

## Evaluation Support Scotland Spring Newsletter 2013



Hello,

Welcome to the **Spring 2013 edition** of the **ESS newsletter**.

#### In this issue:

- [Our Strategic Plan 2013/15 is out!](#)
- [ESS supports funders to measure their own impact](#)
- [Think Tank with Shared Care](#)
- [Last chance to complete our Stakeholder Survey!](#)
- [Inspiring Impact's preview of the Code of Good Impact Practice!](#)

#### **Book your place now!**

##### [Outcomes and Funding](#)

23 April 2013  
Edinburgh

##### [What are my outcomes?](#)

2 May 2013  
Glasgow

##### [Collecting information to report on outcomes](#)

16 May 2013

### **Our Strategic Plan 2013/15 is out! Check out what we plan to do next**

We have published our Strategic Plan for 2013-15. Our Strategic Plan for 2013-15 helps us to make decisions about what we do, how we do it and ensure we remain true to our mission and continue to thrive over the next two years. Please click [here](#) to download our Strategic Plan.

### **ESS supports funders to measure their own impact**

Funders' interest in impact has increased over time, partly because more funders are distributing funds on

Glasgow

[Using creative approaches to evaluate your project](#)

30 May 2013  
Glasgow

[Inspiring Impact: Preview of the Code of Good Impact Practice \(event\)](#)

6 June 2013  
Edinburgh

[Telling my story - Analysing and reporting on outcomes](#)

13 June 2013  
Glasgow

behalf of Scottish Government due to their ability to reach the voluntary sector and share learning. Benefits from funders measuring their own impact include having evidence to help own decision-making and influence policy and practice.

In 2011/12 Evaluation Support Scotland (ESS) ran four 'Funder Enlightening' learning events for and with funders - bringing funders together to have conversations about issues that matter to them. We learned that one of the key enablers for funders understanding the difference the funding they provide to the voluntary sector makes is getting good reports from funded projects. This allows them to feedback on performance and support projects to overcome issues/barriers that might get in the way of achieving agreed outcomes.

ESS also supports funders through workshops, such as our [Outcomes and Funding workshop](#) (23 April, Edinburgh), to:

- Understand outcomes and how to express them
- Support applicants and grant-holders get to grips with outcomes
- Make sure monitoring and evaluation systems are fit for purpose

If you work for a funder or a local authority and have responsibility for managing funding for voluntary organisations, why not check out our [workshops for funders](#)? There are still a few places left in our **Outcomes and Funding** workshop so make sure you [book your place](#) soon!

## **Think Tank with Shared Care Brilliant Breaks!**

ESS and our partners in a recent evaluation, 'Think Tank', will be running a workshop at the 'Brilliant Breaks' conference in May. We are showcasing a **new evaluation toolkit**, commissioned by Shared Care Scotland and written by ESS with a range of short break providers. The conference aims to inspire imagination and innovation in the design, planning and commissioning of short breaks that support families with a disabled child.

Bookings open on 18<sup>th</sup> April. Find out more [here](#).

**Last chance to complete our  
Stakeholder Survey!  
Help us evaluate and improve!**

One important way we evaluate ourselves at ESS is our on-line survey which we send out every 2 years. The survey is just nine questions long (7 multiple choice and two open questions) and should take less than 10 minutes to complete. By filling in the survey you will help us understand what we do well (or not so well) so we can improve our work with you in the future.

The **survey will close on Friday 12 April 2013** so make sure you have your say! Please click on the link below to **access the survey today**: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ESS-Stakeholder-Survey-2013>

We will publish the results of the survey in May 2013 and use the learning to improve our work.

If you have any difficulties accessing the survey or want to ask us more about what ESS can do for you please contact us on: [info@evaluationsupportscotland.org.uk](mailto:info@evaluationsupportscotland.org.uk) or phone 0131 243 2770.

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete our survey!

**Inspiring Impact's preview of the  
Code of Good Impact Practice!  
Book your place at the event!**

[Inspiring Impact](#) is a UK-wide programme to encourage and support the third sector to measure their social impact and to learn from their findings so that they can improve. Evaluation Support Scotland is the Inspiring Impact lead in Scotland.

Inspiring Impact will in June launch the first ever set of guidelines on what good impact practice looks like in the non-profit sector, after consultation across the sector. [The Code of Good Impact Practice](#) aims to provide clear, broad, and agreed guidelines of good

impact practice, setting out a cycle of impact practice and a simple series of principles. The Code is intended to help charities, funders and commissioners in forming realistic and appropriate understandings of what good impact practice looks like for non-profit organisations.

This event will be delivered by [NPC](#) (Inspiring Impact's programme managers) and [Evaluation Support Scotland](#) (Inspiring Impact's lead Scottish partner), who will introduce you to the Code and hear your perspectives on putting it into practice, as well as tell you about Inspiring Impact's future plans and how to engage more closely with the programme in future.

The event will take place in **Edinburgh on Thursday, 6 June 2013 (10-12 h)**. Book your place [here](#) today!

If you would like to know more about ESS's work around Inspiring Impact or have an enquiry visit our [website](#) or contact [Patty Lozano-Casal](#).

[Forward this email to a friend](#)



Scottish Charity Number: SC036529,  
Scottish Company Number: SC284843,  
VAT Number 923 2102 72.

**Our mailing address is:**

Evaluation Support Scotland  
Thorn House  
5 Rose St  
Edinburgh, Scotland EH2 2PR  
United Kingdom

[Add us to your address book](#)

You are receiving this email because you have opted in at our website or an event. Charity No. SC036529 Company No. SC284843

[Unsubscribe from this list](#) | [Update your subscription preferences](#)