

Explainable AI Citizens' juries

Oversight Panel Brief

Background

A citizens' jury of 18 local people is planned to meet in Coventry for five days on Mon 18 to Fri 22 February 2019. The process will then be repeated in Manchester with a different cross-section of the public from Mon 25 Feb to 1 March 2019. The juries will be selected to include a mix of people in terms of age, gender, ethnic group, educational attainment, employment status, and attitudes to artificial intelligence. They will be tasked with answering a set of questions about the kinds of explanations citizens should be able to receive when decisions are made using computer systems.

The 5-day jury will be led by a skilled facilitator, Kyle Bozentko, Director of the [Jefferson Center](#). The juries will be informed about the questions they are exploring, partly through expert witnesses who will make presentations and answer questions posed by the jurors. Jurors will also be given time to do exercises, and to deliberate amongst themselves before reaching their conclusions, which will be published shortly after the juries.

The above process is open to potential bias. It is not possible to completely eliminate bias, but it is important to try to identify and minimise it as far as possible before the juries take place. One way to try to achieve this is through asking an oversight panel who are independent from the process, and who have no conflicts of interest in the juries and their outcomes, to review the jury design and materials to be used at the juries.

Brief for oversight panel

The role of the oversight panel is to look for, and identify, bias that is evident in the plans and the design of the two citizens' juries, and the citizens' jury project more generally, so that where possible the bias can be addressed prior to the juries. The panel may also identify gaps in the documentation which could be sources of bias.

It is proposed that this is achieved through the following process:

- Jury design documentation (approximately 20-25 pages) is sent to oversight panel members for review (approximately a week before the teleconference mentioned below);
- A 90-minute teleconference is convened on 30 November 2018 at which members of the oversight panel can discuss the jury design documentation, and identify areas of potential bias;
- In response to the feedback from the oversight panel, the citizens' jury project manager Malcolm Oswald amends the design documentation, and informs the panel of the amendments made;
- The above process is repeated in late January/early February in order to review the prepared content for the sessions e.g. witness slides, scenarios for the juries to explore (approximately 30 pages but much of it slide bullet points);
- Members of the oversight panel are asked to complete a short oversight panel bias questionnaire (see overleaf), which will then be published on the web.

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Oversight panel bias questionnaire

Having reviewed the jury design documentation, how satisfied are you that the citizens' juries being run in February 2019 have been designed *with the aim of* minimising bias?

not satisfied

partially satisfied

mostly satisfied

fully satisfied

How satisfied are you that the February 2019 citizens' juries were *successfully designed* to minimise bias?

not satisfied

partially satisfied

mostly satisfied

fully satisfied

Comments and qualifications to your answers above

Name

Organisation and role

Signature

Date
