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Scottish Third Sector Research Forum

champions the use of third sector research evidence in Scotland

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Winter 2018/19

Welcome to this edition of the Scottish Third Sector Research Forum (TSRF) newsletter.

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We're planning the next TSRF conference



We are planning our **5th TSRF Let's collaborate conference!** This will take place in **October 2019**. We will let you know the date and venue as soon as these are confirmed.

Early discussions about the theme of the conference have revealed a desire to extend the conversations of the last 4 conferences. In the past we've heard from third sector/academia collaborations about how to start research collaborations, the learning from challenges of collaborations, and celebrated successful collaborations. This year we are thinking about **exploring the impact of third sector research/academia collaborations** and showcase more examples. Format is under discussion too; key note speaker and breakout sessions, 'knowledge cafe', poster session, have been suggested and pre or post conference webinars.

Please start spreading the word. We will have more to tell you in the next newsletter due in Spring 2019.

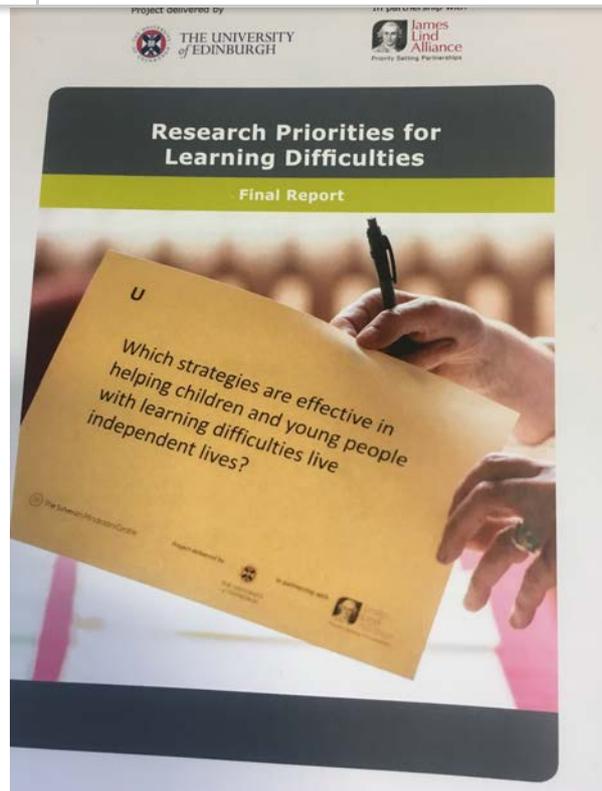
At this stage nothing is set in stone, so if you have some ideas about what you would like our conference to include please get in touch with Louise.

Email Louise with your suggestions



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The Salvesen Mindroom Centre



At our meeting in December Dinah Aitken from **The Salvesen Mindroom Centre** spoke about their research work. This third sector organisation was set up as Mindroom in 2000 by Sophie and Robin Dow, and with a donation from Alastair and Elizabeth Salvesen, The Salvesen Mindroom Centre and the SMC Centre for Research into Learning Difficulties was established.

The Salvesen Mindroom Centre offers information, advice and support to families with a child with learning difficulties, and to children and young people. Currently they have a project to offer supported work placements. They also engage in research which includes:

- scoping studies with School of Education at University of Edinburgh to tackle 3 questions that had been filtered out of the top ten. This work will be done in 2019 and look at attitudes to ABA (an autism specific intervention), provision of information, and a good mainstream experience.
- hosting a Q step student
- forthcoming creation of case studies to show the learning from the supported work placement project.

The SMC Centre for Research into Learning Difficulties which sits in Child Life & Health at the University of Edinburgh, undertakes research into autism, ADHD and other learning difficulties. The research is focused on assessment, diagnosis and educational interventions.

Both centres have worked together with James Lind Alliance (JLA) to find the top ten research questions for learning difficulties. See report [here](#). The questions hopefully will help researchers secure the funding for research to provide answers.

- to develop larger scale research projects from the scoping studies
- to use evidence from the work placement project
- to use their own client base of qualitative research data into lived experience of aspects of learning difficulties such as experience of home education, placing request processes, children out of school and stigma.

The Salvesen Mindroom Centre



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Research updates from our members

Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)

- Will be collaborating with the University of Stirling on a PhD studentship using linked regulator data to explore trustee dynamics in relation to governance and accountability in Scottish charities.
- Has commissioned a short study on Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations (SCIO). It is seven years since SCIOs were introduced and the analysis aims to provide insight on the way SCIOs are shaping the sector and in turn, how this is influencing the demands placed on OSCR as a regulator.
- Both of these pieces of work are supporting us in efforts to be a more targeted and risk-led regulator by making better use of the information available to us.
- The findings will also contribute to knowledge in these areas at a time when the Scottish Government has committed to consult on updating charity legislation to promote transparency and accountability and ensure public confidence in charities and in the Scottish Charity Regulator.

YouthLink Scotland

- has published [‘The impact of community-based universal youth work in Scotland’](#)

Volunteer Scotland

- **Volunteering, Health and Wellbeing** – a literature review exploring the contribution of volunteering to mental and physical health, social isolation and loneliness and community wellbeing - see [Summary and Full Reports](#)

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participation and engagement across Scotland with a specific focus on demographic and deprivation variables - see [Volunteering Trends in Scotland - a changing landscape](#)

- **Youth volunteering and inclusion** – the outputs from Volunteer Scotland’s conference “Creating a more inclusive future for youth volunteering” are now available via this link [Outputs from Youth Volunteering Conference](#).

University of Stirling

- In partnership with SUII, University of Stirling has published a report about [‘Housing and aging: Linking strategy to future delivery for Scotland, Wales and England 2030’](#)

- **Nonprofit Data Virtual Seminar Series**

The Nonprofit Data Virtual Seminar Series is coordinated by Professor Alasdair Rutherford at the University of Stirling. For more information, email [Alasdair](#)

The final seminar is on **Thurs 24th Jan 2019: "Understanding change in the charitable sector using administrative data"** Professor John

Mohan <https://youtu.be/vkMzPowcg5c>

ESS

- Steven Marwick is on a Public Health Reform working group shaping the future research and evidence functions of the new Public Health Scotland. [Public Health Reform - LPHRIAE Commission – Stakeholder Engagement Event](#) will take place on **30 January 2019** in Edinburgh.

Share your findings

Do you have research evidence from, or about, the third sector you'd like to share or present to the Forum? Or if you are interested in joining the Forum please email [Louise Bowen](#)

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Keep up with the Forum

The Scottish Third Sector Research Forum meets quarterly. You can read the minutes from the meeting which took place on **2 October 2018** [here](#) and **previous meetings** [here](#). And for more news from Scottish Third Sector Research Forum please read the **TSRF**

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The next Forum meeting will be on **13 March 2019**.

You can also read more about the Forum's work [here](#) and see [previous evidence papers](#).

Get in touch!

Tell us what you think about the Forum by emailing [Louise Bowen](#)

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TSRF members wish you a very Happy New Year and look forward to supporting you in 2019!



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Our mailing address is:



Evaluation Support Scotland
Thorn House
5 Rose Street
Edinburgh
EH2 2PR

t: 0131 243 2770
e: info@evaluationsupportscotland.org.uk

Company No. SC284843 | Charity No. SC036529

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