

Steering Group Criteria for Success

Steering Group Meeting – September 3rd 2012

We had a discussion around our criteria for success for this project. Each of the attendees at this meeting created a series of criteria which we can use as indicators for the success of the project. We do not need meet each of these – but they will provide a good basis for future discussion. These points tended cluster around particular themes:

Project Completion:

- 11 completed PR projects
- Majority (at least 8/11) practitioners finished the project
- All candidates complete and produce report and document for dissemination
- A report with clear suggestions for change

Practitioner-Researchers' Perceptions:

- PRs perceive that they have learnt new things
- Practitioner researchers and their organisations have a better understanding about the benefits of research

Partner Organisation Perceptions

- Positive feedback from partners
- Research shown to be productive, manageable and affordable
- Line managers and peers recognise personal development
- Raised profile of research in independent sector
- Effectively disseminated

Identifiable uses of research:

- Evidence of a conversation around the research in each organisation
- Widely, strongly, shared 'outputs' that look good and get used
- Practitioner research organisations perceive a benefit from being involved in the project
- Identifiable uses of practitioner-research projects in each organisation + impacts
- Each organisation recognises the practitioner's achievement – local presentation of findings
- Grounded in practice-improvement
- Understanding of each service-assessment process (Vocal/Midlothian)

Embedding research in organisations:

- Leads to more practitioner-research in the sector
- Practitioner-researchers feel enthused about research
- Increased understanding about research-use process by practitioners
- End of project (6 months) – candidates remain engaged with concept of being a practitioner-researcher (new ideas, relationships with mentors/peers)
- End of project (1 year on) – peer reviewed publications for some of the project (and conference presentations)
- Practice and research – inform one another, but are also separate where possible

- Better co-productive working
- Closer working relationships between organisations and individuals

Policy engagement:

- Link with Scottish Government policy drivers
- Interest from policy makers
- Connect with policy makers and stakeholders (older people!) – create conversation
- Recognition of programme by key stakeholders, e.g. older people, Care Inspectorate, Alzheimer's Scotland

Stakeholder engagement:

- Recognised by Care Inspectorate and Healthcare Improvement Scotland
- Local media interest following publication of collated report

Learning about Knowledge Exchange:

- Learning about how practitioner research can contribute to knowledge exchange
- Evaluation of project successful – manage to capture learning effectively
- Development and use of contribution analysis approach to evaluate project

Learning about Practitioner Research:

- New learning about practitioner-research
- Different outputs – but also at least some common outputs and lessons shared
- Lessons learned paper + conversation about practitioner-research – perhaps a handbook about designing and running a practitioner-research programme

Long-Term Plans

- Another programme
- More funding to keep going
- Follow-up on PROP project a year on – track long-term research use