

Scottish Third Sector Research Forum

champions the use of third sector research evidence in Scotland

[View this email in your browser](#)



Summer 2017

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

In this issue:

['Let's Collaborate' event planned](#)

[What we are learning about research from across the UK](#)

[What does TSRF research tell us about co-production?](#)

[Research updates from our members](#)

[Members evaluate the Forum](#)

[Keep up with the Forum](#)

'Let's collaborate' event planned

The next **Let's collaborate event** will be **1st February 2018** at John McIntyre Centre, Pollock Halls, University of Edinburgh. *(Please note that this is a change of date)*. This is a hugely popular annual event for third sector practitioners, academics and public sector who are interested in researching for and about the third sector. Details of the programme and



speakers and how to book will be available soon. Information about previous events is [here](#).

What we are learning about research from across the UK

At the May Forum meeting we had two speakers presenting their research: **Gemma Jackson** from **Volunteer Scotland** presented 'Comparing UK Volunteer Participation Rates' and **Ligia Teixeira** from **Crisis** presented research about **homelessness** that Crisis has undertaken or commissioned.

'Comparing UK Volunteer Participation Rates'

Gemma talked about the work by Volunteer Scotland to establish the reason why rates of volunteering were apparently different in Scotland to other parts of the UK or are they? Read the research [here](#).

Researching homelessness

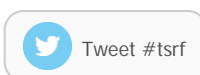
Ligia spoke about some of Crisis's research projects. In brief summary she gave three benefits from her experience of investing in **large scale UK wide research**:

- It is cost effective.
- It unlocks creativity and innovation.
- Doing big research helps make change happen – including sometimes using research from one country (or city) to influence change in another.

Read more [Homelessness Knowledge Hub](#)



Learning points from these presentations and other TSRF members are summarised in this [infographic](#).



What does TSRF research tell us about co-production?

[Evidencing genuine co-production in the third sector](#)

This publication distils what third sector research and evidence tell us about what genuine co-production looks like in the third sector. This resource offers practical lessons that can be used to inform policy and improve practice around co-production.



[Back to top](#)

Research updates from our members

The Robertson Trust

New research has highlighted the role that participation in sports and physical activity can have in bringing about positive change for individuals and communities in Scotland. ***Sport for Change***, commissioned by The Robertson Trust, explores the evidence and implementation of this approach in Scotland, and provides recommendations for action to support this approach going forward. The report is available [here](#).

Disability Research on Independent Living & Learning (DRILL) (Inclusion Scotland)

DRILL has announced its new funded projects; and a new call for applications has been launched running between 16th May and 8th August 2017. For more information, including [research themes](#), visit the [DRILL website](#).

Social Enterprise Scotland

is calling on all Scottish social enterprises to complete the new [Social Enterprise Census 2017](#) survey. If you work in a social enterprise please complete the survey. It will only take around 15 minutes to complete. The survey is vital in order to get robust and reliable data from every part of Scotland. You will be automatically entered into the free prize draw to win 1 of 3 iPads!

Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO)

The [Scottish Civil Society Data Partnership](#) hosts a network to bring together people, ideas and events about research, data sharing and collaboration with a particular focus on opening up collaborations between academics, civil society and public sector in Scotland. Join the Scottish Data Partnership [here](#). More information about [Think DATA](#).

National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) has launched their [2017 UK](#)

Almanac. Published annually, this is the definitive reference resource for anybody interested in the voluntary sector, and its role in civil society with useful infographics. Read about what the UK Civic Society Almanac tells us in NCVO's blog [here](#) and SCVO's [blog](#) to find out how it fits with the Scottish picture, with a particular focus on the growth in earned income.

BIG Lottery Fund (BIG)

Cath Logan who represents **BIG** in the Knowledge Translation Network has written a [blog](#) about the [Evidence from Elsewhere guide](#).

Evaluation Support Scotland (ESS)

has published several new resources:

- ['When to put a price tag on it'](#) - a guide for third sector and funders to talk about economic evaluation
- ['How to evaluate asset-based approaches in an asset-based way'](#)
- ['Getting the best from external evaluation - principles for funders'](#)
- For those interested in 'good reporting practice', ESS has published the [story behind Harmonising Reporting](#), taking stock of where we are since the Scotland Funders' Forum report came out in 2010.
- ['Collaborating for change – how do you measure success?'](#) and other [new blogs](#).
- ['Charting the waters'](#) - A guide for the third sector on how to evaluate policy influencing work'.

University of Stirling, Faculty of Social Sciences

are advertising a fully-funded PhD studentship working with third sector data. The studentship includes a generous stipend, and will also cover MSc study if required.

More information can be found [here](#)

Informal enquiries can be made by emailing [Dr Alasdair Rutherford](#) or telephoning (01786) 466 409.

The application deadline is **19th July 2017**.

Share your findings

Do you have research evidence from, or about, the third sector you'd like to share or present to the Forum? Please email [Jane Marryat](#)

[Back to top](#)



Members evaluate the Forum

We have been evaluating the impact of the Forum. Members told us what kept them coming to meetings, the ways they used the Forum in their work and made suggestions for improvement. Read what they said [here](#).

We'd be very interested to hear what you think about the Forum especially if you have any suggestions to improve. Please email [ESS](#)

Keep up with the Forum



Patty Lozano-Casal, ESS's Evidence into Action Manager who has organised the Forum's meetings and activities for the last five years, has moved on to a new post at See Me. We would like to thank Patty very much for all her hard work, sharp thinking and creativity and wish her well for the future.

Although irreplaceable we are **recruiting** for someone to replace Patty! This is a new role - **Knowledge and Networks Officer**. See details [here](#). Please note the closing date is **17 July**.

The Scottish Third Sector Research Forum meets quarterly. You can read the minutes from the meeting which took place on **9 March 2017** [here](#) and **previous meetings** [here](#). And for more news from Scottish Third Sector Research Forum please read the **TSRF newsletters** [here](#).

The next Forum meeting will be on **5 October 2017**. Venue to be confirmed.

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 [Jane Marryat](mailto:jane.marryat@evaluationsupportscotland.org.uk)

Follow us on Twitter [@EvalSupScot](https://twitter.com/EvalSupScot) [#TSRF](https://twitter.com/TSRF)

[Back to top](#)



The Scottish Third Sector Research Forum is supported by
Scottish Government Third Sector Unit.



[Evaluation Support Scotland](#) manages the day-to-day activities of the Forum.



Copyright © 2017 Evaluation Support Scotland, All rights reserved.

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

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

This email was sent to [Jane@evaluationsupportscotland.org.uk](mailto:jane@evaluationsupportscotland.org.uk)
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
Evaluation Support Scotland · Thorn House · 5 Rose St · Edinburgh, Scotland EH2 2PR · United Kingdom

MailChimp