

A new cross-government evaluation service



About us

Set-up in 2016, the Open Innovation Team in HM Government operates like an in-house consultancy delivering analysis and advice to colleagues across government.

We deliver more than 30 policy projects per year for a wide range of departments, including DfE, FCDO, MoJ, Home Office, DfT and others.

Our unique partnership with UK universities gives us unrivalled access to academic expertise.

Summary

Supported by the Cabinet Office's [Evaluation Task Force](#), the Open Innovation Team is launching a new cross-government evaluation service.

Our aim is to make it cheaper and easier for colleagues to commission the design and delivery of high-quality evaluations.

We already have evaluation specialists in post and have begun to scope projects to deliver this year.

This pack gives more detail on our offer and how colleagues can commission us.

[Email](#) us if you think we might be able to help.

Our approach

We want to make it cheaper and easier for colleagues to commission the design and delivery of high-quality evaluations

Evaluation specialists

We're creating a team of in-house specialists who can design and deliver high-quality evaluations at a fraction of the price of external consultants.

Easy to commission

We're part of government so there's no need for a lengthy procurement process if you'd like to commission us. It can take as little as a week to scope and agree work.

Expert insight

We'll collaborate with academics and other experts from the Evaluation and Trial Advice Panel to ensure our work is of the highest quality.

Cross-gov partnership

We're partnering with the Evaluation Task Force and others to ensure we're joined up and adding maximum value to wider efforts.

Our services

We plan to concentrate on the scoping, design and delivery of evaluations, but we may also experiment with specialist training if there is demand



Scoping & design

Including evaluation design, commissioning support, distinct design tasks such as theory-of-change development, power calculations, feasibility and scoping studies



Conducting evaluations

Including full impact, process and VfM evaluations and identify existing programmes that could be evaluated using existing data



Specialist training

Design and deliver of specific specialist training sessions, with a focus on providing practical advice.

Case study: research bureaucracy

DSIT asked us to conduct a feasibility study on how they might evaluate work to reduce unnecessary research bureaucracy across the research ecosystem.



Following an [independent review](#) of unnecessary research bureaucracy, DSIT wanted advice on how to assess the impact of efforts to implement the review's recommendations

We consulted 17 external stakeholders and experts, delivered a theory-of-change workshop, investigated possible data sources and explored the pros, cons and challenges of different evaluation options.

We produced a feasibility report, including three evaluation options that offered varying depths of analysis, insight and resource commitment.



Contact us

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