LEADING THE DRUGS DEBATE

Transform’s engagement with key audiences in Parliament and Whitehall has expanded in scope and allowed us access to higher tiers of policy makers. Key achievements include:

**Government’s Drug Strategy Consultation**

As the 1998 ten year drugs strategy comes to end, a window of opportunity for review opened, including an official Government consultation on the next strategy. Transform has actively engaged in this process at all levels:

- Published ‘Drug policy 1997-2007: The Evidence Unspun’ highlighting how the consultation document misrepresented the statistical evidence, dressing up failure as success.
- Highlighted the shortcomings of the consultation process with a formal complaint to the Better Regulation Executive (related press releases achieved national bestselling coverage).
- Produced a detailed formal submission to the consultation describing the litany of failure over the ten year strategy and illustrating the Government’s knowledge that its support for drug prohibition creates significant harms.
- Transform also took a lead role in the drafting of the submission to the consultation from the Drugs and Health Alliance.

**Science & Technology Select Committee Inquiry into the Drug Classification System**

Transform gave detailed written and oral evidence to the Committee that informed its highly critical final report (in which Transform are extensively quoted). The impact of this report continues to be felt, as the dramatic failings of the classification system have subsequently been highlighted by academics, and experts, including the Government appointed Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, who oversee the system itself.

**Briefing policy makers**

Transform has provided written briefings and met with various individuals, groups and agencies, including The Conservatives Social Justice Policy Group on Addictions, the Liberal Democrats Home Affairs team, various Home Office groups, the All Party Group on drug misuse, the National Audit Office, the Treasury, as well as MPs and peers from all major parties.

**New Publication: Tools for the Debate**

Transform has published a ground breaking new guide ‘After the War on Drugs - Tools for the Debate’. It provides policy makers with the language and analysis to engage in the drug law reform debate with confidence and clarity. The first stage of our dissemination strategy is complete, with copies sent to all parliamentarians in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, as well as a significant number of journalists, NGOs, academics, opinion formers and civil servants.

**Drugs and Health Alliance (DHA)**

Transform helped establish and now provides the secretariat for the Drugs and Health Alliance, a coalition of organisations and individuals who support an evidence-based, public health-led approach to drugs. Since its launch in May the DHA has been forging links and dialogue with the Home Office and Department of Health. The DHA prepared a widely cited response to the Drug Strategy Consultation (for membership and further details please see the DHA website: www.drugshealthalliance.net.uk.)

**UN Accreditation**

Transform gained UN special consultative status (ECOSOC status) in June 2007. This is official recognition of Transform’s expertise and our ability to contribute in the

FINANCES

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2007

**INCOME**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>96,293</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consulting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Interest</td>
<td>2,932</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Incoming Resources</strong></td>
<td>99,885</td>
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**EXPENDITURE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>£</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>77,163</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Direct Charitable Expenditure</td>
<td>28,546</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accountancy</td>
<td>840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Expenses</td>
<td>2,873</td>
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<td>Legal and Professional Fees</td>
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<td><strong>Total Resources Expended</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Net (Deficit)</td>
<td>(10,873)</td>
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<td>Total Funds at 01.04.06</td>
<td>75,854</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donations in advance</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Funds at the end of year</strong></td>
<td>90,399</td>
</tr>
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TRANSFORM FUNDERs

Transform would like to express our gratitude to all the individual donors and those Charitable Trusts that have supported our work over the last 12 months. We have received significant contributions from:

- Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
- The Linnet Trust
- The Glass-House Trust
- Atlantic Philanthropies

Transform relies solely on donations from individuals and charitable trusts to maintain its work. Ideas, contacts and suggestions are always welcome, and please, if you haven’t already - sign up online to make a donation to the organisation. It really can make a difference. You can do this easily and quickly through our secure online giving page run by The Charities Aid Foundation.
TRANSFORM—WINNING THE PUBLIC DEBATE

Media
Transform’s media profile has gone from strength to strength. We are now firmly established as the first point of call for journalists covering the drug law reform debate. Highlights have included:

- Transform comment, analysis and press releases are regularly quoted in national broadsheets and tabloids news coverage of drug issues.
- Transform regularly writes original articles for newspapers (most frequently the Guardian, but also in The Times, the Mirror and the Daily Mail), weekly magazines (including the New Statesman) and a range of specialist publications, including Druglink and Drugs and Alcohol Today.
- Transform is also frequently called upon to appear in a range of broadcast media, including appearances on Channel 4 News, BBC News 24, Newsnight, the Today programme, Sky News, BBC Radio Five Breakfast Show, the Jeremy Vine Show, World at One, The World Tonight, Talk Sport Radio and Law in Action, as well as numerous regional TV and radio programmes.

Overall, excluding printed quotes, Transform has made over one hundred contributions to print and broadcast media this year. Transform’s detailed media log is available on request and a collection of print media can be seen online at www.tdpf.org.uk/mediaNews_TransformInTheMedia.htm.

Transform On-Line www.tdpf.org.uk
Transform’s website is now firmly established as the leading research resource for drug policy reform in the UK. We are constantly updating and improving the site to ensure it remains at the cutting edge and in touch with policy developments. The Transform media blog, established in early 2006, has been a highly successful addition to Transform’s online presence as an effective platform for rapid comment and analysis on breaking news stories, as well as facilitating public discussion. It now consistently attracts over 8,000 page views a month.

Public Engagement
Transform speakers were invited to address a number of events this year including:
- The International Harm Reduction Conference in Warsaw
- The Drug Policy Alliance Conference in New Orleans
- Debate at Trinity College Dublin organised by the Philosophical Society

Transform staff now regularly lecture on drug policy issues on undergraduate and masters courses at The University of Kent and Kings College London. We have provided speakers to a number of local political, police and drug treatment agency working groups.

Transform held its Annual Reception in The Houses of Parliament on 24th October 2007 hosted by Paul Flynn MP. This was an opportunity for MPs, Civil Servants, NGO representatives, journalists, supporters and other stakeholders to meet and exchange ideas.

TRANSFORM DRUG POLICY FOUNDATION

Mission
Transform exists to reduce harm and promote sustainable health and well-being by bringing about a just, effective and humane system to regulate and control drugs at local, national and international levels.

Activities
- Publishing research, policy analysis and innovative policy development in the drugs field.
- Challenging government to demonstrate rational fact-based evidence to support its policies and expenditure.
- Promoting alternative, evidence-based policies to parliamentarians and government agencies.
- Advising and collaborating with many UK and international NGOs whose work is affected by drugs.
- Providing an informed, rational and clear voice in the public and media debate on UK and international drug policy.

THE FUTURE

Transform’s ‘Control & Regulate – A Practical Approach’ Project
This project will deliver a blueprint for change, showing clearly what a more effective drug policy would look like, how it can be structured to protect the most vulnerable members of our community, make significant reductions to the harms caused by drugs and prohibition policy and how it can be achieved.

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