

**Rights, Indicators & Outcomes,**  
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## **Measuring Wellbeing and embedding evidence**

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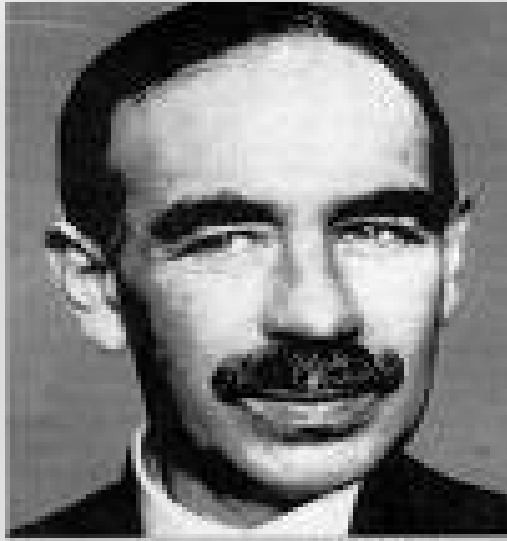


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No Data: No Problem:  
No Action



# Evidence based policy – the reality?



“...there is nothing a government hates more than to be well informed; for it makes the process of arriving at decisions much more difficult...”

John Maynard Keynes



# Embedding evidence in policy making

- Looking ahead
- In at the start
- Clarity re role of evidence
- Effective communication
- Working with specialists
- Maximising capacity - making more of available evidence
- Maximising capacity – working with the external research community
- Maintaining core values (trusted, objective, professional, expert, approachable, respected)



# Evidence based policy making in Wales: ten years on...



# The intentions of devolution and the role of evidence

- accessibility
- representativeness
- legitimacy
- openness
- participation
- innovation
- inclusiveness
- accountability

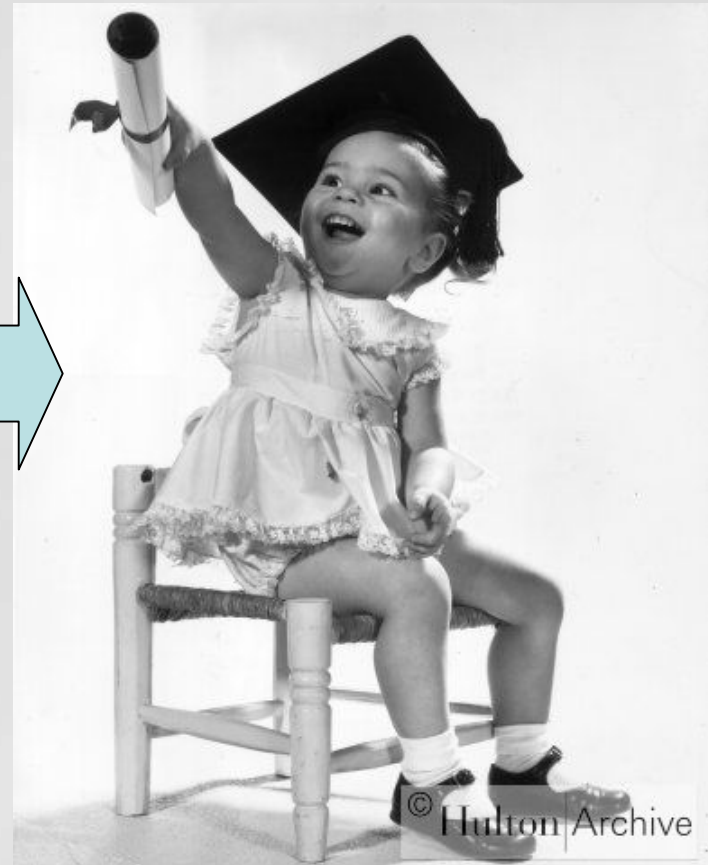
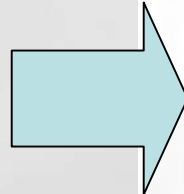


## Evidence & Devolution: some challenges & opportunities

- New policies
- competing pressures
- ad hoc use
- limited professional capacity
- small country and close proximity
- joining-up policy, practice & research
- addressing a range of interests & demands
- avoiding focus on narrow approaches
- addressing data deficits
- Linking data at national and local levels
- reporting & application of evidence
- increasing incentives



From unconscious incompetence ..... to consciously competent



## **Developing a system for monitoring C&YP's wellbeing**

National Level Outcomes and Indicators

Local Level Outcomes and Indicators

Organisational Level Outcomes and Indicators

Individual Level Outcomes and Indicators



# Developing a system for monitoring and evaluating C&YP's wellbeing in Wales

- Children & Young People's Well-being Monitor
- Outcome Agreements
- Outcomes Measurement Framework
- Demonstrating Success
- Evaluation of programmes and policies



# The children & young people's well-being monitor for Wales

- Seven Core Aims based on UNCRC
- Reports progress on WAG child poverty targets in context of wellbeing
- Multi-dimensional picture
- Reliable and up-to-date information
- Identifies evidence gaps
- Fulfils UN and Welsh Govt commitments
- 2008, 2010 and then every three years
- Embedding the Monitor within policy



# Indicators & evaluation

## Monitoring indicators can:

- Focus attention on C&YP's needs and rights
- Provide a national benchmark
- Provide a balanced picture across areas of C&YP's lives
- Highlight key trends
- Raise awareness of the issues
- Prompt action

## Evaluating impact can:

- Demonstrate efficacy and value for money
- Capture impact linked to policy
- Help improve programme design and delivery
- Increase knowledge about how to affect change.



# Evaluating the effectiveness of policies and programmes

- Mapping programmes
- Synthesising evidence from evaluations
- Developing evaluation methodologies
- Individual programme evaluation
- Complexity and systemic approaches



## Monitoring and evaluating well-being: some lessons so far...

- Indicators are important to highlight C&YP needs and rights, trends and progress
- But are indicators enough? What data don't we have yet? What will they tell us about impact?
- Evaluation of policies and practice important too
- Need to make links between different levels of government (and evidence)
- Carrots are important for healthy researchers but not enough by themselves



That's all folks!



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