



**Exploring public views on assisted dying webinar event:** How deliberative and participatory methods help unpick society's thorniest issues.

About the session:

*This webinar with the [Nuffield Council on Bioethics](#) (NCOB) will explore and discuss recently published evidence on what people in England think about assisted dying.*

*The NCOB is an independent research and policy centre, and the UK's leading voice of bioethics. Their ambition is to place ethics at the centre of decisions, so we all benefit.*

*Their [assisted dying project](#) combines detailed insights from England's first Citizens' Jury on the topic and two nationally representative surveys of 2000 people. It provides a timely and comprehensive analysis of public views, therefore, giving policymakers and legislators the evidence they need to have a well-informed and nuanced conversation about the topic.*

*With the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill being hotly debated and due to return to the House in April, this webinar will give you an opportunity to not only understand what the English public thinks about assisted dying, but also why they have formed those views.*

*Professor Anne Kerr, Chair of the project's Advisory Board and Henrietta Hopkins, Director of the award-winning social research agency Hopkins Van Mil who delivered the Citizens' Jury will present the project findings and explain the methods used. We will also be joined by Helen and Ashok who sat on the Citizens' Jury and can offer their own personal reflections.*

### **Speaker Biographies**



**Professor Anne Kerr,  
University of Glasgow**

Anne is Professor of Science & Technology Studies and Head of the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Glasgow. She has a background in Science and Technology Studies and Medical Sociology, researching professional, patient and public encounters with innovative health technologies, including assisted conception, reproductive genetics, regenerative medicine, and genomic medicine for cancer. She has written widely on her research with colleagues from across the social and bio-sciences, focusing on how patients, researchers and clinicians craft the opportunities and risks of biomedicine.



**Henrietta Hopkins,  
Hopkins Van Mil,  
Director**

Henrietta co-founded HVM in 2005. Since then she has worked on a wide range of programmes encompassing topics as diverse as new horizon technologies, health, social care, climate change, environment and arts and heritage. Henrietta is an expert social researcher, lead facilitator and designer of deliberative dialogue research with a particular interest in bringing creativity to public and stakeholder engagement. She works closely with people a diversity of people with lived and professional experience of the issues that matter to everyone in society. She creates spaces for evidence based exploration of emotionally sensitive, complex and technical issues.

Recent deliberations include:

- *Exploring public views on assisted dying in England* for the Nuffield Council on Bioethics
- *Early Human Embryo Research: a public dialogue* for Sciencewise and the University of Cambridge
- *The Food Conversation: a changed food system* for the Food, Farming & Countryside Commission
- *Citizens' Panel on Sentencing* for the Prison Reform Trust

Brief synopses of the presentation:

- The joint presentation will cover the background and intention of the project, methods used, as well as results and further insights
- It will highlight the benefit of using Citizens' Juries and Assemblies to build shared consensus and solutions to complex issues, which can be used across policy areas.