



Third Sector Research Forum Evaluation 2017

Seven Forum members gave us feedback by electronic survey.

Key points from responses:

What keeps you coming back to the Forum?

- Broad range of people interested in third sector research
- Find out what others do and get different perspectives and insights on research
- Understand better the role of research in relation to third sector
- Professional development opportunity
- Networks and rich range of ideas and perspectives
- Good network and dissemination.

Can you give one or more examples of how you use the Forum in your work within the third sector?

- Networking and signposting to new contacts
- Sounding board
- Coordinate and align research and avoid duplication
- Disseminate/promote research news and information – what we have, what we use and how it can be used by others
- Horizon scanning
- Influence own research focus - Understand sector priorities
- Know appetite for topics, where to connect to others
- Share contacts; disseminate reports
- Developing projects to support research contracts.

Is there anything ESS can do to make the Forum better or more useful, to you and/or others?

- Better profile: a separate website and communications strategy
- Broaden the network beyond Forum members
- Opportunities to present and share research
- Continue to chair and organise it so effectively!
- Stronger linkages between meetings e.g. access to all groups contacts on line; discussion forum; blogs/communications from forum members organisations.