# NHS-R Community Conference Workshop
# EVALUATION FEEDBACK

**Date: 09 October 2018**         **Venue:**   The Beeches, Birmingham

**Facilitators/speakers:**

**Adam Steventon** - Director of Analytics, Health Foundation

**Amina Hassanaly** – Analyst, Edge Health

**Andrew Hill** – Stroke Physician, St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

**Ben Di-Mambro** – Consultant Perinatal Psychiatrist, Nottingham Healthcare NHS Trust

**Caroline Kovacs** – Senior Research Associate, University of Portsmouth

**Chris Beeley** – Senior Analyst, Nottingham Healthcare NHS Trust

**Christian Moroy** – Co-founder / CTO, Edge Health

**Emma Vestesson** –Data Analyst, IAU, The Health Foundation

**Garry Fothergill** –Senior Improvement Analyst, NHS Improvement

**Gary Hutson** – Principal Analyst, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust

**Geraldine Clarke** – Senior Data Analyst, The Health Foundation

**Jacob Anhøj** – Consultant in Clinical Quality Improvement, University of Copenhagen

**John Mackintosh** - Data Manager, NHS Highland

**Julian Flowers** - Head of Public Health Data Science, Public Health England

**Matt Aldridge** – Co-Founder/CEO, Mango Solutions

**Mohammed Amin Mohammed** – Professor of Healthcare, Quality & Effectiveness, University of Bradford

**Neil Pettinger** – Information Training Consultant, Kurtosis

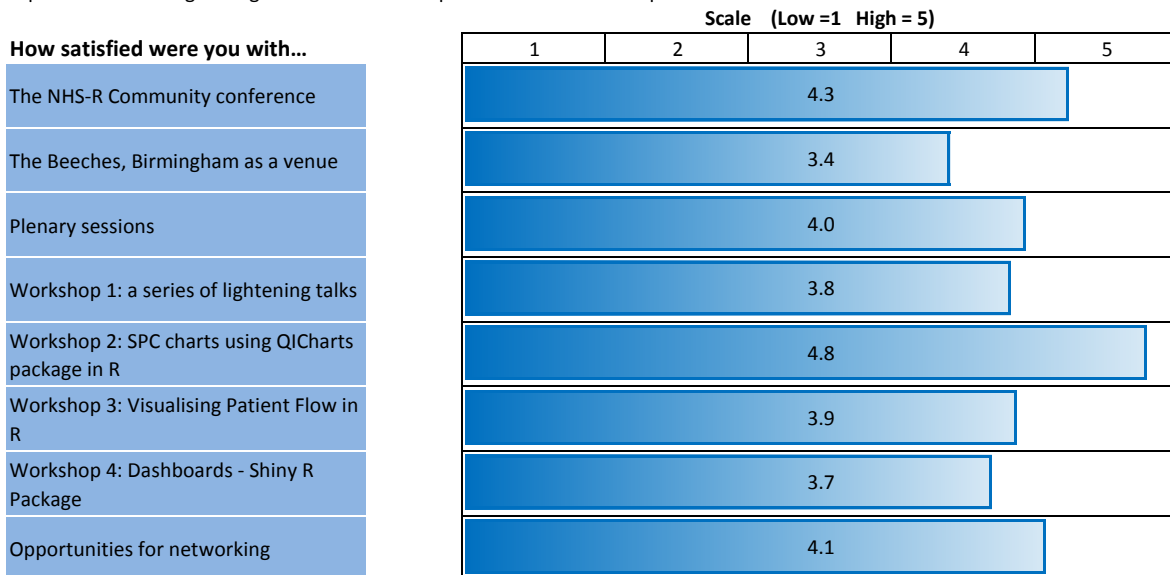**Sebastian Fox** – Principal Data Scientist, Public Health England

| **Number of Delegates:** | 119 | **Number of evaluation forms completed:** | 70 |
|---|---|---|---|

These evaluation scores are based on the responses to the questions about the above course, with the average values shown. The bars represent the average delegate score when compared to the best score possible.

| How satisfied were you with… | Scale (Low =1 High = 5) |
|---|---|
| The NHS-R Community conference | 4.3 |
| The Beeches, Birmingham as a venue | 3.4 |
| Plenary sessions | 4.0 |
| Workshop 1: a series of lightening talks | 3.8 |
| Workshop 2: SPC charts using QICharts package in R | 4.8 |
| Workshop 3: Visualising Patient Flow in R | 3.9 |
| Workshop 4: Dashboards - Shiny R Package | 3.7 |
| Opportunities for networking | 4.1 |

**Delegates were asked to circle at least 3 words that best represented their overall experience of the day**

The delegates responses have been collated using Wordle. This word cloud gives greater prominence to words that appear more frequently in the evaluation.

## What were the highlights of the workshop for you?

- Learning about the practical uses of R and data analysis applications in the wider NHS.
- Networking with other like minded folk.
- Hearing what people are doing.
- Networking - idea sharing & learning some helpful ways to use R.
- Workshop 2 - SPC charts using QICharts package in R
- Workshop 2 with Jacob was massively useful and the most practical "R-Training" live ever had. The powerpoint section of John's workshop 1 was also something I will definitely use soon!
- Thank you for organising - I've gained loads from this event!
- SPC charts session.
- Changing the way I think and organise projects.
- The conference was a useful opportunity to network with colleagues and find out more about the different projects going on that involve the use of R.
- Fast paced and punchy slides - the ability to switch between lots of different areas and a variety of subjects.
- Seeing the range of uses of R and learning different packages.
- Seeing the difference R can make and how quickly you can get results and output from it. Good plenary speakers. R-shiny hands-on practice.
- Shiny
- Learning from others.
- Workshop 4: Dashboards - Shiny R package was very fascinating, enjoyed it.
- Very interesting talks and interesting workshops.
- Enthusiasm
- The examples of how R has been used in a variety of organisations.
- Shared code
- The people!
- Meeting colleagues and seeing what else is going on.
- Interesting day  and gained some ideas for future.
- Charts and packages.
- Evening session was very helpful and gave a good insight into R.
- Introduction to R.
- The pre-evening session.
- Good to see a showcase of what people are doing with R.
- SPC session - practical elements.
- All talks
- Lightening talks - full of insight and good way to get lots of examples to think about.
- Seeing the work that other analysts were doing.
- Learning how R is being used in a diverse range of settings and the Shiny Dashboard workshop.
- SPC charts
- Pre-conference workshop.
- Getting to learn new skills. Seeing new concepts.
- Breadth of examples of work, real case studies, variety of applications, networking with like minded enthusiasts.
- Workshops
- Learning about some new packages and methods to adopt in R
- Workshop 3 - really, really powerful and useful.
- Seeing real world examples of R in use. Chance to talk to people already using R and to find out how they learned to use it.
- Like minded people.
- Great to see shiny used.
- The SPC session using QICharts was interesting.
- QICharts workshop
- Practical sessions.
- Shiny R programming. Top tips for R packages.
- Loved it. Workshop 2 is the best 1 and 1/2 hour training I have had in 3 years at NHS! Amazing event - thank you!
- SPCs in R - wow I now know why R is so great. Plus ability to automate into powerpoint (learnt in workshop 3). I'm going to go back to work and use this and show why R is so useful to us.
- QICharts - meeting others using R.
- The plenary sessions.

- Sessions of lightening talks is an amazing combination of practice and theory. Same about plenary sessions.
- Lightening talks
- Meeting people in the same boat as me!
- It was a great opportunity to hear about innovations in progress and develop professional skills!
- Just how powerful R is.
- Liked the shiny session
- The clear introductions of R - I'm not as scared now!
- Workshops
- Lightening talks
- Meeting so many people involved in R. Like seeing so many names on the internet - it makes me feel proud of the NHS.

## What could we improve on?

- Somewhere close to the city centre for venue.
- More engagement with academic researchers using R embedded in NHS projects.
- I would have liked more discussion around the problems we can solve using R (rather than how to use it).
- Too many talks in the lightening talks (overran) - less and more mins per talk.
- Location - internet access needs to be better.
- Venue: more in city centre, internet connection slow, projectors not bright enough. Feedback form - make online :)
- In the plenary sessions, the repetition about how difficult data analysis is and how fabulous R is, was very tiring.
- Venue needs to provide other snacks, i.e. fruit. Better Wi-Fi.
- Difficult to hear some speakers in main room.
- The Shiny Dashboard session I felt was quite theoretical and assumed too much prior knowledge. The session was very useful and will come in handy.
- Unfortunately the centre's Wi-Fi was very limited.
- More focus in every session, tried to cover too much.
- Tech resources - venue Wi-Fi wasn't up to the challenge, which impacted the shiny session.
- Wi-Fi. Maybe 2 days so not rushed.
- Material preparation. Improve the Wi-Fi access.
- Amplification for speakers. More interactive workshops. Indication of level (R experience etc) of workshop sessions.
- Unfortunately there wasn't enough room on Workshop 3 (afternoon) even though I booked myself in weeks previously.
- Maybe more time between talks so more opportunities to talk with colleagues.
- Some workshops split Novice vs expert. And to decision makers who need to know this is what analysts could be doing!
- Hands on workshops. Perhaps tailor according to the experience of delegates. Pre-conference preparation should include downloading the required packages. Guidelines for facilitating hands on workshops for the facilitators.
- Slides to be made available in advance / after if advance not possible
- Timing
- Venue - Wi-Fi poor. Shiny R package workshop should have compulsory pre-requisite knowledge and could have been slicker. Perhaps smaller group / more instructions on hand to roam the room. Time-keeping was a bit militant - felt like opportunities for questioning and discussion were lost.
- Less content, more depth.
- Provide more examples of what people have produced.
- NHS restrictions for R. Could do with basic R course. Difficult seeing projectors. Not all R stuff installed (shiny).
- The timing of workshop content.
- Venue was bad, could have definitely done with better Wi-Fi.
- Lightening talks a bit rushed and not all relevant. Would have been great to choose.
- Beeches has poor Wi-Fi and far from train station. Good food and space though.
- Better Wi-Fi
- A delegate list would be useful.
- Visual displays of code hard to read. Location - very long drive and therefore arrived late.
- Cater for various skills, shame I couldn't attend all the workshops.
- More clarity on where things are and what can be done when.
- Speakers/slides - limit code on screen, encourage speakers to describe process instead. (it's enticing for analysts to chuck raw code on screen but very hard to read!) Help speakers avoid duplication - maybe many points repeated throughout day (perhaps helps to emphasise though...)
- I think less of people talking about their projects and more practical sessions.
- Some parts were a little rushed - more time to go through examples.
- Let delegates attend all workshops.
- Would like to have attended all the workshops. Wi-Fi didn't work correctly, so we were unable to download all the packages/files. Could
- There were a lot of workshops that could have been reduced to only a few so that all the content could be covered.
- Maybe do 2 days so the talks are not so rushed.
- The visualising patient flow in R isn't interactive enough.
- Location, but it is hard to please everyone. Projection of Rstudio very difficult to see - need investment in projectors or something.

- Think about practical limitations of the day - Wi-Fi, IT, screens when deciding on the venue.
- Faster Wi-Fi.
- A venue with Wi-Fi or email out the packages in advance - done for workshop 2 but not for workshop 3.
- Difficult balance between whether sessions are teaching us to use R packages or showcasing what can be done with R.
- All packages given out a few weeks before - many of the session expected us to have downloads but it hadn't been emailed.
- Provide links to do data/exercises in advance (were not provided on 'visualising patient flow' session).
- Difficult to get everything done. Sometimes felt rushed but overall really enjoyed the day! Thanks!
- Venue too out of the way, bad rooms!
- Choose venue with more effective PA system.
- More time and better preparation for files.
- Better venue for requirements.
- Wi-Fi
- Pre conference workshop
- Just continue this format, so much to cover and people will keep learning and building skills. A bit less stalls I think but it's hard as very connected to R.
- Keep this free as it attracts more analysts and fewer managers.

## Would you recommend this workshop to others in your role?

Pie chart showing: Yes 98.2%, No 1.8%