

# WHY MEASURE IMPACT & EVALUATE

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## NPC: TRANSFORMING THE CHARITY SECTOR





Increasing the impact of charities

eg, impact-focused theories of change

Funder

Increasing the impact of funders

eg, effective commissioning

NPC works at the nexus between charities and funders

Consultancy
Think tank



Strengthening the partnership

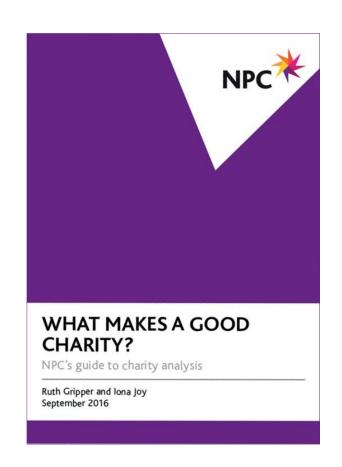
Eg, collaboration towards shared goals

#### WHY EVALUATE?



"The best organisations use data to inform decision-making <u>at</u> <u>every level</u> and are prepared to change in response to what the evidence tells them."

- Programme design
- Strategic decisions



#### WHY EVALUATE?





**Better decisions** by learning which charitable interventions likely to be most effective

Better equipped to deal with complexity of social issues



Improve day-to-day practice, become **more efficient**, get the most from our resources

**Learn** from our experiences and **improve** 



**More open** about what we do, to those we aim to serve, and to those that support our work

More accountable and credible

All of this leads to better outcomes and improved lives.

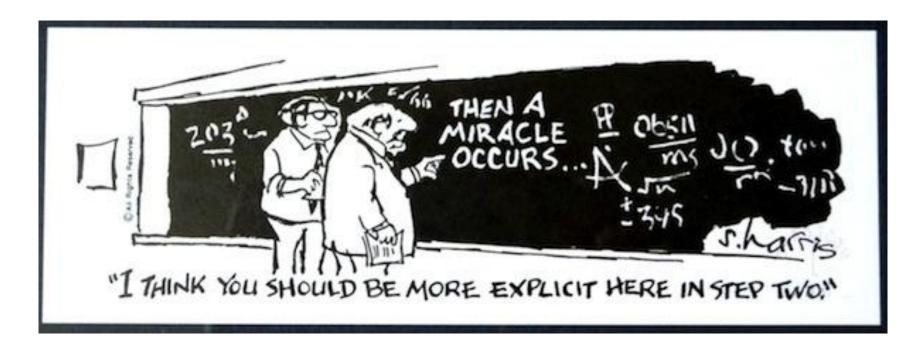
## FOUR PILLARS APPROACH TO EVALUATION





### THE IMPORTANCE OF OUTCOMES





Digital course attendance ----→ Safe and legal online

## THEORY OF CHANGE



activities → intermediate outcomes → final goals



A conceptual map of how activities lead to outcomes

## **COUNTERFACTUAL**



- Comparing the world with the intervention in it with what the world would be like without it.
- Control group
- Attribution

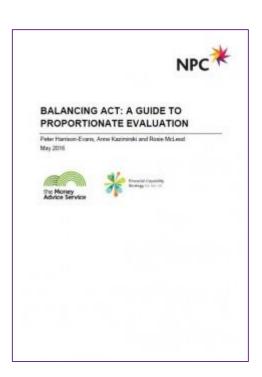


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5 types of data	3 Key questions	Frequency?	
User Data: The characteristics of the service users being reached	Reach: Is the intervention effective at	Routine	
<b>Engagement data:</b> The extent to which people are engaged. How often and for how long?	reaching, retaining, and engaging the target audience?	tine	
Feedback data: What service users thought of the intervention	Programme effectiveness: This data helps judge whether the service achieves what is wanted. In particular		
Outcome data: Short term changes or benefits users may have got from the intervention (eg changes in knowledge, attitudes and behaviour)	<ul> <li>Whether people like it?</li> <li>What the quality is like and whether it can be improved?</li> <li>Whether people benefit from it?</li> <li>Whether they make the positive changes intended</li> </ul>	Occasional	
Impact data: The long-term difference that has resulted from the intervention	Behaviour change: The difficult question about whether the change or outcomes projects help people achieve leads to long-term impact	Exceptional	

#### **DEVELOPING PROPORTIONATE APPROACH**



- What is the strength of the evidence already available?
- What are your evidence needs?
  - What do you need to know and who needs to know it?
  - What are your research questions?
- What's feasible given the resources available?
- What's feasible given the nature of the intervention(s)?
- What opportunities are there for working together?



### THE IMPACT CYCLE



