

Riding the Waves: Managing Enthusiasm and Interest Concerning Research Findings

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Outline

- Context
- Involvement of non-researchers
 - (1) Preparation
 - (2) Data collection
 - (3) Analysis and interpretation
 - (4) Dissemination
 - (5) Utilisation
- Impact
- Critical factors

Context

- Nature of the work
- Policy change in children's services
- Emerging research consensus: 'thick services'
- Non-researchers and evidence
- The neighbourhood: families and services

(1) Preparation

- Consortium of residents and professionals
- 'Solutions-based strategy'
- Involvement of researchers and funder

(2) Data collection

- Local interviewers
- Trained locally
- Designed and overseen by researchers

(3) Analysis and interpretation

- Workshops with consortium members and parents
- Qualitative analysis by multi-agency group
- Children's participation sessions
- Quantitative analysis by researchers with Project Leader

(4) Dissemination

- Report by researchers with Project Leader
- Public meeting and newsletter
- Media coverage
- Debate in Parliament

(5) Utilisation

- Service design, development and evaluation
- Advocacy with policy-makers

Impact

- *Immediate outcomes*
 - Distribution and turnout
 - Media coverage
 - Awareness and use
- (ii) *Intermediate outcomes*
 - Service design and development (10yr Strategy)
 - Government thinking and expenditure
- (iii) *Ultimate outcomes*
 - Surveys and RCTs

Critical factors

- Political context
- Research context
- Strategy
- Mix of 'spirit and science'
- Media management
- Funder involvement
- Leadership
- Structure of non-researcher involvement

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