

# inspire conference 2009 evaluation

This event, which took place on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at the Wynyard Rooms, Wynyard, was the first of its kind with the aim of bringing together those who influence people considering careers in social care, preparing for and learning about the sector.

The target audience was wide ranging, on the day over 100 participants attended from a range of organisations across the North East including job centre plus, connexions, schools and colleges, local authorities, private training providers, entry into work and apprenticeship schemes. There was a 51% return of feedback forms from the event. All written comments provided on the forms are included in this document.



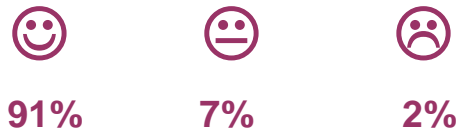
There was a wide range of stakeholders involved in planning and shaping the day. Representatives from the North East Care Alliances, Skills for Care, Job Centre plus, Regional Advisory Group (people who use services and carers), Connexions, Education Business Partnerships and Gravity Consulting contributed to a series of planning and follow up meetings.

Whilst the event looked to give information about the latest developments, the day was largely intended to support the sharing of learning and good practice. There were 30 care ambassadors involved in all aspects of the day from a wide range of social care roles and organisations across the region. People who use services and carers who are care ambassadors also played a major role in the day.

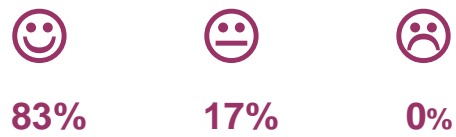
The day had an unprecedented 100% attendance. There were 6 people who failed to attend but a further 6 people arrived who were not officially booked onto the event. Although this was a 'non-cost' event, a fee of £50 was charged for non-attendance. It is not known whether this helped to contribute to the good turnout. Representatives from Gravity, who were responsible for event management, also observed a very high proportion of delegates staying until the end of the day.

As you will see from the evaluation information, the vast majority of the feedback from the event is very positive. **Acknowledgment and thanks goes to Wade Tovey, Chair of the day, and all those involved in planning, managing, speaking, supporting, and organising the event in helping to make it a success.**

*Did you feel included and that you could participate in the day?*



*Overall how was the day?*



- Very Good Experience
- Workshops informal and relaxed – enjoyed networking and felt the day was well planned
- Good Food
- Good Opportunity to network and contribute
- Found the day useful with lots of information
- Water in workshops
- Easy to participate but not singled out didn't learn anything new
- Good but did not learn anything new
- Good food Poor dining
- Good opportunity to network and contribute

# all comments about the venue and format

What was your opinion of the venue?



98%



2%



0%



Venue spacious and central, presentations concise and informative – Well presented

Q&A very Good

Not fully familiar with the sector did not feel at place

Some handouts would have been helpful – Some of the questions went on a long time and did not really answer the question.

Some of the Q & A panel were very knowledgeable and could have presented their own session

Excellent venue east to find

Excellent venue but better facilities for dining needed

Venue excellent if a little warm, presentations good – to the point and not too long. Maureen was very good in the Q&A

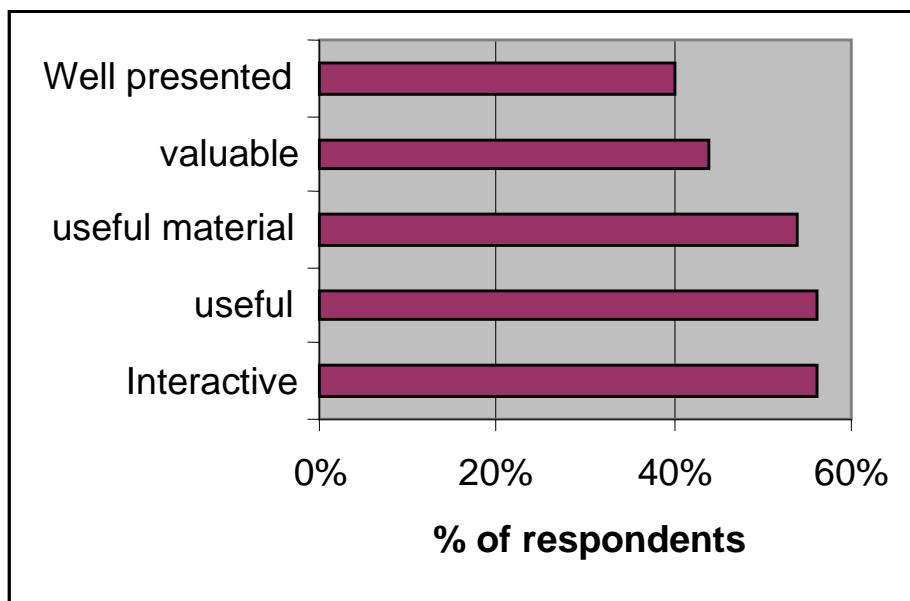
Q&A a bit long, there was a lot of info and good ideas but for me it was a bit inappropriate.

Good questions and realistic answers

Participants were asked to circle five of the following words that best described the event to them from the following list

Refreshing	Hard Work	Practical	Boring	Insightful
Indifferent	Valuable	Poor	Non-Participative	Controversial
Basic	Interactive	Nothing new	Motivating	Useful Material
Thorough	Well paced	Too long	Useful	Well presented
Exciting	Exhausting	Rushed	Waste of time	

## Top five responses



A snapshot of low value responses – All categories which only one person highlighted –

- too long, hard work and controversial.

## Workshops

Overall summary of all responses rating workshops



61%

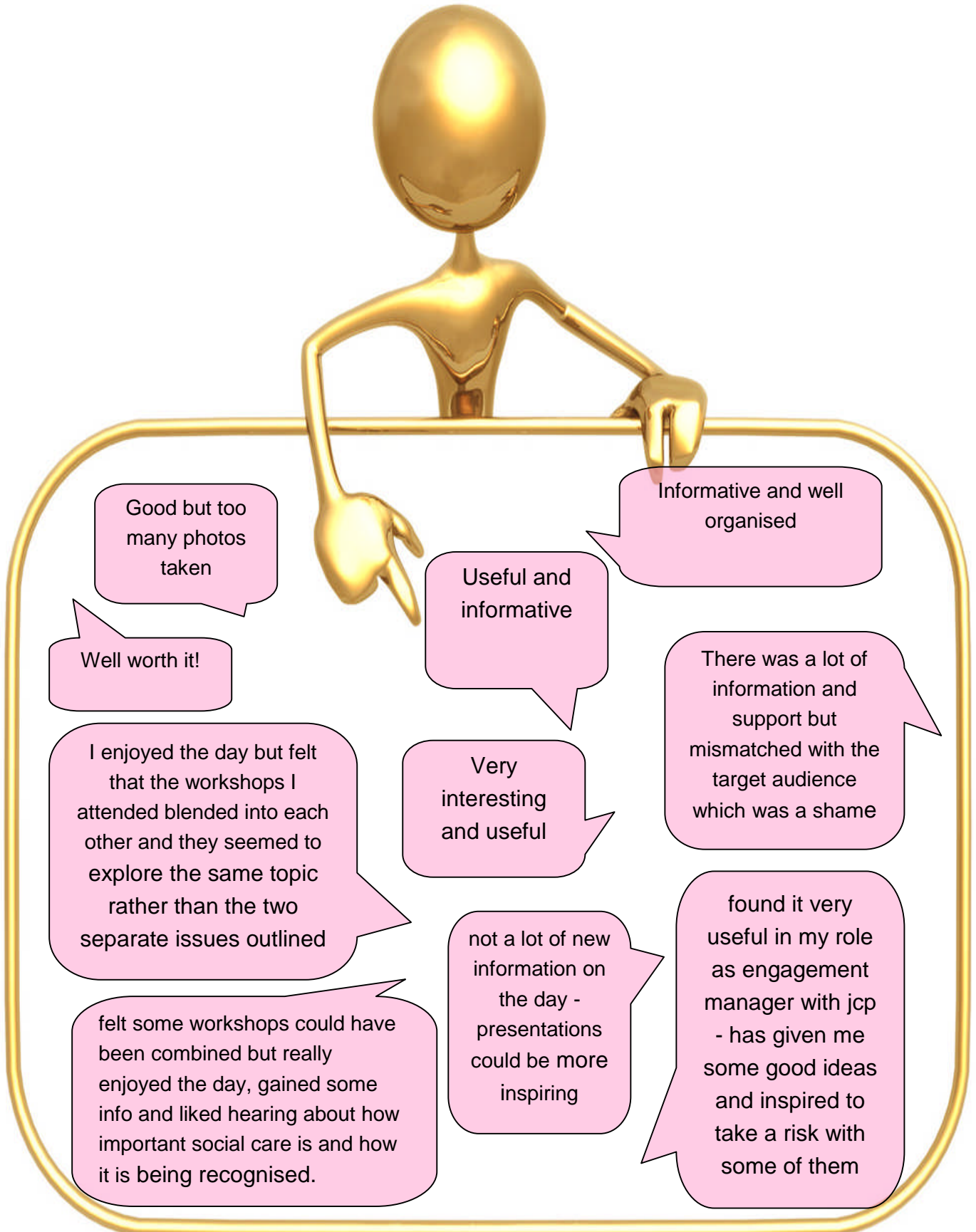


33%



6%

All responses to the category - If a colleague or friend asked me for an honest opinion about this event, I would say:



## General feedback

- There was a high level of participation
- There was a lovely atmosphere
- The day had ran smoothly with no major problems
- Good contacts had been made
- People had stayed for the whole day
- Some ambassadors had not been clear about their role
- There was some overlap and potential lack of clarity regarding the workshops
- The number of workshops created problems
- Coordination from the venue was good e.g. the lack of water on tables was quickly resolved.
- Having 2 workshops in one room proved problematic
- There was a good breadth of knowledge
- Job centre plus had found the day extremely useful and it had resulted in more vacancies
- Individuals on the ground have said that they are using and applying the knowledge

## Learning points for the future

- Limit the workshops to 4
- Give the opportunity for workshops leads to come together to practice their workshop with other deliverers to reduce overlap and increase clarity.
- Provide guidance to limit photographs
- Do not share rooms for workshops
- Ensure the invite and joining instructions are clear about confirmation of places to reduce people turning up unexpectedly
- Provide a fuller brief for ambassadors as to their role on the day
- Take forward the idea of the text questions, particularly for events involving young people.