

Wishing all our readers a very Happy New Year.

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Winter Newsletter 2017

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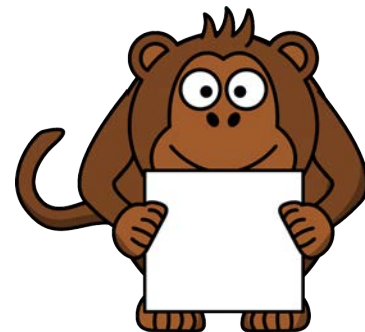
ESS's biennial stakeholder survey is out now

Make the monkey and us happy! Please help us evaluate ourselves by completing our survey [here](#).

You only get this opportunity every two years, so please let us know how we can improve. This year, some of the questions are focused on some particular activities, such as, our work with funders and how we share learning through publications and resources.

Deadline is **Friday 3 February 2017**.

Thank you.



Upcoming workshops

Our workshops for January to March 2017 are already fully booked. To avoid disappointment and ensure your place on May and June workshops book now.

Getting started: Outcomes and Indicators

[25 May 2017, Glasgow](#)

[12 October 2017, Edinburgh](#)

Make to measure: Evaluation Methods and Plans

[8 June 2017, Glasgow](#)

[26 October 2017, Edinburgh](#)

Telling my story: Analysing and Reporting on Outcomes

[22 June 2017, Glasgow](#)

[9 November 2017, Edinburgh](#)

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Threading the Needle

[Threading the Needle](#) - funded by Scottish Government, is our thematic programme to support health and social care commissioners in four health and social care partnership areas, to use third sector evidence to commission outcomes. As this programme comes to an end, we are gathering the learning to present at the final event '[Gathering the Threads](#)' on **31 January** in Edinburgh.

Several publications are being produced, some will be available at the event and on our website, whilst others are already available.

Available now :

['From the source to the sea: Understanding how befriending can help Fife Health and Social Care Partnership address its priorities'](#)

[North Ayrshire monitoring and evaluation form](#)

Available on the thematic programme resources [webpage](#) from 1 February:

Three Learning point documents -

- [We need to talk about data and evidence](#)
- [We need to understand where third sector evidence fits](#)



- [We need to build the focus on outcomes](#)

[Read more...](#)

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Evaluating Prevention



In the last few years Scottish Government, funders and third sector organisations have been grappling with the idea of evaluating something that hasn't happened!

"How does a funder fund something not to happen? How does a grant-holder report on what did not take place?!"

We know much of our work in the third sector is about preventing people's situations from deteriorating but proving that is what we do can be tricky.

The new Evaluating Prevention webpage [here](#) has lots of resources to help you. This includes a new resource from ESS which explains the **5 steps to evaluating prevention**. (Click on the picture on the left to access Powerpoint presentation).

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New resources on our website

Tools and resources:

- We have added [Creative writing](#) to our series of Methods of Evaluation guides
- [Evaluating prevention](#) - Powerpoint presentation with top tips
- From ImaginationLancaster - [The Koala \(KnOWledge And Learning evAluation\)](#) - a fun tool to gather feedback from facilitated workshops and events
- [From the source to the sea](#): Understanding how befriending can help Fife Health and Social Care Partnership address its priorities

Case study: [Evaluation Champions help embed evaluation](#)

Blogs:

- [Installing a new database - ESS's experience](#) - Lydia Morrow, ESS
- [Good conversations matter and recording them is essential - Meaningful and Measurable](#) - Emma Miller, Strathclyde University
- [Learning is like a habit; it takes time to adopt it so don't give up](#) - Patty Lozano-Casal, ESS
- [Bringing the human touch to measuring impact](#), Aine Lovedale, Big Lottery Fund
- [The Outcomes Focus - Scottish reflection](#) - Colin Muir, Chief Executive of Improvement Service, published by Carnegie UK Trust

Reports:

- [Meaningful and Measurable project - key messages](#)
- [Assessing and Managing Value for money - Lessons for NGOs](#)

Service:

[NES The Networked Evidence Search and Summary Service](#)

This NHS Education for Scotland service provides evidence searches, clinical digests, evidence summaries and evidence reviews to support service managers and frontline practitioners apply evidence informed practice. This is a pilot service that will run to the end of March 2017.



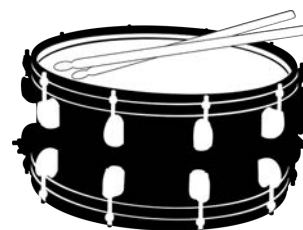
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New publications from Scottish Third Sector Research Forum

(Imagine you hear a drum roll...)

[Communicating research effectively \(TSRF infographic\)](#)

This infographic, produced by the Scottish Third Sector Research Forum (TSRF), will help third sector organisations communicate their research effectively. It contains guidance, tips and good practice examples.



Another [Knowledge Translation Network](#) (KTN) publication is coming soon – [Evidence from Elsewhere](#) is about how to make the best of other's evidence. This publication, part of the Evidence for Success family, will be launched on **22 March 2017** at a morning event at Big Lottery Fund in Glasgow. So if you want a hard copy of the guide put this date in your diary. Booking will be available on our website in February.

After the launch the guide will be available to download from the ESS website.

The Scottish Third Sector Research Forum meets quarterly. You can read the minutes of the [August 2016 meeting here](#).

And for more news from Scottish Third Sector Research Forum please read the [TSRF newsletter here](#).



Tweet #TSRF

Goodbye to our training officer, Tom Scott

At the end of the year we said goodbye to our training officer for the last 4 years, Tom Scott. During that time Tom delivered hundreds of training workshops and revised the training twice. He developed the [Train the Trainer in evaluation](#) course, running this twice; using the learning from the first to improve the second. Read Tom's report on the learning from Train the Trainer in evaluation [here](#). We wish him well with his new job in Glasgow.

By the time the next edition of the newsletter is published we will be able to introduce you to Tom's successor.



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