

Guiding Principles

The guiding principles of the Citizens' Assembly on Drugs Use are as follows:

Openness: The Citizens' Assembly will operate in a spirit of openness. Plenary meetings will be livestreamed on www.citizensassembly.ie, as well as recorded and available after the meeting. Documentation including submissions, speeches and presentations will be published on the website.

Balance: It is important that the Assembly hears a diverse and balanced range of viewpoints during the course of proceedings.

Transparency: Contributors including speakers, presenters and members of advisory support groups, and contractors, shall disclose any roles, associations or positions that might give rise to an actual or perceived conflict of interest.

Equality of voice: Each member will have fair and proportionate opportunity to voice their opinions at plenary session or roundtable discussions.

Respect: Members will respect each other's opinions and ensure that everyone feels free to express their views without fear of personal attack or criticism.

Privacy and Confidentiality: Members are entitled to privacy and confidentiality during their involvement in the Citizens' Assembly. Any effort to lobby or otherwise pressure members will not be tolerated.

Inclusivity: The Citizens' Assembly welcomes engagement from all sections of society and all stakeholders on issues within the remit of the Assembly.

Collegiality: Members will work in a spirit of collegiality, with the aim of formulating and agreeing recommendations in a democratic manner.

Professionalism: The Secretariat and contracted service providers shall act at all times with professionalism, respect the guiding principles of the Citizens' Assembly.