



Assessing The Impact of Research and Knowledge Transfer and Exchange Activities: What, Why, When and How?

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Research has the potential to improve policy and practice, yet often it does not. There are many barriers to the use of research and a wide range of KTE activities have developed over the last two decades in an effort to increase the impact of research. These activities are often poorly documented and rarely evaluated. This presentation will discuss the challenges of assessing the impact of research and KTE activities. It will consider what, why, when and how impact assessment is/can be undertaken, and it will include some examples of impact assessment approaches and methods.

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Institute for Work and Health

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Sandra Nutley is Professor of Public Management at the University of Edinburgh Business School. She is also Director of the **Research Unit for Research Utilisation** (www.ruru.ac.uk), which investigates the use of social science research in public policy and service delivery settings. Prior to joining academia, Sandra worked in local government and she has since been seconded to several public sector organisations. Sandra's work on research use and evidence-informed policy and practice is captured in two books: *Using Evidence* (Nutley et al, 2007, Bristol: Policy Press) and *What Works* (Davies et al, 2000, Bristol: Policy Press). She has also published numerous academic and practitioner articles on this topic.