

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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## Summer Newsletter 2018

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### Extending our tailored support

We provide tailored support to third sector organisations who require more in depth help to embed evaluation. Mostly this involves one or two meetings of about 2 - 3 hours between a member of the ESS team and a person or a few people from your organisation. We provide this support face to face, by telephone or Skype. This works well particularly for evaluating projects however, over the last few years, we have learned that we need to provide longer term tailored support to some organisations to help them embed evaluation throughout their whole organisation.

Some organisations are finding they have good evaluation in place for individual projects but not for the organisation as a whole. This can make it hard to be consistent, share learning or demonstrate impact as a whole. Extended tailored support usually involves multiple sessions with groups of staff from across the organisation to create flexible organisation-wide systems and build staff skills.

Learn more about this opportunity [here](#) and see the picture on the right for examples of this type of work.

If you would like to talk to us about extended tailored support please [email us](#) .

**EXAMPLES OF EXTENDED TAILORED SUPPORT**

**GOAL: TO DEVELOP A LOGIC MODEL, OUTCOMES, INDICATORS AND METHODS TO COLLECT EVIDENCE**

- Delivered all 3 Let's evaluate! workshops to 2 teams
- 6 full days of tailored support focussed on setting outcomes, indicators & methods

**GOAL: CREATED AN EVALUATION CHAMPIONS' GROUP TO IMPLEMENT AN EVALUATION FRAMEWORK THROUGHOUT THE ORGANISATION**

- Facilitated 4 meetings of the champions' group
- Worked with a group of frontline staff to develop in-house training on the outcomes framework to support embedding the outcome-focused approach

**GOAL: TO DEVELOP ORGANISATION-WIDE OUTCOMES, INDICATORS AND EVIDENCE COLLECTION METHOD**

- Ran 5 sessions with frontline staff
- 2 further tailored support sessions to support piloting and tweaking new evidence collection method.
- Carried out an analysis of pilot data against their new outcomes

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## Upcoming workshops

Getting started: Outcomes and Indicators

[9 August 2018, Perth](#)

[20 September 2018, Inverness](#)

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Make to measure: Evaluation Methods and Plans

[23 August 2018, Perth](#)

[4 October 2018, Inverness](#)

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Telling my story: Analysing and Reporting on Outcomes

[6 September 2018, Perth](#)

[18 October 2018, Inverness](#)



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## Scottish Charity Regulator and ESS help charities tell their story



The Trustees' Annual Report (TAR) is the term for the narrative part of charities' annual report and accounts. Last year the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) published [Trustees Annual Reports: Good practice and guidance](#). The good news is that OSCR's message is simple: tell the story of your charity! A good TAR, just like a good report to a funder, will cover what you did, what difference you made and what you learned. ESS is working with OSCR, intermediaries, funders and others to support good charity reporting and overcome barriers. So watch this space and get in touch if you are interested in finding out more.

Also see our website for [resources on reporting](#).

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## Our work with Scottish Government as funders

We have been funded by the Third Sector Unit to support Scottish Government meet their Programme for Government commitments about long term and core funding. This has involved working with a couple of Scottish Government departments and their funded organisations and undertaking a small enquiry to find out the funding experiences of third sector organisations.

This month we shared our findings with a group of 33 government officials. In short, funding the third sector works well when:

- **Purpose** : Scottish Government is clear about the purpose of the fund and the role they want third sector to play
- **People** : there is a good relationship between the official and the organisation

- **Processes** : the right systems are in place to manage the required paperwork and due diligence.

These messages were well received (and affirmed by officials with more experience of funding). Scottish Government is considering next steps to share good practice and address challenges.



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## Working and learning with funders

### Involving young 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.



From July, as part of the Year of Young People, we will be supporting 7 youth work organisations to involve **young people** in evaluation. This will build on the [Why bother?](#) workbook.

The projects will test out different ways to involve the young people they work with in evaluation and create a case study reflecting on their experience. We will have learning to share, more widely, early in 2019.

[Read more ...](#)

### Hot off the press

The [Youth Work Outcomes online toolkit](#) has just been published with the 7 youth work outcomes, indicators and loads of tools and template.

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Read more funder news in our [June 2018 Funder e-bulletin](#)



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## Inspired Learning



### [Sharing tools for evaluation](#)

This afternoon workshop took place on Tuesday 27 March 2018 in Glasgow and gave an opportunity to participants to learn about a variety of evaluation tools from each other and ESS staff. Guest speaker, Yvette Burgess from Coalition of Care and Support Providers in Scotland (CCPS) spoke about the online [Better Futures outcomes tool](#).

Catch up with the quick-read Wakelet story of the afternoon [here](#) and the event report [here](#).

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### [Planning the next round of Inspiring Impact events](#)

On 13 June we ran Inspiring Impact network event '[Sharing news and feedback from evaluation](#)' which we will report on in the autumn newsletter.

Now we are planning our [next round of events which will take place in autumn 2018 and spring and early summer 2019](#). Please [email Louise](#) with your suggestions for topics you would like us to explore.

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In the [last week of each month](#) the network tweets using [#impactchats](#) and [#evaltools](#). Read Louise's blog about [#impactchats here](#).

Keep in touch with Louise Bowen @KNO\_EvalSupScot

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

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## We are planning for the future



We are thinking about [our strategic plan for 2020 - 2023](#) . Internally we are having strategic thinking meetings of staff and trustees, separately and together. But we know we can't plan to meet the evaluation needs of third sector organisations and funders alone. We won't get it right until we know what you think too!

We have a strategy to get feedback from as many stakeholders as possible and will do this via:

- our stakeholders' survey (in autumn)
- ask specific questions of different audiences at our workshops, events, in meetings - whenever we get the opportunity
- interviewing a sample of people who are using our current services.

If you have ANY feedback to give us about our future direction and suggestions for how we can help you show the difference you make please email [Steven](#)

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### New resources on ESS website

#### Reports

- [Reporting on core funding - addressing the challenge](#) \_ \_

#### Blogs

- [Is it possible to evaluate influencing policy work?](#) \_\_\_\_\_ Jane Marryat, ESS
- [Why does evaluation matter in co-production?](#) \_\_\_\_\_, Dawn Smith, Public Engagement Officer, Edinburgh Napier University
- [Networking for impact](#) \_\_\_\_\_, Louise Bowen, ESS
- [Fit-for-purpose evaluation - if I knew then what I know now](#) \_\_\_\_\_, Shona Wells, ESS
- [Funders really DON'T just want numbers - honest!](#) \_\_\_\_\_ Nicola Swan, ESS

#### Case study

- [Getting your colleagues on board with evaluation](#) \_\_\_\_\_ - Inspiring Impact case study by Changeworks

#### Videos - Evaluation explained in minutes!

- What is an outcome?

- Writing outcomes
- What is an indicator?
- Working out what to measure: setting indicators [View videos here](#)

#### Infographic

- [To publish or not?](#) - from Third Sector Research Forum this infographic explores the advantages and disadvantages of publishing third sector research

We have recently made changes to our website. As part of this work we have reorganised the resources. If you cannot find a resource or have any comments about the website please email [Jane Marryat](#).



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## Our privacy policy

We have updated our data protection policies to comply with GDPR. This legislation extends the rights individuals have to control their personal data as well as the definition of personal data.

You can learn more about your extended rights here: <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/>.

Our privacy and access policies are available on our [website](#) and detail what personal data we collect as well as how and why we process it.

You're receiving this newsletter because you have signed up via our website, workshop or event feedback forms or asked a member of staff to sign you up.

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