Learning From Practice, 22 June 2006

750 delegates, 75 learning conversations, 50 displays, 300 balloons, 1000 breakfast rolls, 25 members of Impact Dance and Lenny Henry...

Tell us what you think... Feedback from delegates

"Had a brilliant day that will revolutionise the learning for children in school. Thank you."

"I now feel more confident to lead our local network forward."

"Fabulous! I have gained so much from the learning conversations and I am bursting with ideas! I have hosted an exhibition and am bowled over by the positive reactions we have had. We wish we had been able to do a learning conversation but we will be

"This was an excellent event and it should be continued if we are serious about networking as a powerful tool for the future"

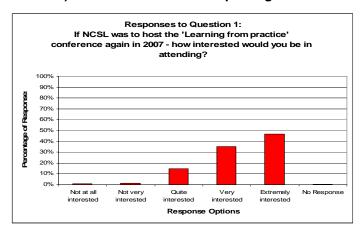
"Worthwhile, interesting, will come again. Liked the varied format of children, speakers and learning conversations. Came a long way and was not disappointed - as a relatively new network ideas are flying!!"

Gathering feedback from delegates

back next year!!!"

280 'Tell us what you think' forms were completed. There were 10 questions on the form. The first 5 questions were devised by the NCSL Stakeholders and Networks team and focussed on gathering feedback to inform future events (further data was collected by the NCSL Leadership Network Regional Co-ordinators through conversations with delegates during the conference). The 5 questions on the reverse of the form were devised by Maggie Farrar, the NCSL Operational Director for Standards and ECM. These questions focussed on to what extent networks are helping schools to meet different aspects of the core offer of extended services.

1) Is this an event worth repeating?



"Fantastic day can't wait for next year."

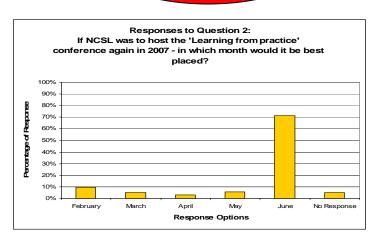
More than 80% of delegates who responded said that if NCSL was to host the 'Learning from practice' conference again in 2007 they would be 'very interested or extremely interested' in attending.

"It is the first time we have attended and will certainly visit again."

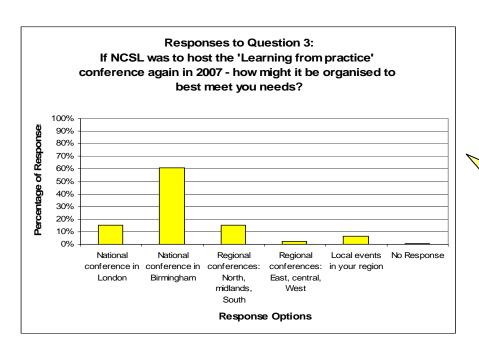
2) When is the best time to host this event?

More than 70% of delegates who responded said that if NCSL was to host the 'Learning from practice' conference again, they would prefer it to take place in June 2007.

"Don't stop now, we've not got there yet!!"



3) Where should this event take place?



More than 60% of delegates who responded said that if NCSL was to host the 'Learning from practice' conference again, they would prefer it to be a national conference in Birmingham.

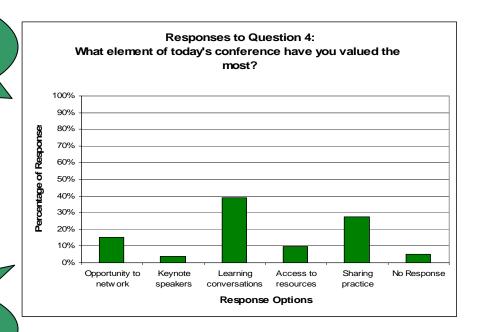
"We enjoyed taking part and doing our conversation as well. Could you help London Challenge organise a 'learning from /in London' event?"

4) What was the most valuable aspect of the event?

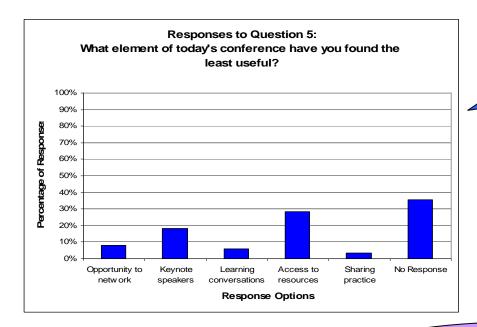
"Exceptionally well organised, good modelling of learning. Good opportunities for LA reps to network and learn about one another's, and schools' practice."

The learning conversations were the most highly valued aspect of the conference with nearly 40% of respondents choosing this option. A further 28% of respondents valued the opportunity to share practice the most. 15% of delegates valued the opportunity to network most highly.

"I thought the conference programme was an excellent resource and will continue to be so. Brilliant idea well put together."



5) What was the least valuable aspect of the event?



"Not all the conversations were conversations. Some were minipresentations with little discussion and sharing."

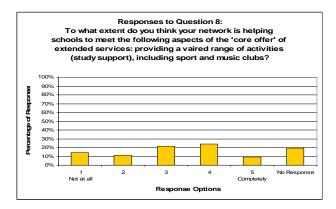
Only 65% of delegates responded to the question 'What element of today's conference have you found the least useful?' Many colleagues wrote 'not applicable' next to this question, or said that all aspects of the conference were useful. However, 28% of respondents thought that the access to resources was the least useful element of the conference. A further 18% of responses indicated that the keynote speakers were the least useful element of the conference.

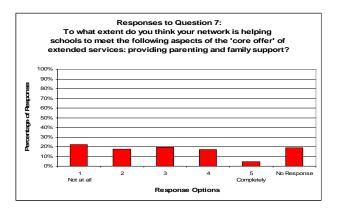
"Great idea. I really enjoyed the format. Lots of opportunities to network. It was a real treat to be entertained by Lenny Henry." "Very useful day which needs to be continued as networks grow, develop and are sustained in an ever changing educational learning landscape. There's been no greater time to connect together, take more risks and share the challenges and solutions."

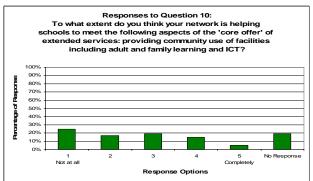
How are networks helping schools to meet the different aspects of the core offer of extended services?

Questions 6-10 focussed on to what extent networks are helping schools to meet different aspects of the core offer of extended services. Delegates could record a response from 1 (not at all) to 5 (completely). Approx 20% of delegates did not respond to these questions at all, sometimes stating that these were not applicable (as the network focussed on teaching and learning) or that they did not know enough to answer the questions.

The responses received indicate that networks are currently most effective at helping schools to provide a varied range of study support including sport and music clubs (Qu. 8), providing parenting and family support (Qu. 7) and providing community use of facilities including adult and family learning and ICT (Qu.10).







The responses received indicate that networks are currently less effective at helping schools to provide swift and easy referral to specialist services such as speech therapy and health drop-ins (Qu.9). Networks are least effective at supporting schools to provide access to childcare 8am - 6pm, all year round (Qu.6).

