

Jim Dobbin MP
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA
23.04.2013

Press Statement by Jim Dobbin MP

Professor Nutt

1. I would advise the public to treat with caution any claims made by Professor Nutt concerning benefit from various drugs.
2. Professor Nutt, in my view, is a campaigner and not a scientist. No-one can be both at the same time.
3. Professor Nutt is, in my view, leading a commercial campaign on behalf of pharmaceutical manufacturers to licence various illegal drugs as pharmaceutical products. Professor Nutt has financial arrangements with numerous pharmaceutical companies. He should reveal the amounts of money he has received from the pharmaceutical industry in order that the public can properly evaluate the credibility of the claims he has made.
4. Similarly, Professor Nutt should reveal who is funding his media campaign.
5. Professor Nutt previously supported an earlier generation of prescription drugs, the benzodiazepine tranquillisers and the SSRI antidepressants. The addiction and damage inflicted by those products is now being treated by other people. Professor Nutt has walked away from these drug disasters to start new campaigns.
5. The Home Office should release full information as to why Professor Nutt left the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. So far the public have only heard Professor Nutt's version of events.
- 6 Professor Nutt made a decision on a submission on tranquilliser regulation whilst working at the Home Office. At the same time he had a financial arrangement with John Wyeth and Brother Ltd, the manufactures of the tranquilliser Ativan. Professor Nutt did not declare to us this conflict of interest. I subsequently reported this non-disclosure to the Home Office.
7. In my opinion the media should turn their attention to investigating Professor Nutt instead of uncritically reproducing his campaign press releases.