

Evaluation Support Scotland (ESS) works with third sector organisations and funders so that they can measure and report on their impact

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Spring Newsletter 2018

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Updated support guides, more workshops

A bit of a secret of ESS's (perhaps not so secret) is that we like to act on feedback and improve what we do... so we are really excited to tell you that we have updated our support guides and extended the reach of our workshops.

Download your copy of the new support guides:

- [Setting outcomes](#)
- [Working out what to measure \(Setting indicators for your outcomes\)](#)
- [Designing evidence collection methods](#)

In August and September we will run our Let's Evaluate! workshops at The Gateway in **Perth** and in September and October they will run in **Inverness** (venue to be confirmed).

Please help us spread the word about this opportunity for third sector organisations outside the central belt.

See dates and venues below and book your place today.





Upcoming workshops

Getting started: Outcomes and Indicators

[3 May 2018, Glasgow](#)

[9 August 2018, Perth](#)

[20 September 2018, Inverness](#)

Make to measure: Evaluation Methods and Plans

[22 March 2018, Edinburgh](#)

[23 August 2018, Perth](#)

[4 October 2018, Inverness](#)

Telling my story: Analysing and Reporting on Outcomes

[5 April 2018, Edinburgh](#)

[6 September 2018, Perth](#)

[18 October 2018, Inverness](#)



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Intermediaries working together



A resource for understanding Intermediaries' impact was presented at an event on 8th February 2018. This resource has been developed by Evaluation Support Scotland with a working group of national third sector intermediaries. [For more ...](#)

Download your copy: [A resource for understanding Intermediaries' impact](#)



Working and learning with funders

Nicola Swan, ESS Evaluation Support Manager interviewed some third sector organisations and funders to explore issues around improving relationships between funder and funded organisation. She has written three case studies to illustrate the learning:

- [Clear communication and constructive feedback](#) - shows how the Big Lottery Fund supports the organisations they fund throughout the application and reporting stages.
- ["Doing something different to feedback to our funders"](#) - shows funders how being flexible with reporting requirements can help funded organisations tell their story
- [Adapting project outcomes if things don't initially work out](#) - shows how a learning approach can mutually benefit both funders and funded organisations

Don't be scared to evaluate!

Check out Martha Lester-Cribb's blog [Facing the fear of self-evaluation](#) written for The Big Blog Scotland. She talks about overcoming the fear of self-evaluation with some simple tips to get started. If you are funded by the [Big Lottery Fund](#) and need evaluation advice, please contact your Funding Officer and ask them if you can get some free support from us!



Involving people in evaluation

The Big Lottery Fund focuses its funding on people-led and strengths based projects. We want to take that even further by involving people (beneficiaries) in evaluation. We'll look at involving [young people in evaluation](#) over the next year so watch this space. In the meantime if you want to think about why you should bother involving people in evaluation, why not check out our [Why bother?](#) workbook. Inspiring Impact also has a new resource [Involving Users in Shaping Services.](#)



Inspired Learning

The next [Inspiring Impact](#) Network event is on Tuesday 27 March in Glasgow and is about [sharing tools for evaluation](#). Come along ready to 'show and tell' your favourite evaluation tool and pick up tips from others. We will also be telling you about some of our most popular resources. Be inspired! Book your place [here](#).

The last network event was about getting others on board with evaluation. This session took place in December 2017 in Edinburgh, read about it in this Storify [presentation](#) and [report](#).

Don't let geography get in the way!

If you can't travel to the Inspiring Impact Network events don't worry. We will support you online and via Twitter. In the [last week of March](#) the network will be tweeting using [#impactchats](#) and [#evaltools](#). Keep in touch with Louise Bowen @KNO_EvalSupScot



For further information about [Inspiring Impact](#) and check out the new [Inspiring Impact website](#) for evaluation tools and resources.

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New Resources on ESS website

- [A resource for understanding Intermediaries' impact](#)
- [Funders' online reporting systems – a reflection paper](#)

Case studies

- [Clear communication and constructive feedback](#)
- ["Doing something different to feedback to our funders"](#)
- [Adapting project outcomes if things don't initially work out](#)

Blogs

- [Time to change the way we think: Using the Change Record tool](#), Grant Morrison, Glasgow Sport
- [The power of self-evaluation](#), Nicola Swan, ESS
- [Facing the fear of self-evaluation](#), Martha Lester-Cribb, ESS

Online support

Check out the new [Inspiring Impact website](#) for evaluation tools and resources

[Mentimeter](#) We used this free online voting tool at the Researching Together conference to gather baseline information and feedback about what participants wanted from the day and then what they were taking away. The tool projects word clouds in real time (as pictured below) giving instant feedback to the organisers and participants. Participants require a smart phone to vote.



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