

**NATIONAL AIDS TRUST**

# **SPEAKING OUT** **CHANGING LIVES**

**Annual Review 2006/07**



# **SPEAKING OUT CHANGING LIVES**

## **Our Purpose**

**The National AIDS Trust is the UK's leading independent policy and campaigning charity on HIV. We develop policies and campaign to halt the spread of HIV and improve the quality of life of people affected by HIV, both in the UK and internationally.**

### **Our Strategic Aims**

All our work is focussed on achieving four strategic aims:

- ▶ **Effective HIV prevention in order to halt the spread of HIV**
- ▶ **Early diagnosis of HIV through ethical, accessible and appropriate testing**
- ▶ **Equity of access to treatment, care and support for people living with HIV**
- ▶ **Eradication of HIV-related stigma and discrimination**

### **Our Work**

In order to achieve these broad goals, NAT has identified five distinct work streams:

- ▶ **Prevention and Testing**
- ▶ **Health and Social Care**
- ▶ **Poverty and Social Disadvantage**
- ▶ **The Law, Human Rights and Discrimination**
- ▶ **Public Awareness and the Media**



## Our Vision

Our vision is a world in which people know how to protect themselves from HIV infection and people living with HIV are diagnosed early, treated with respect, dignity, and justice, and receive the highest standards of care.

## Our Approach

We believe we can make a lasting and positive impact on the greatest number of lives by working to influence and inform the attitudes, behaviour and decisions of governments, organisations and individuals.

## Contents

<b>Our People</b>	<b>04</b>
<b>Message from the Chair</b>	<b>05</b>
<b>HIV Prevention and Testing</b>	<b>06</b>
<b>Health and Social Care</b>	<b>08</b>
<b>Poverty and Social Disadvantage</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>The Law, Human Rights and Discrimination</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Public Awareness and the Media</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Financial Support</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Our Funders and Supporters</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Our Partners</b>	<b>19</b>

# OUR PEOPLE

## National AIDS Trust Team

(As at 30 June 2007)

### Staff

**Yusef Azad**

Director of Policy and Campaigns

**Hannah Bate**

Policy Officer  
(maternity leave)

**Emma Bickerstaff**

Communications  
Manager (maternity  
leave)

**Rachael Bruce**

Communications  
Officer (maternity  
cover)

**Ben Bryant**

Fundraising Officer

**Sheonaidh Cumming**

Policy Officer

**Tom Elkins**

Senior Policy Officer

**Tim Gutteridge**

Director of Finance  
and Administration

**Deborah Jack**

Chief Executive

**Prachi Kanse**

Office Administrator

**Alana Lewis**

Policy and Campaigns  
Assistant

**Stef McCarthy**

Assistant to the Chief  
Executive's Office

**Joseph Murray**

Policy Officer  
(maternity cover)

**Vanessa Newton**

Fundraising Officer

**Gary Paul**

Finance Manager

**Doug Templeton**

IT Officer

**Anthony Townsend**

Trading Manager

### Trustees

**Dame Denise Platt** (Chair)

**Ziggi Alexander**

**Geraldine Campbell**

**Howard Charman**

**Dr Valerie Delpech**

**Dr Paul Flowers**

**Martin Green**

**David Johnson**

**John Nicholls**

**Dr Barry Peters**

**Gary Watson**

**Winnie Ssanyu-Sseruma**

**Dr Neil Wooding**

### Ambassadors

**Lord Puttnam** CBE

**Professor Michael Adler** CBE

**Christine Boar**

**John Bowis** OBE MEP

**Mark Chataway**

**Lady Falconer of Thoroton**

**Rt Hon Lord Fowler**

**David Grayson** CBE

**Rt Rev Richard Holloway** FRSE

**Rt Hon Sir Patrick Nairne** GCB MC

**Vivienne Parry**

**Robin Pauley**

**Baroness Prashar** CBE

**Natasha Richardson**

**Dame Ruth Runciman**

**Kirsty Wark**

**Christopher Wright**

We would also like to thank our many volunteers who have given their time and skills in all areas of our work.

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



## Dame Denise Platt

The challenges ahead in tackling stigma, complacency and inequality in the field of HIV are numerous and daunting. However, in taking up the position of Chair at the National AIDS Trust (NAT), I feel that there is hope that we can educate people to protect themselves and others from HIV infection, and ensure those living with HIV are diagnosed early, treated fairly and receive the highest standards of care. We may not be there yet, but NAT is doing indispensable work in these areas and must continue to speak out and make a difference.

Last year NAT's World AIDS Day campaign reached millions of people, getting the basic facts about HIV to people through schools, universities and places of work. 1 December is a time when HIV is on many people's minds, whether through attending an event, hearing about HIV in the media or wearing a red ribbon. But the rest of the year, those that do not work in the field often forget about HIV. Too often people think *'it only happens in Africa'* or *'it would never affect me, my friends or my colleagues'*. This complacency too often goes unchallenged.

As a small organisation, NAT believes it can achieve the greatest impact by working in partnership with others and by bringing experts together in fields as diverse as the law, immigration, medicine and the media. In the last twelve months it has used its expertise to produce resources for a wide range of groups, including journalists, teachers, small businesses, schools, lawyers, asylum seekers, prison governors, MPs and of course people living with HIV. It has also influenced the policy debate around crucial issues such as access to NHS treatment, new equality frameworks, confidentiality of patient information and public health legislation.

Our aim is to tackle ignorance, inequality and injustice at every level, by talking to people living with HIV and bringing their experiences to the attention of experts and policy makers. It is by changing the policies and practices at the highest level in both national and local government, business, the NHS and in education, among others that we can really strive towards an end to rising infections and ensure that HIV is treated appropriately as a manageable health condition.

**“Our aim is to tackle ignorance, inequality and injustice at every level”**

Poverty and prejudice are inextricably linked with HIV and we have much to do to prevent discrimination and provide effective redress for those that experience it. In the year ahead, we will be working to influence the newly formed Equality and Human Rights Commission and the proposed Single Equality Act to ensure HIV is high on the agenda. We will also be calling on the Government to amend hate crime legislation and give asylum seekers subsistence equal to income support, and the right to work to escape destitution. Our task is to speak out where there are injustices and work towards policy change at the highest level, so that people affected by HIV have the same right to health and equality that others take for granted.

# HIV PREVENTION AND TESTING

## The UK Challenge

- ▶ The number of people diagnosed with HIV has more than trebled since 1997
- ▶ One in three people living with HIV are undiagnosed
- ▶ Risk-taking sexual behaviour is on the increase
- ▶ Almost half of gay men infected with HIV have left an STI clinic still undiagnosed
- ▶ Over 40% of gay men have never had an HIV test
- ▶ A quarter of all HIV-related deaths are due to late diagnosis and a third are preventable



**“The NAT review of telephone helpline HIV advice is an invaluable teaching tool and I will certainly be using it to help inform volunteers”**

**Peter Shapcott, Positive Line**

## Speaking Out

- We brought together a group of key experts for our seminar on strategies for preventing the spread of HIV and increasing testing.

- We conducted a survey of the commissioning of HIV prevention in Primary Care Trusts across England, with support from the Health Protection Agency.

- We carried out an independent review of the quality and consistency of advice on the risk of HIV transmission given by helplines.

- Through MP and stakeholder briefings, we advocated for greater investment in new methods of HIV prevention, such as microbicides and vaccines.

## Changing Lives

- Recommendations arising from the seminar have had an important influence on the debate. These include opt-out HIV testing in GU clinics, ring-fenced public health funding and a target for reducing late diagnoses.

- This revealed no increased investment in HIV prevention among gay men and Africans, despite a significant increase in need. Our survey will therefore be an important tool for advocacy work by NAT and other organisations.

- The resulting report and recommendations are being used as a training tool for helpline staff, improving the advice the public receive on HIV.

- These have the potential of enabling women to protect themselves from HIV infection, therefore saving millions of lives worldwide.

# HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

## The UK Challenge

- ▶ Failed asylum seekers living with HIV are no longer eligible for free HIV treatment and cannot afford to access life-saving care
- ▶ The rate of HIV among male prisoners is fifteen times higher than among the general population

### Case study

After a pregnant woman living with HIV was denied Leave to Remain, the hospital refused to continue treating her unless she paid upfront. Unable to pay she disappeared from care for over three weeks, risking ill-health, drug complications and the increased possibility of her child being born HIV positive.

## Speaking Out

- ▶ We published a straight forward guide for migrants on accessing sexual health services ‘*Will I have to Pay?*’ jointly with the Terrence Higgins Trust.

---

- ▶ Our guidelines, *Tackling Blood Borne Viruses in Prisons* – a framework for best practice in the UK, was distributed to prisons, primary care trusts and immigration removal centres across the UK.

---

- ▶ We provided expert evidence in an ongoing case in the European Court of Human Rights against the UK Government for failing to provide needle exchange facilities in prisons.

## Changing Lives

- ▶ This helped address the fear and anxiety caused by the new charging policy, enabling thousands of individuals and organisations that help migrants, understand the legislation and get access to treatment.

---

- ▶ Our recommendations have been used to implement improved policies and practices in prisons.

---

- ▶ The results could be important to future decisions around prevention in prisons in England and Wales.



**“I found ‘*Tackling Blood Borne Viruses in Prisons*’ to be well written and easy to follow, full of achievable recommendations”**

**A prison nurse in Scotland**

# POVERTY AND SOCIAL DISADVANTAGE

## The UK Challenge

- ▶ Some of the most marginalised communities in the UK are also some of the most vulnerable to HIV
- ▶ One in three people diagnosed with HIV have experienced extreme poverty
- ▶ Poverty, lack of access to free treatment and late diagnosis are the cause of ill-health, depression and even death among many people living with HIV
- ▶ Some asylum seekers living with HIV continue to be dispersed across the UK with less than 24 hours notice and without proper arrangements for HIV treatment and care



**“When you are chronically ill, society assumes you have nothing left to offer and thinks it’s OK to leave you on the scrap heap”**

**Alice**



**“The NAT booklet *‘The Dispersal Process for Asylum Seekers Living with HIV’* is a useful tool for all people working with HIV positive clients”**

**Peter Ekakoro, Positive East**

## Speaking Out

- We carried out a survey of healthcare managers at immigration removal centres, which revealed practices harmful to the health and rights of asylum seekers living with or at risk of HIV.

---

- Our input into Crusaid’s conference *Poverty and HIV* and subsequent joint report, launched on World AIDS Day at the House of Commons, highlighted the root causes of poverty among people living with HIV, including hate crime, inadequate benefits and discrimination by employers, and set out a clear agenda for action.

---

- We jointly published a guide to working with asylum seekers with HIV, with the British HIV Association (BHIVA).

---

- We gave written and oral evidence to the Joint Committee on Human Rights (JCHR), demonstrating that denying access to free HIV treatment is a violation of human rights and a danger to individual and public health.

## Changing Lives

- The recommendations in our report are being used by healthcare managers of all immigration removal centres to improve HIV prevention, treatment, support and information for asylum seekers.

---

- The report received coverage in twenty-five UK media including The Independent and Radio 4, helping raise awareness of this issue and encourage policy change.

---

- This resulted in the majority of asylum seekers living with HIV being dispersed according to the updated Home Office policy, helping to ensure continuity of treatment, care and support.

---

- After hearing our evidence, the JCHR published a report which included a recommendation that the Government ended the policy of charging undocumented migrants for NHS care.

# THE LAW, HUMAN RIGHTS AND DISCRIMINATION

## The UK Challenge

- ▶ One in three people living with HIV has experienced discrimination
- ▶ The law still does not fully protect people living with HIV, from either multiple discrimination or hate crime
- ▶ HIV is the only condition in England and Wales for which criminal prosecutions have been brought for transmission
- ▶ The majority of people living with HIV do not tell their employer about their status for fear of discrimination

### Johns Story

**“After a pretty ugly break-up with my long-term partner, a card appeared in the window of my local corner shop, giving my name and address and warning people that I was an ‘AIDS carrier’ and children should be kept away from me. A few days later, I came home from work to find two guys waiting for me in my flat. They beat me with chair legs and put me in hospital for six days. When I was ready to be discharged from hospital I was too scared to go home in case they were waiting for me there. I didn’t want to move out of my flat but I didn’t feel safe there anymore.”**



**“*HIV Forensics* is an excellent resource, so much so that a number of doctors and our specialist social worker have asked if I can obtain a copy for them”**

**Sue Toomer, Specialist Nurse, HIV**

## Speaking Out

- ◆ We carried out a survey of HIV and the law across all EU member states, and subsequent conference was attended by delegates from over twenty nine European countries.
- ◆ Our joint briefing paper, *HIV Forensics* on the use of forensic evidence in trials for reckless HIV transmission produced with NAM and other leading experts, has become a key resource for legal professionals and expert witnesses.
- ◆ Our practical guide, *HIV and your Disability Scheme*, advised public bodies on their legal obligation to promote equality and inclusion for people with a disability, including HIV, under the Disability Discrimination Act. In addition, a Scottish guide was produced in partnership with HIV Scotland and a Welsh language version was launched at the Welsh Assembly.
- ◆ We produced a range of materials for employers to challenge discrimination in the workplace.
- ◆ We published a guide for people living with HIV on applying for jobs.
- ◆ We were instrumental in securing a Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) consultation into criminal prosecutions for reckless transmission of HIV. We provided a detailed submission and supported other HIV organisations in their responses.
- ◆ We opposed proposals by the Department of Health to revise the Public Health Act, which could give the Secretary of State and local magistrates far-reaching and coercive powers against people living with HIV.

## Changing Lives

- ◆ This shared expertise and supported the development of best practice across Europe.
- ◆ There is evidence that our paper is preventing cases coming to court unnecessarily.
- ◆ These guides are being used by local authorities across the UK to ensure people living with HIV are included in new equality policies.
- ◆ These resources have helped recruitment and human resource professionals and small businesses develop fair and equal employment practices that do not discriminate against people living with HIV.
- ◆ This has given people living with HIV the confidence to enter the workplace, demand equality and challenge discrimination.
- ◆ This ensured that policy makers were aware of the concerns and potential implications of these policies for people living with HIV.

# **PUBLIC AWARENESS AND THE MEDIA**

## **The UK Challenge**

- ▶ **The level of knowledge of basic facts around HIV has decreased in the last five years**
- ▶ **Myths and misunderstandings around HIV still persist**
- ▶ **One in five people don't know that HIV can be transmitted through sex without a condom**
- ▶ **Fewer than half of all sexually active people always use a condom with a new sexual partner**
- ▶ **Reporting about HIV in the media is often discriminatory and inaccurate**



**“I found NAT’s *HIV in Schools pack* to be a very informative resource - excellent and easy to use”**

**Michelle Dodds, PSHE co-ordinator,  
Thomas Keble School**

## Speaking Out

- ▶ Our Guidelines for Reporting HIV, published jointly with the National Union of Journalists, was distributed to over 30,000 journalists, journalism students and others in the media

---

- ▶ We made successful complaints on inaccurate media reporting to the Press Complaints Commission.

---

- ▶ Our HIV in Schools pack, helped teachers to plan lessons and activities about HIV across the curriculum.

---

- ▶ We worked with the media to generate 70 pieces of coverage on our key issues around World AIDS Day.

---

- ▶ We increased seven-fold the number of community fundraisers for World AIDS Day, mainly from schools, universities and colleges.

---

- ▶ We worked with the Lyric Theatre to produce a teaching resource linked to their ground-breaking production of Angels in America.

---

- ▶ Over six million people visited our World AIDS Day website to get the facts about HIV. In addition, messages about World AIDS Day featured on theMySpace homepage in the lead up to 1 December.

## Changing Lives

- ▶ The guidelines helped to achieve a reduction in the number of inaccurate and stigmatising articles on HIV in the UK press.

---

- ▶ This resulted in improvements in the standards of media coverage of HIV.

---

- ▶ The pack was requested by over a thousand schools and 11,000 copies were downloaded from the World AIDS Day website, providing vital information for young people in the classroom.

---

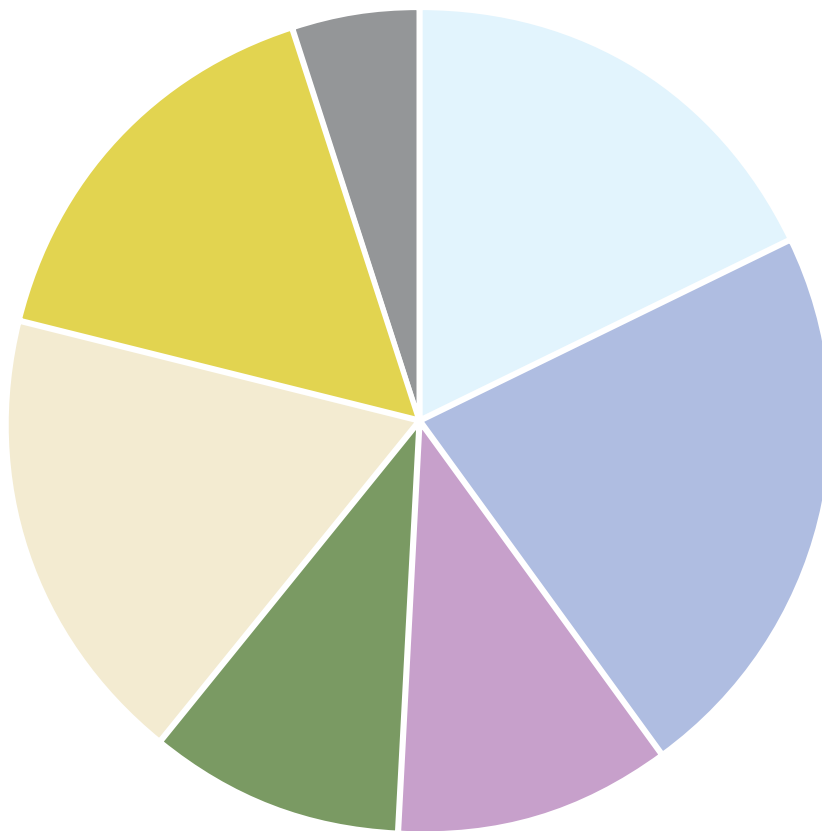
- ▶ This brought key messages about HIV to both mainstream and targeted audiences.

---

- ▶▶▶ This helped to raise the profile of HIV and increase the level of understanding among young people.

# FINANCIAL SUPPORT

## Income

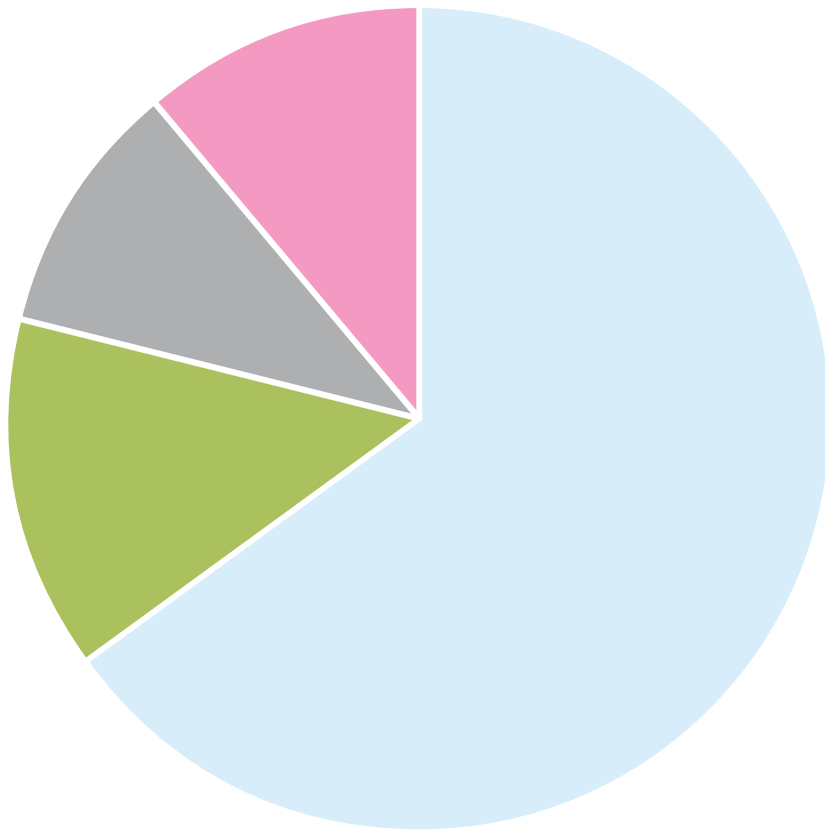


Trusts and foundation	22%	
Government & statutory funding	18%	
Individual & community fundraising	18%	
Trading income	16%	
Corporate support	11%	
Partnership agreements	10%	
Other income	5%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>£902,000</b>

These pie charts summarise information from the National AIDS Trust's annual accounts which have been audited by Winters, and agreed by the Board of Trustees.

A more detailed report on the financial position and activities of the National AIDS Trust during 2006/07 can be found in the Annual Report and Financial Statements, which can be requested from [info@nat.org.uk](mailto:info@nat.org.uk), or by calling **020 7814 6767**.

## Expenditure



	Policy, Campaigns & Projects	65%
	Commerical Trading	14%
	Fundraising & publicity	11%
	Government & Charity Mgt	10%
<hr/>		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100%      £902,000</b>

# OUR FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS

We would like to thank our funders  
and supporters, including:

AB Charitable Trust  
Abbott Laboratories  
Anglo American  
Belmont Trust  
Bianca Jagger  
Boehringer Ingelheim  
Bristol Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals Ltd  
Charities Aid Foundation  
Crusaid  
Department of Health  
Dorus Trust  
Durex /SSL International  
Edelman  
Elton John AIDS Foundation  
EMI Music UK and Ireland  
Equal/European Social Fund  
Freedom Insurance Services Ltd  
G-A-Y  
Gerald Gundle Trust  
Gilead Sciences Ltd  
Goldsmith Company Charities  
GlaxoSmithKline  
Immigration & Nationality Directorate  
JP Chase UK Holdings Ltd  
Lehman Brothers Foundation Europe  
Levi Strauss Foundation  
Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales  
L'Oreal UK  
M.A.C. AIDS Fund  
MBNA  
Masterfoods  
Men @ Play  
Monument Trust  
Network Rail  
Northmoor Trust  
Peter Moores Foundation  
Pfizer Ltd  
Pilkington Charitable Trust  
QSoft Consulting (Gaydar)  
Rowan Charitable Trust  
Roche Products  
Saatchi & Saatchi  
Scottish Government  
Somebody Cares  
T.U.U.T Charitable Trust  
WH Smith

# OUR PARTNERS

We would like to acknowledge the following organisations with whom we worked in partnership in 2006/07:

All Party Parliamentary Group on AIDS

BBC Post Production Team

BHIVA

Birkbeck College

Brook

Crusaid

Disability Rights Commission

English Sexual Health and HIV Commissioners Group

fpa

Health Protection Agency

Headlong Theatre Company

HIV Scotland

Human Rights Lawyers Association

Keele University

International AIDS Vaccine Initiative

International Partnership for Microbicides

Lyric Theatre Hammersmith

Macmillan Cancer Support

Medact

Medicins du Monde

MedFASH

Mind

MS Society

NAM

NHIVNA

National Union of Journalists

Oasis North London

Positive East

Positively Women

Prison Reform Trust

Sex Education Forum

Terrence Higgins Trust

TUC

UK Coalition of People Living with HIV

We would also like to thank the 90 members of our Policy Network who provide invaluable information and advice on our work.

# **NATIONAL AIDS TRUST**

New City Cloisters, 196 Old Street, London EC1V 9FR  
T: +44 (0)20 7814 6767 F: +44 (0)20 7216 0111 info@nat.org.uk

[www.nat.org.uk](http://www.nat.org.uk)

National AIDS Trust is a Registered Charity  
No. 297977 and a Company Limited by Guarantee  
No 2175938, (registered in England and Wales)  
Registered Office: Winters, 29 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7JE

Design by Shaw Design Associates Ltd  
© 2007 National AIDS Trust