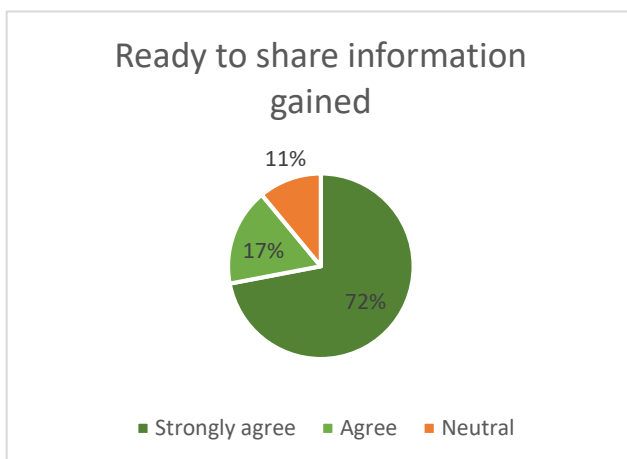


**Figure 1.1 Attendance at the WHESS #ESRCFestival**

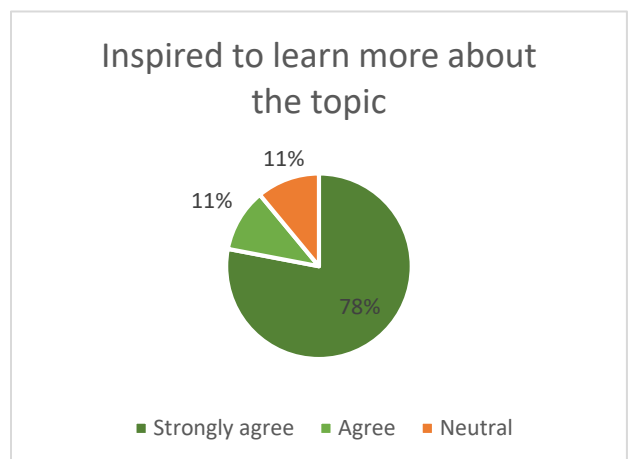


**Figure 1.2 Interested in social science**

Most of the respondents (n=13) strongly agreed that they would use/share things learnt today, three agreed, and two were neutral. See Figure 1.3.



**Figure 1.3 Ready to share information gained**



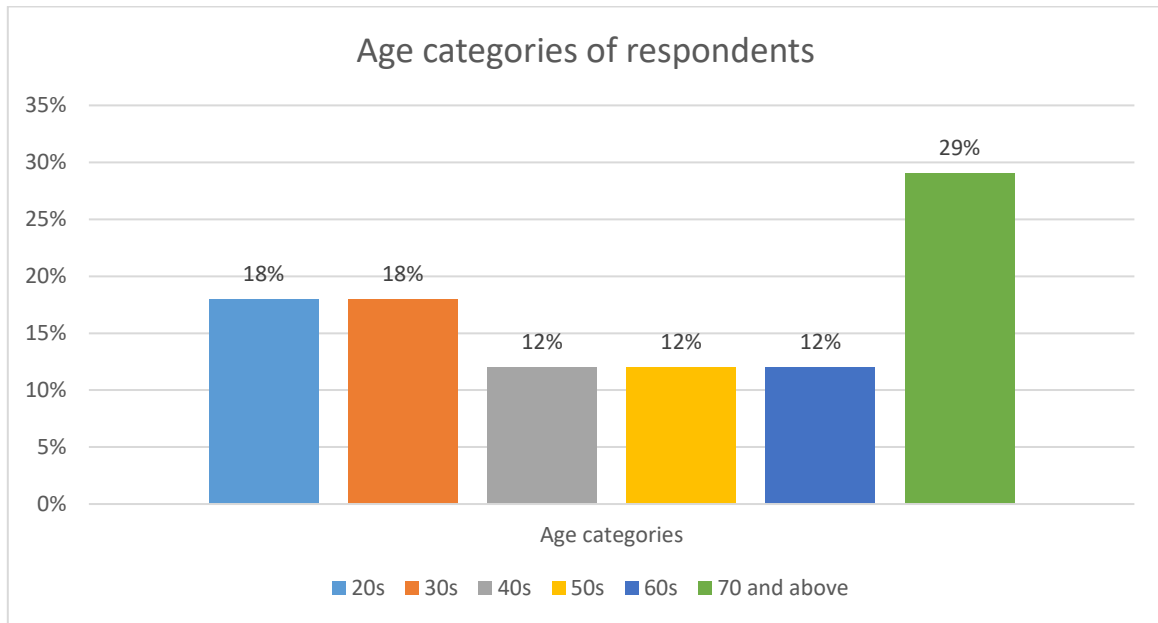
**Figure 1.4 Inspired to learn more**

Most of the respondents (n=13) strongly agreed that they would use/share things learnt today, three agreed, and two were neutral. See Figure 1.3.

Most of the respondents (n=14) strongly agreed that they were inspired to learn more about the topic, two agreed and two were neutral. See Figure 1.4.

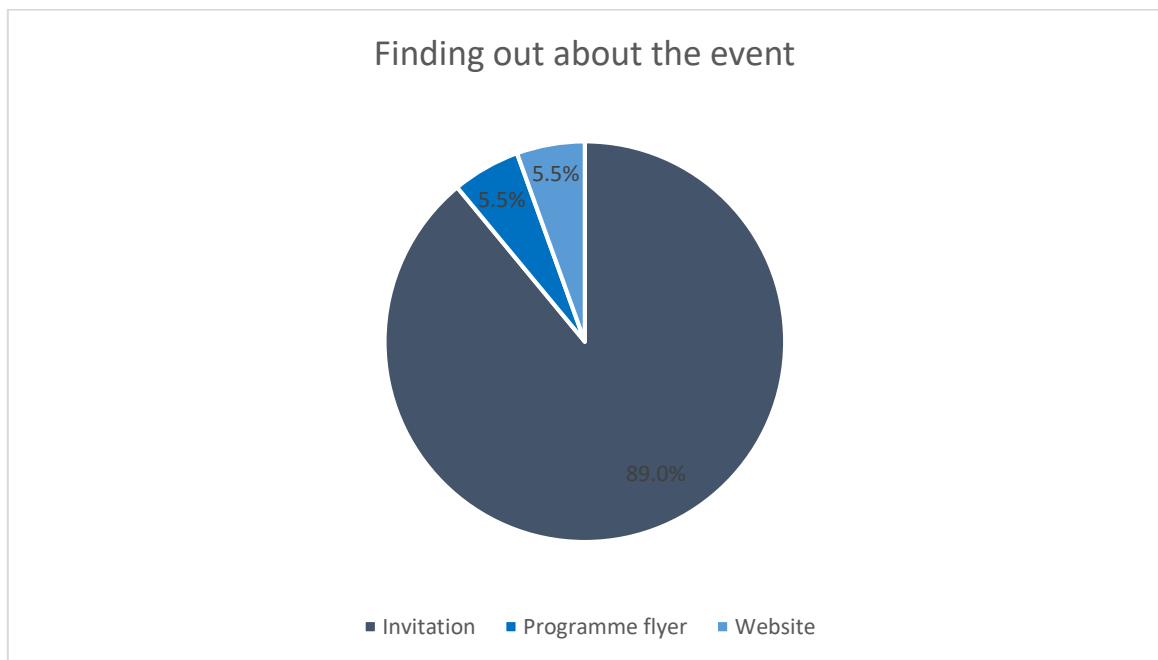
Most of the respondents (n=15) strongly agreed that they were aware the event was a social science event, two agreed and one was neutral.

Seventeen of the 18 respondents noted their age. The age range was 20's to 70's or over (three were in their 20's, three were in their 30's, two were in their 40's, three were in their 50's, 2 were in their 60's and five were 70 years or over). See Figure 1.5.



**Figure 1.5 Age categories of the respondents**

Most of the respondents (n=16) found out about this event through invitation, one through a local programme/flyer, and one through 'other website'. See Figure 1.6.



**Figure 1.6 Finding out about the event**

Most of the respondents (n=17) were from an LL (North Wales) postcode, and one was from a CH7 postcode.



Image: Professor Rhiannon Tudor Edwards, #ESRCFestival, Reichel Hall, Bangor University, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

Positive comments from the respondents are provided below:

**“Excellent event. There is a common theme of PPI and quality of life which I think is very positive”**

**“Really interesting event. Perhaps it would be better to keep to time in the AM session as there was time aside for discussion in the PM session”**

***“Digwyddiad da! Er mi fysa’n dda cael cyflwyniadau yn y Gymraeg a chael cyfieithydd i’r Saesneg. Teimlo dylid rhoi fwy o bwyslais ar bwysigrwydd yr iaith Gymraeg yn enwedig mewn digwyddiad fel hyn”***

*(A good event! Although it would be good to have presentations in Welsh and have an English translation. I feel that more emphasis should be put on the Welsh language, especially in an event like this).*

**“Very interesting, have benefited from your morning session”**

***“Digwyddiad hynod ddiddorol ac rwyf wedi dysgu llawer. Dymuniadau gorau i’ch ymchwil yn y dyfodol. Mae gennych weithwyr deinamig iawn”***

*(A very interesting event and I have learnt a lot. Good wishes for your research in the future. You have very dynamic workers)*

**“Excellent information”**



Image: Members of the public learning about health economics research in North Wales

**“Information enjoyable means of catching up (5 years after retiring)”**

**“Mwynheais y rhan ar ddialysis ac am y gofalwyr orau. Buaswn wedi mwynhau cael mwy o hanes arnynt”**

*(I enjoyed the dialysis and the carers parts the best. I would have enjoyed getting to know more about them)*

**“I enjoyed every item, especially the Dialysis and the Carers”**

**“Digwyddiad gwych, llawn gwybodaeth a llawer o drafodaeth”**  
*(An excellent event, full of information and lots of discussion)*

**“Really enjoyed the presentations. Maybe links/electronic copies of studies/further reading offered to attendees”**

**“Location might prevent some members of the public from attending”**

**“Presenters were excellent – Dialysis was interesting – we all hear and know someone affected by. Totally unaware of the procedures people living with it have to learn to function in daily lives – needs to be more public awareness!”**

Constructive feedback for next time included:

**“Academic heavy. Missed opportunities for local authorities, BCUHB and 3<sup>rd</sup> sector”**

**“Include a sheet of notepaper in the pack. PowerPoint slides distributed to attendees?”**

The majority of the respondents who presented a feedback form (n=13) wanted to be included in the ESRC prize draw.



## Afternoon Event 2019

### Report on the #ESRCFestival WHESS [escr.ukri.org/festival](http://escr.ukri.org/festival)

The #ESRCFestival WHESS Afternoon Event 2019 was held on Thursday afternoon 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019, as the second public and patient involvement and engagement event run with the Welsh Health Economics Support Service, on behalf of the Centre for Health Economics and Medicines Evaluation (CHEME), Bangor University.

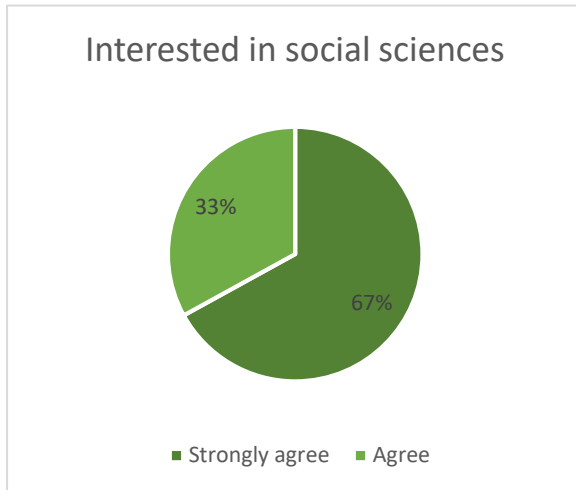


**Image: Social prescribing and wellness in Wales discussion group with Dr Mary Lynch and Dr Ned Hartfiel facilitating.**

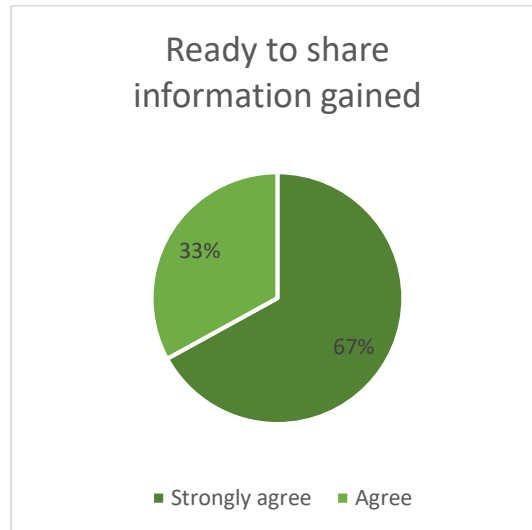
From the 15 delegates who came to the afternoon event, nine completed their evaluation form (60% response rate).

The majority of the respondents in the afternoon event attended as a professional/work-related individual. Two attended as members of the public and one attended as a student. Two of the delegates said that they had come alone, and two said that they attended with a colleague.

Most of the respondents (n=6) strongly agreed that they were interested in social sciences, and two said that they agreed. See Figure 2.1. Most of the respondents (n=6) strongly agreed that they would use/share things learnt today and three said that they agreed. See Figure 2.2.

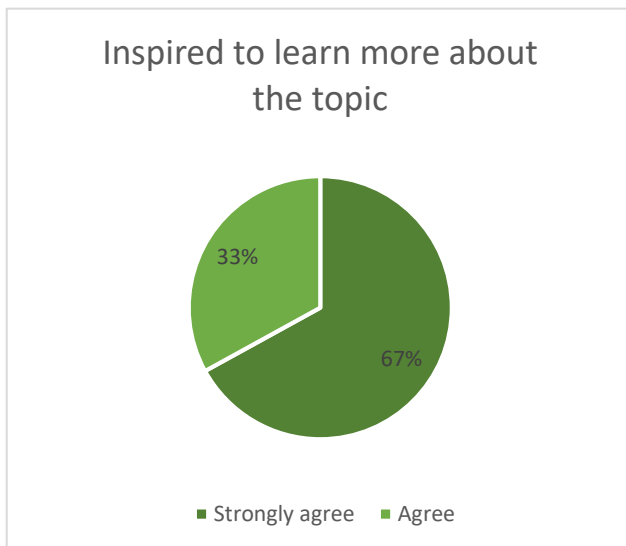


**Figure 2.1 Interested in social sciences**

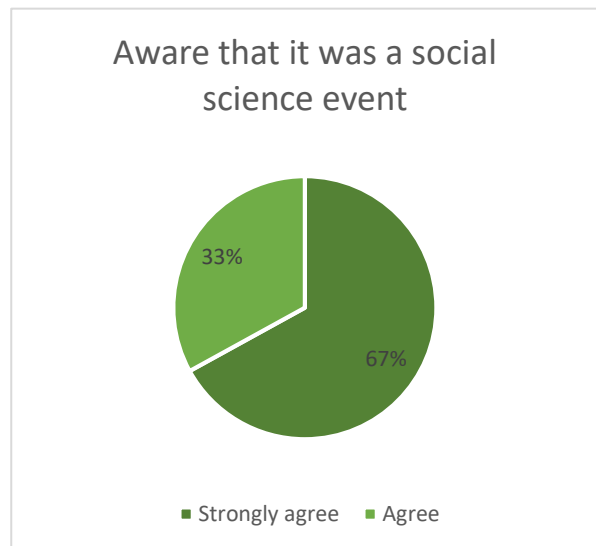


**Figure 2.2 Ready to share information gained**

Most of the respondents (n=6) strongly agreed that they were inspired to learn more about this topic, and three agreed. See Figure 2.3. Most of the respondents (n=6) strongly agreed that they were aware that the event was a social science event, and three agreed. See Figure 2.4.

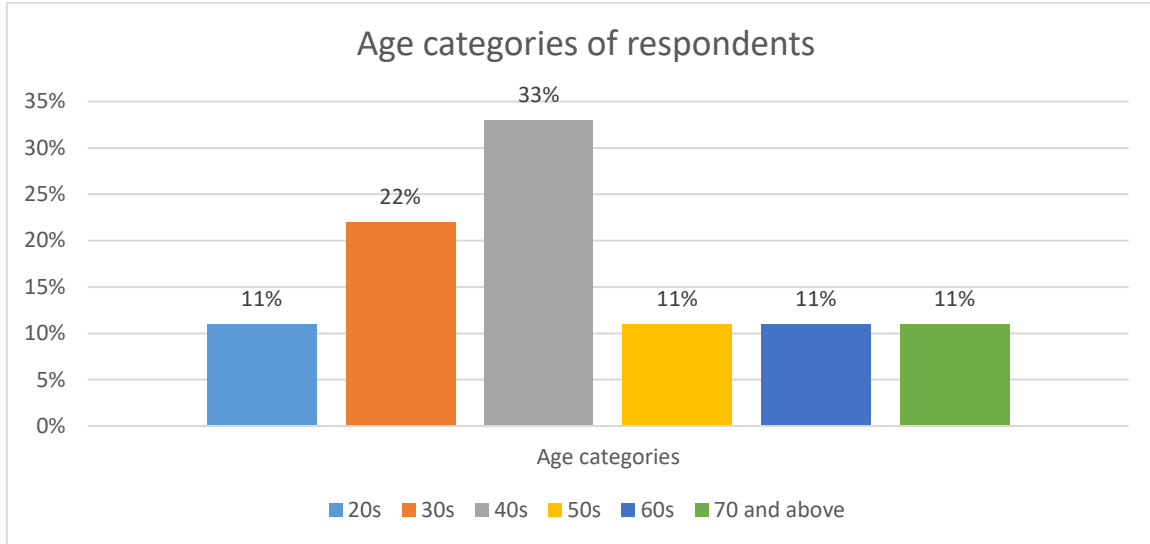


**Figure 2.3 Inspired to learn more about the topic**



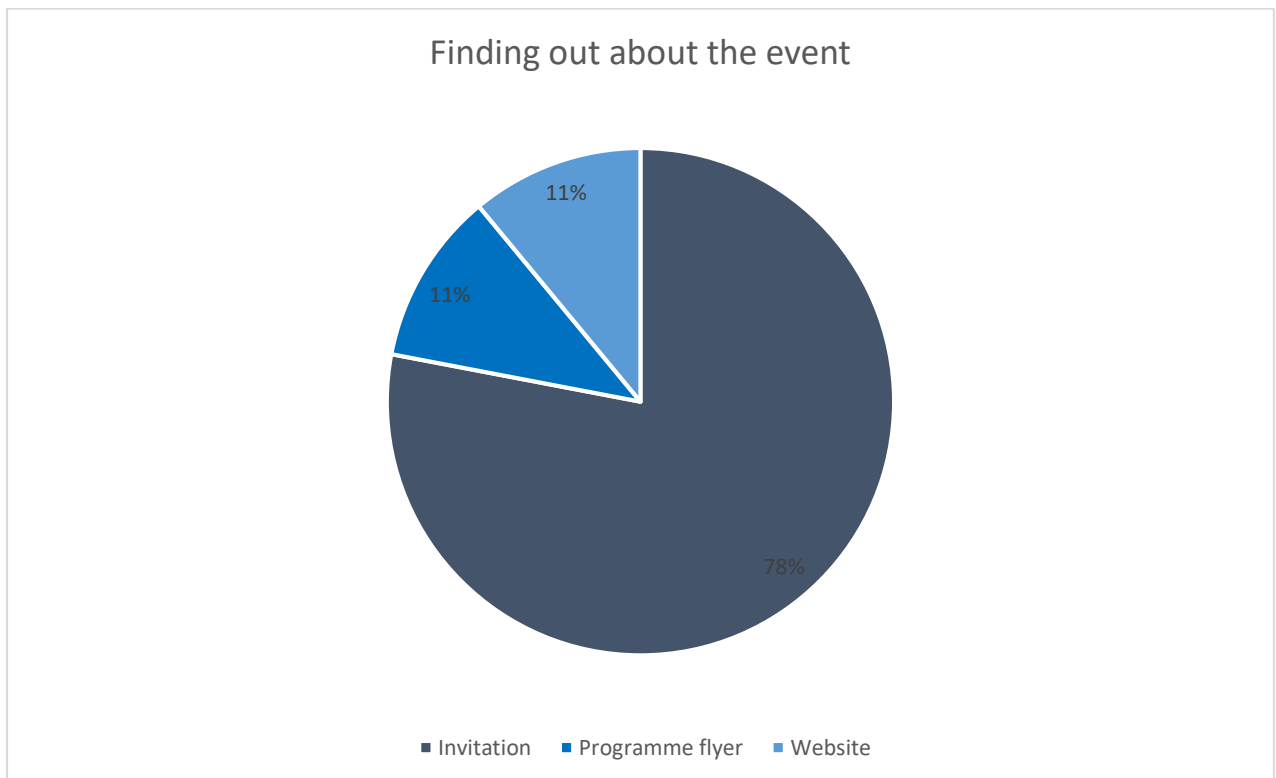
**Figure 2.4 Aware that it was a social science event**

The age range was 20's to 70's or over (one was in their 20's, two were in their 30's, three were in their 40's, one was in their 50's, one was in their 60's and one was 70 years or over). See Figure 2.5.



**Figure 2.5 Age categories of respondents**

Most of the respondents (n=7) found out about this event through invitation, one through 'other website', and one did not indicate how they found out about the event. See Figure 2.6.



**Figure 2.6 Age categories of respondents**

Comments from the afternoon event included the following:

**“Interesting to communicate with others”**

**“The round table nature of the event is really useful and allows for a greater understanding to be achieved”**

**“Really enjoyed the discussion groups”**

**“Very informative”**

**“Would like to spend more time learning and discussing opportunities for service delivery and research in North Wales”**



**Image: Dr Ned Hartfiel and Dr Mary Lynch facilitating the social prescribing and wellness in work discussion with members of the public, students and other professionals.**

Only four of the nine respondents who submitted an event feedback form in the afternoon wanted to be included in the ESRC prize draw.

## Impact

We expect that the main impact was to increase awareness of health economics research in Wales and influence networking amongst the delegates. Input from the public will also inform future health economics project bids.



Image: Dialysis options group discussion with Dr Leah McLaughlin and Dr Joanna Charles

## Welsh Government Policy Outcome

Both these WHESS #ESRCFestival events link to all four themes for 'taking Wales forward' in the 'Prosperity for All' National Strategy including 'Prosperous and Secure', 'Healthy and Active', 'Ambitious and Learning' and 'United and Connected' as the event aimed to increase awareness of health economics research conducted in Wales and provided an opportunity for the public to learn, debate and discuss aspects of recently completed or current projects such as 'The Health Precinct' and 'Dialysis Options' as well as projects about 'Social Prescribing' and 'Wellness in Wales'. Delegates could also network with others and presenters at the event could also signpost delegates to other stakeholders not present at the #ESRCFestival events.

### Contact details:

Dr Llinos Haf Spencer  
Public Involvement and Engagement Lead (North Wales)  
Welsh Health Economics Support Service (WHESS)  
Centre for Health Economics and Medicines Evaluation (CHEME)  
Neuadd Ardudwy, Normal Site  
Bangor University, Bangor  
Gwynedd, LL57 2PZ

01248 38 3171

[l.spencer@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:l.spencer@bangor.ac.uk)

Report prepared by Dr Llinos Haf Spencer on behalf of WHESS, 03/12/2019.