



DEVELOPING THE USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE DATA ON SCOTLAND'S CIVIL SOCIETY

The Scottish Civil Society Data Partnership

Beginning the Conversation about your Charity's Data Needs:

An Evaluation Tool [2]

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Acknowledgements

'Beginning the Conversation about your Charity's Data Needs: An Evaluation Tool' is the second in a series of three evaluation tools designed to assist charities and other third sector organisations to reflect on their data needs and capabilities. The series was developed and authored by Dr Eleanor Burt, School of Management, University of St Andrews, in collaboration with Dr Shirley Otto, Independent Consultant, as part of Work Programme 2 of the Scottish Civil Society Data Partnership Programme (SCSDPP). Dr Burt leads on Work Programme 2. The SCSDPP is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (Award reference ES/M010465/1).

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Introduction

'Beginning the Conversation about your Charity's Data Needs: An Evaluation Tool' is the second in a series of three evaluation tools designed to assist charities and other third sector organisations to reflect upon their data needs and capabilities. Its purpose is simply to support more in-depth reflections about their current data capabilities and whether (and how) these might be developed.

For suggestions about how to use the tools please refer to *Conversations about your Charity's Data Needs - An Introduction to the Evaluation Tools series*.

For information about the development of the tools please refer to *Conversations about your Charity's Data Needs - An Introduction to the Evaluation Tools series*.

Questions for reflection:

1. What can data do for your organisation?
2. What sorts of data will it be helpful to have?
3. Where is the data to be found?
4. Which staff/volunteers/units within your organisation will need access to (which) data, for what purposes, and in what forms?
5. How will the data be obtained, managed, (appropriately) shared, analysed, evaluated and reported?
6. How will data governance be managed?
7. Is your organisational infrastructure (eg. people, culture, structure, processes, digital technologies, skills) capable of delivering a ‘data-informed’ organisation?
8. What needs to change if the organisation (or unit) is to become data-informed and how will the changes be delivered?
9. How will key stakeholders within the organisation (or unit) be persuaded of the need to invest in becoming data-informed, and how will sustainable investment be managed?
10. What are the implications of not becoming data-informed?