



This summer ESS are recruiting for up to 3 Trustees to join our board. We are sharing feedback from our Stakeholder Survey and are also taking bookings for the next round of core workshops. [Book your place now!](#)

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## Evaluation Support Scotland Summer Newsletter 2013



Dear <<First Name>> ,

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

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### **ESS is growing!** **A warm welcome to our new staff**

ESS has been going through a few changes in the last month. We were sad to see Graeme Reekie, one of our valued Evaluation Support Managers, leave ESS to go freelance.

However, we are pleased to announce and welcome our four new members of staff: **Emma Liddell** (Evaluation Support Manager), **Martha Lester-Cribb** (Evaluation Support Manager), **Ruth Johnston** (Administration Assistant) and **Fiona Wu** (ESS/The Robertson Trust Research Intern). Find out more about our [staff](#) here!

### **Would you like to join our board of Trustees?**

We are **recruiting for up to 3 trustees** to join our board.

3 October 2013  
Edinburgh

We are looking for people who are excited about our vision and committed to good governance. We welcome applications from people who would bring diversity to our [board](#). Trustees are unpaid.

The closing date for applications is **2 August 2013**. Informal interviews take place on 23 August 2013. Please click [here](#) to view the advert and download the recruitment pack.

## ESS Links In!

ESS has **launched a company page** on the professional networking site **LinkedIn**. We hope that the page will increase engagement with all those interested in our work and increase the number of visitors to our new website.

If you have a LinkedIn profile please access this [link](#) and follow us for information about our services, updates on our work and maybe even the occasional evaluation based joke!

If you have any enquiries regarding this article, please contact [Tom Scott](#).

## How are we doing? ESS Stakeholder Survey 2013 Report

In March 2013 we asked our stakeholders to complete an online survey to tell us how we are doing, where we can improve, and who to influence and what to say. This [report](#) is a summary of the feedback and our response to that feedback.

A big **thank you** to everyone who completed our survey! We received loads of valuable feedback which will help us deliver better services in the future.

## Do you give Support in the Right Direction?



**Support in the Right Direction (SiRD)** is a programme funded by the Scottish Government's Self-Directed Support Branch, to improve understanding about 'what works' in independent

support for self-directed support (SDS). Through this programme, Evaluation Support Scotland (ESS) is supporting

around 22 independent support organisations to build their capacity so that they are able to evidence the outcomes of providing high quality, accessible advice and support and enabling people to make genuine individual choices.

As part of this programme, ESS worked with the sector to create an [outcomes and evaluation framework for independent support](#) activities. This is a model that describes the outcomes of independent support organisations and how these link to the overall aims and outcomes of the SDS strategy. Seven (out of a total of 22) funded organisations have been working together in a learning set facilitated by ESS to write this document which aims to:

- explain Independent Support and its importance for helping people gain increased choice and control in the Self-Directed Support process
- support evaluation by showing the outcomes that can be expected of Independent Support

For more information please contact [Martha Lester-Cribb](#) or [Patty Lozano-Casal](#).

## Reversing the Trend guide launched!

The Partnership Drugs Initiative (PDI) is committed to improving understanding and knowledge of the outcomes and 'what works' in relation to children and young people affected by their own or someone else's drug and alcohol issues.

Over the last 18 months ESS have worked in partnership with the PDI to address a gap in looking at how to identify effective ways of demonstrating the impact of preventative support for young people covering rural and urban areas, universal and dedicated specialist support.

This study, **Reversing the Trend** has been delivered through an action research group formed by six PDI funded groups from across Scotland. The outcome from **Reversing the Trend** is an [online resource](#) available to practitioners, policy makers, funders and commissioners. We have also produced a [short summary](#), which should give you more insight into the work. More detail, including case studies and examples of evaluation tools, are included in the [online resource](#).

For more information, please contact [Diane Kennedy](#).

**Tell us how you use evidence into  
policy and practice!  
Complete the survey now!**



The [Knowledge Translation Network \(KTN\)](#) is working to create an easy-to-use, step-by-step guide for third sector organisations on using evidence to influence policy and practice. To enable us to do this, we would like to **invite you to complete a short survey** exploring how you currently **generate and/or use evidence in policy and practice**. The survey is composed of 22 questions

and should take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

The Knowledge Translation Network is made up of Evaluation Support Scotland, The Robertson Trust, Community Health Exchange, the Big Lottery Fund and the Third Sector Unit of the Scottish Government. The KTN aims to facilitate and share learning about effective knowledge translation and dissemination activities and it runs parallel to the Scottish Third Sector Research Forum, another collaborative initiative between sectors to champion the use of evidence from the third sector. This piece of work is intended to build the capacity of voluntary organisations to generate, analyse, and make use of evidence into policy and practice.

Help us make the best of this guide by completing the survey using the link below **before 17:00 on Friday, the 5<sup>th</sup> of July**. Feel free to share the link with colleagues and networks.

The survey can be accessed here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/evidenceinpolicyandpractice>

If you have any queries, please contact [Fiona Wu](#).

## Inspiring Impact's latest publications

[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. ESS is the Inspiring Impact lead in Scotland.

Many non-profit organisations understand the need for good impact practice and want to get better at it. But they can encounter different definitions, confusing explanations, multiple methods, and sometimes contradictory advice. Inspiring Impact has developed these two resources in response:

- **The Code of Good Impact Practice**, developed by NCVO in consultation with over 130 charities, provides broad, agreed guidelines for charities focusing on impact. Each principle includes a brief description of how your impact practice would look if you were applying it, an explanation of why it is important and some ideas about how to implement it.

[Download the Code here](#).

- **Funders' principles and drivers of good impact practice**, developed by ACF in consultation with a working group of charitable funders, aims to provide a starting point for discussions and offer a framework for funders to consider their impact practice. The framework is designed to encourage good practice and offer guidance for funders, and to help funders promote good impact practice among the organisations and people they support. [Download the report here.](#)

### **Sign up to good impact practice**

You can show your commitment to good impact practice by **signing up to the Code or the Principles on the Inspiring Impact website**. Join your peers across the sector in supporting Inspiring Impact's aim to put impact at the heart of what we do as a sector, and make the most positive difference to those we exist to help. [Sign up here!](#)

Thank you for your support of Inspiring Impact's work so far. We look forward to hearing your feedback on both publications, and to working with you to build on them over the next year. For more information, please contact [Patty Lozano-Casal](#).

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