Reading list for SURF Open Forum: The Control and Use of Evaluation in Regeneration. Perth 29.11.2007

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THE CONTROL AND USE OF EVALUATION IN REGENERATION

Ref No: B6516
Communities and Local Government
Learning to change neighbourhoods: lessons from the Guide Neighbourhoods Programme - evaluation report

Communities and Local Government Publications, PO Box 236, Wetherby LS23 7NB
2007   Pages: 114   Price: na   ISBN/CAIRS No:

> Presents the key lessons learned from the Guide Neighbourhoods Programme and suggests ways of taking forward the principle of citizen-led learning in community empowerment and turning the lessons into actions. Describes the Guide Neighbourhoods Programme and places it within a wider policy context. Examines the attitudes and approaches to delivering and sharing learning. Identifies the impacts of the Programme in terms of neighbourhood change, along with issues and options for future action.

Ref No: B5922

Land Use Consultants et al

Home Zones in Scotland evaluation report (Transport research series)

Scottish Executive Social Research, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ
2007   Pages: 73   Price: na   ISBN/CAIRS No: 9780755967155

Presents the findings from an evaluation of Home Zones initiative in Ormlie, Thurso; Dundee Royal Infirmary; Caledonian Crescent, Edinburgh; Alexander Terrace, Tillydrone, Aberdeen; Robert Street, Inverclyde; and Craighall Home Zone proposal, Stirling. Explains that the six year longitudinal study measured the impact of Home Zone status on traffic flow, speed pollution, noise, travel patterns, parking, and drivers' and residents' views of the benefits of the scheme. Considers the ways residents have participated in the Home Zone process, and the need for changes in the existing legal framework relating to the initiative. Finds that community involvement and empowerment are the principal benefits of the scheme; and that successful Home Zones are dependent on the commitment of those involved. Makes recommendations for change.

Ref No: A9396
Holden, Ray
Evaluation and local area regeneration, IN Local Work, No 77 2007, pp1-8 (whole issue)

Journal article.
2007   Pages: 8   Price: ISBN/CAIRS No:

Examines how evaluation findings can better inform regeneration policy. Draws on research involving a survey of evaluation activity by local regeneration bodies in the north west of England. Focuses on evaluations of Single Regeneration Budget Challenge Fund programmes, including short case studies of: Halton Borough Council; the East Bury Initiative; and Stockport Regeneration Programme. Considers issues such as: the importance of evaluation; the importance of timing; the form of evaluation; who undertakes the evaluation; and the dissemination of findings. Makes recommendations on the use of evaluation in regeneration.

Ref No: B4321
Oakman, Beverley; Smart Consultancy (Scotland) Ltd
Interim evaluation of the Community Voices Network (Report 88)

Communities Scotland, Thistle House, 91 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HE
2007   Pages: 56   Price: F   ISBN/CAIRS No:

Presents the findings of an interim evaluation of the Community Voices Network (CVN). Explains that CVN was established in 2005 as a "learning network" to help its members learn from each other's experiences, and find out what is happening in each other's communities in relation to community regeneration. Looks at the CVN's structures, membership and strategic linkages. Reviews CVN's activities and considers their relationship to the achievement of the CVN's core aims. Assesses the impact of CVN to date and its role in influencing policy. Finds a perception amongst some members that it is a "top down" initiative, and that there is a lack of connection between the national

dimension of the network and local structures and community engagement approaches. Makes a series of recommendations including how CVN's performance should be measured in the future.

Ref No: B4305
Communities and Local Government
Adjusting for optimism bias in regeneration projects and programmes: general guidance note

Communities and Local Government Publications, PO Box 236, Wetherby, West Yorkshire LS23 7NB
2007   Pages: 19   Price: na   ISBN/CAIRS No:

Defines an optimism bias as a term to describe the tendency for project appraisers to be over optimistic about project costs, duration and benefits. Identifies how to assess optimism bias in regeneration projects. Provides information about the techniques that can be used to assess the sensitivity of numerical indicators to optimism bias. Sets out uplift tables for both costs and duration and explains how optimism bias should be applied to projects. See also "Adjusting for optimism bias in Decent Homes Standard investment programmes: guidance note for HRA PFI schemes" (PLANEX Ref. B4306), and "Adjusting for optimism bias in Decent Homes Standard investment programmes: guidance notes for LSVTs and ALMOs" (PLANEX Ref. B4307).

Ref No: A7304
Taylor, Marilyn
Community participation in the real world: opportunities and pitfalls in new governance spaces, IN Urban Studies, Vol 44 No 2 Feb 2007, pp297-317

Journal article.
2007   Pages: 21   Price: ISBN/CAIRS No:

Discusses the shift from 'government' to 'governance' in recent years and its relevance for community participation. Outlines the New Labour approach to governance, local government modernisation and community engagement. Looks at governance theory and the concept of governmentality, which relates to the ways in which state power persists even when governing is increasingly devolved, and the possibility of 'active subjects' who can shape and influence the exercise of government. Applies the governmentality concept to two studies: an exploration of the role of the voluntary and community sector in the neighbourhood renewal policy process; and an evaluation of the government's Community Participation Programmes which supported the voluntary and community sector contribution to local strategic partnerships. Finds that community participants generally feel that their influence is limited. Looks at ways in which community participants can become active subjects and exercise power.

Ref No: B3657
Macpherson, Suzi ; Goodlad, Robina; McKenzie, Carol
Learning lessons from thematic social inclusion partnerships (SIPs) (Research report no 78)

Communities Scotland, Research and Evaluation, Thistle House, 91 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HE
2007   Pages: 28   Price: na   ISBN/CAIRS No:

Identifies the lessons which emerged from the practices of the Scottish Executive's thematic social inclusion partnerships SIPs, which focused on the social exclusion of

particular social groups. Draws on a review of published evaluation reports. Compares practices in thematic SIPs with those in area based SIPs. Finds that a range of distinct practices emerged within many of the thematic SIPs that differed from the area-based SIPs. Identifies lessons from the thematic SIPs on: partnership building; engaging communities; strategy development; and mainstreaming of SIP activities. Considers the overall lessons in terms of mainstreaming equalities, progressing local governance and achieving sustainability within local partnership working. See also 'An overview of the social inclusion partnership (SIP) programme' (PLANEX Ref. B3658).

Ref No: B3456
Fitzpatrick Associates
Evaluation of the RAPID (Revitalising Areas through Planning Investment and Development programme) final report

Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, D3n Aimhirgin, 43-49 Mespil Road, Dublin 4
2006   Pages: 109   Price: na   ISBN/CAIRS No:

Sets out the methodology underpinning the evaluation and examines the development of the Revitalising Areas through Planning, Investment and Development (RAPID) programme, considering the nature of planning and funding across all the designated areas and the activity progressed at local level. Looks at the implementation of the programme and details the findings from the survey of Area Implementation Teams. Discusses the implementation of the programme at the local level, examining broad terms of investment, prioritisation of resources, community and agency participation, and service integration. Considers progress made in relation to the RAPID principles and makes recommendations to drive forward more effective implementation in the future.

Ref No: A6589
Wright, John et al
Assessing the participatory potential of Britain's new deal for communities: opportunities for and constraints to 'bottom-up community participation', IN Policy Studies, Vol 27 No 4 Dec 2006, pp347-361

Journal article.
2006   Pages: 15   Price: ISBN/CAIRS No:

Assesses the New Deal for Communities' (NDC's) potential as a site for bottom-up community participation, based on a review of all NDC strategic and programme implementation policy documents. Looks at three questions in particular: what government wants communities to do; why it wants communities to do these things; and how it wants them done. Finds that the NDC's potential for bottom-up regeneration is limited. Discusses the ways in which the government would like to have communities involved in regeneration, through resident participation and partnership. Considers the government's motivations for community participation. Reports on the methods of accomplishing this, through the 'what works' system of policy development and by utilising the 'PM' self-assessment technique.

Ref No: B3410
ODS Consulting
Evaluation of the effective engagement of communities in regeneration: final baseline report (Report no 77)

Communities Scotland, Research and Evaluation, Thistle House, 91 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HE
2006   Pages: 118   Price: na   ISBN/CAIRS No:

Sets out the findings of research on the current experience of community engagement activity across Scotland. Looks at approaches to community engagement through: an analysis of 32 Regeneration Outcome Agreements (ROAs); a review of ROA annual reports from community planning partnerships; detailed investigation of seven community planning areas (Aberdeen, Dumfries and Galloway, north Glasgow, Orkney, West Dunbartonshire, West Lothian); interviews with officers involved in community planning; focus groups of community activists; and a seminar involving community members and officers. Provides information from the detailed investigations of community planning areas on: the community engagement structures; defining community engagement; the role of neighbourhood community action plans; the role of community councils, 'communities of interest', forums etc; adoption of the National Standards for Community Engagement; engaging with equality groups, and measuring effective community engagement.

Ref No: B3409
McQuaid, Ronald W; Greig, Malcolm; Lindsay, Colin
Approaches to evaluation in community regeneration (Report no 76)

Communities Scotland, Research and Evaluation, Thistle House, 91 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HE
2006   Pages: 51   Price: na   ISBN/CAIRS No:

Reports the findings of research on approaches to evaluation in community regeneration. Looks at existing approaches to evaluation research based on: a review of literature on impact assessment in regeneration and inclusion policy; a review of Scottish and UK guidance on priorities for evaluation methodologies including the Treasury 'Green Book' guidance and 'ROAMEF' models (Rationale, Objectives, Monitoring, Evaluation and Feedback); and a review of evaluation models used to assess previous regeneration activities such as Social Inclusion Partnerships, Better Neighbourhood Services Programmes, and New Deal for Communities. Highlights examples of good practice and lessons learnt. Discusses the application of specific evaluation and monitoring methods within national evaluation frameworks. Focuses on existing methodologies and issues such as evaluating outcomes and establishing baselines, placing findings in context, considering value for money, identifying additionality, comparators or controls, options appraisal, mainstreaming and leverage, capturing 'soft' outcomes, partnership, community engagement, equality proofing and diversity, and resourcing. Identifies key issues for consideration in the evaluation of regeneration programmes particularly what is measured, how it is measured and when it is measured, and who owns, oversees and leads the evaluation.

Ref No: Z9675
Rhodes, John; Tyler, Peter; Brennan, Angela
Assessing the effect of area based initiatives on local area outcomes: some thoughts based on the national evaluation of the Single Regeneration Budget in England, IN Urban Studies, Vol 42 No 11 Oct 2005, pp1919-1946

Journal article.
2005   Pages: 28   Price: ISBN/CAIRS No:

Considers how the impacts of area based initiatives upon quality of life outcomes can be assessed. Outlines the deployment of area based initiatives (ABIs) in England. Explores some limitations of conventional approaches to evaluating the achievements of ABIs. Demonstrates how the evaluation of ABIs can be extended to include evidence on outcomes that reflect the quality of life of those who live in deprived areas. Draws on findings from an evaluation of the Single Regeneration Budget (SRB) programme in England. Explores the methodology adopted to assess the achievements of the programme and the theory of change involved. Identifies the underlying regeneration approach adopted in several SRB case areas. Considers the impacts of the SRB initiatives.

Ref No: Z7358
Evans, Graeme
Measure for measure: evaluating the evidence of culture's contribution to regeneration, IN Urban Studies, Vol 42 No 5/6 May 2005, pp959-983

Journal article.
2005   Pages: 25   Price: ISBN/CAIRS No:

Considers issues relating to measuring and evaluating the success of culture-led regeneration projects. Highlights the growing demand for evidence-based policy evaluation and describes the key types of reporting and assessments that do occur. Describes the shift from an economic focus to recognition of the importance of social impacts and quality of life issues. Summarises three main approaches to understanding the role of cultural projects in regeneration. Notes that the literature provides evidence of both positive and negative effects associated with all three models. Outlines some examples of the types of evidence which can show culture's contribution to regeneration. Discusses issues relating to additionality and the sustainability of regeneration schemes.

Ref No: Z5238
Dunbavon, Faye; Hampshaw, Susan
The 'Grow your own' model of community development, IN Laria News, No 77 Feb 2005, pp16-17

Journal article.
2005   Pages: 2   Price: ISBN/CAIRS No:

Reports on a local evaluation of Doncaster New Deal for Communities' Resident Support Workers project, which involved recruiting and training five local residents as community development workers to drive forward regeneration in the area. Briefly outlines the methodology of the research and describes the findings. Looks at the range of roles the support workers now play in the community and the benefits of the scheme. Notes that there were some drawbacks to the 'grow your own' model but suggests that it has generated many positive outcomes.

Ref No: Y5502
Taylor, David; Balloch, Susan
The politics of evaluation: participation and policy implementation

Policy Press, c/o Marston Book Services Ltd, PO Box 269, Abingdon OX14 4YN
2005   Pages: 261   Price: £22.99   ISBN/CAIRS No: 1861346050

Recognises that evaluation has become a central tool in the development of contemporary social policy. Considers evaluation as an inherently political activity, as much about forms of governance as scientific practice. Outlines four broad issues to emphasise the theoretical perspectives and empirical data relating to: governance, participation, partnership, and learning. Provides different perspectives on the relationship between centrally imposed evaluations and local autonomy and governance. Explores key concerns emerging from service users and service-user organisations in relation to research and evaluation. Discusses the ideological basis of participation, the ownership of discourse, the purpose of research and evaluation, and the nature of research values. Considers the politics involved in evaluating types of partnerships; issues surrounding interagency evaluation, the structural divide between health and social care, the definition of boundaries, and funding issues. Considers evaluation as part of a learning process, contributing to decision-making, organisational learning and transferable knowledge.

Ref No: Y8241
SQW
**Good practice note 1: creating, using and updating a neighbourhood baseline
(Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder Programme)**

Neighbourhood Renewal Unit, 6th Floor, 6/G9 Eland House, Bressenden Place, London SW1E 5DU
2004   Pages: 28   Price: na   ISBN/CAIRS No:

Provides practical guidance on how to prepare, make use of, and update a neighbourhood baseline. Explains what a baseline is. Describes how to undertake each stage of preparing a baseline: choosing and collecting data; recording data; analysing and reporting data; identifying gaps in the data; and updating the baseline. Identifies the key statistics for inclusion in a baseline. Draws on good practice from the Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder programme.

Ref No: Y4005
House of Commons, Committee of Public Accounts
Committee of Public Accounts thirty-eighth report: an early progress report on the New Deal for Communities programme (HC 492 Session 2003-04)

The Stationery Office, PO Box 29, Norwich NR3 1GN
2004   Pages: 25   Price: na   ISBN/CAIRS No:

Reports the findings of the Committee of Public Accounts on: the place of the New Deal for Communities (NDC) programme in the wider efforts to regenerate deprived communities; its engagement with the community; and the effectiveness and sustainability of the programme. Discusses where NDC sits as an area-based initiative, in tackling deprivation. Examines how it differs from other programmes in that communities take responsibility for driving the initiative forward themselves. Assesses the monitoring and use of NDC funds and supports the development of a more coherent approach to its financial management and outcomes. Makes recommendations. Includes the formal minutes of evidence taken in relation to the report.

Ref No: Y3810
Communities Scotland
Community Regeneration Fund: guidance on Regeneration Outcome Agreements

Communities Scotland, Thistle House, 91 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HE
2004   Pages: 37   Price: na   ISBN/CAIRS No:

  Presents guidance on the required structure and content of community planning
  partnerships' Regeneration Outcome Agreements (ROAs), under the new Community
  Regeneration Fund, which is replacing the existing Social Inclusion Partnership (SIP) and
  Better Neighbourhood Services Fund (BNSF) programmes. Looks at the national priorities
  for community regeneration and the aims of the Closing the Opportunity Gap objectives.
  Describes how ROAs are intended to provide the strategic and operational framework to
  support the delivery of neighbourhood regeneration. Outlines the recommended content
  of the ROA covering: strategic context; analysis of need and targeting; outcomes and
  outputs; community engagement; managing the transition; and planned Community
  Regeneration Fund expenditure 2005-2008. Includes a menu of outcome indicators.

Ref No: Y2635

Shiel, Liz; Clark, Ian
**Early approaches to monitoring and evaluation of the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund
(Social research)**

Stationery Office Bookshop, 71 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH3 9AZ
2004   Pages: 26   Price: na   ISBN/CAIRS No: 075593704X

Considers best practice in monitoring and evaluating the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund
(BNSF). Looks at the quantification of resources allocated specifically to monitoring and
evaluation and questions whether there is a common definition and understanding of inputs,
outputs and outcomes. Identifies lessons learned and suggests that attempts should be made
to capture the 'soft outcomes' of regeneration programmes.

Ref No: Y1983
Clark, Caroline
Community participation: a self assessment toolkit for partnerships

Engage East Midlands, Nottingham Voluntary Action Centre, 7 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1
3FB
2004   Pages: 83   Price: na   ISBN/CAIRS No:

  Provides a self-assessment tool to support greater community and voluntary sector
  participation in regeneration partnerships across the East Midlands region. Presents an
  introduction to the subject, reviewing good practice and outlining the roles and tasks in
  each phase of community development. Includes a flowchart and index for reference.
  Discusses the following topics relating to the partnership lifecycle: designing the initial
  consultation process; designing a consultation event; diagnosing problematic consultation
  events; reconciling conflicting demands; funding for community participation; and
  securing agreement for 'big decisions'. Sets out self-assessment tools for the following
  phases: start up; planning; implementation; evaluation; and renewal.

Ref No: T9310
Burton, Paul
Community involvement in neighbourhood regeneration: stairway to heaven or road to nowhere? (CNR paper 13)

ESRC Centre for Neighbourhood Research, School for Policy Studies, 8 Priory Road, Bristol BS8 1TZ
2003   Pages: 35   Price: F   ISBN/CAIRS No:

Sets out to measure and analyse the impact of public involvement in regeneration. Argues that the practice of public involvement in neighbourhood regeneration work has yet to live up to its own ambitions. Suggests that many initiatives remain vulnerable to criticism that while participation may be good for those who have participated, it is usually limited to a small group of people. Reviews the available literature on public involvement in regeneration and develops a model of the essential elements of public involvement in neighbourhood regeneration. Contends that without this foundation there will be difficulties in developing a robust analysis. Argues that judging the effectiveness of public involvement requires the use of appropriate criteria and the avoidance of measuring success against crude notions of 'more is better'.

Ref No: T9085
Wilson, Mandy; Wilde, Pete
Benchmarking community participation: developing and implementing the Active Partners benchmarks

Joseph Rowntree Foundation, York Publishing Services Ltd, 64 Hallfield Road, York YO3 7XQ
2003   Pages: 43   Price: £13.95   ISBN/CAIRS No: 1859351018

Reports on the development and implementation of Active Partners, a benchmarking framework designed to assist in the planning, support, assessment and evaluation of community participation in regeneration. Looks at the development phase of the framework: the process of development; the initial hopes and fears; and the dimensions and benchmarks of community participation. Examines how the benchmarks were road tested: the process itself; the implementation of schemes and partnerships; community perspectives; the impact of Active Partners; and lessons for future implementation. Explores the forward strategy for the framework: developing the strategy; mapping the tasks; strategic proposals; and the challenges ahead.

Ref No: W2487
Trinnaman, John
Advantages and limitations of economic baseline analysis: some experiences from Yorkshire, IN Regions, No 240 Aug 2002, pp15-18

Journal article.
2002   Pages: 4   Price: ISBN/CAIRS No:

Describes some of the advances made in providing an economic evidence-base for regional and sub-regional economic development and regeneration programmes. Discusses the importance of evaluation and looks at difficulties experienced in the past. Examines the approaches and data sources used for baseline analysis in recent European Structural Fund programmes in Yorkshire and the Humber. Suggests that logical reasoning from analysis to strategy to intervention may constrain vision. Uses the Barnsley Business and Innovation Centre as a case study to show how it is sometimes necessary to try something which appears not to be justified by conventional analysis.

Sets out to explore the practical and conceptual dimensions of the debate on 'evidence-based policy' in defining what is evidence and how, where and by who should it be used in policy making. Explores the complex concerns in the context of the British government's emphasis on evidence-based policy. Provides an overview of the whole notion of evidence-based policy, outlining its origins and nature. Questions the extent to which it is solely a British preoccupation. Questions the concept of 'evidence' in relation to policy making. Highlights the distinction between the role of evidence in supporting a policy position as opposed to a policy shift. Examines how policy makers use evidence. Provides insights into experience in the United States