



**SSRG**  
networking for social  
care research

40th Anniversary  
1972-2012

**SSRG Annual Workshop 2014 at **

## **Knowing or Believing?**

### **The Impact of Evidence and Ideology on Social Care and Health Policy, Practice and Performance**

**Thursday 27th March 2014**

**New Academic Building, London School of Economics**

This event comprises a range of plenary and concurrent group sessions in which speakers will discuss a range of contemporary issues (for example dementia, personal budgets, child protection, prevention, joint working, joint commissioning, user involvement etc) and the extent to which evidence is impacting on policy and practice both nationally and locally

In doing so, they will identify some of the facilitators, barriers and challenges that can be experienced - including occasions when managers, politicians (and sometimes academics) have a 'mental set' or lean toward their political/ideological version of reality rather than what the evidence is suggesting (where evidence = messages from research; performance monitoring; tacit knowledge; regulator reports etc)

Many of us may have experienced these issues in our workplace, particularly when there is pressure to meet targets or produce reports at short notice. Some examples of evidence being manipulated or misunderstood have been reported in the media: the way that the number of 'troubled families' was calculated; police mis-recording crime statistics and some hospital trusts failing to accurately monitor how long patients are waiting for treatment, and a recent report that suggested public health professionals working in local authorities believed that health decisions are being made based on politics rather than evidence.

The annual workshop won't have all the solutions, but there will be plenty to discuss with speakers and with colleagues from other localities and from different professional backgrounds - and plenty of ideas to take back to your workplace!

**Fees: SSRG member £90**

**Others £159 (includes a 1 year membership to SSRG)**

*Attendance at this event can be used as evidence of continuing professional development and 'certificates of attendance' will be provided (on request) for your CPD portfolio*

***This event is supported by:***

***NIHR School for Social Care Research (SCCR)***

***[www.sscr.nihr.ac.uk](http://www.sscr.nihr.ac.uk)***

**Social Services Research Group**

The network for research, information, planning and performance across social care and health services for children and adults

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## Booking Form

An emailable xls version of the booking form is available on the SSRG website [www.ssr.org.uk](http://www.ssr.org.uk)

Name: .....

Job Title: .....

Organisation/Agency: .....

Which client group do you primarily have responsibility for? (tick both if applicable) Children  Adults

Address: .....

.....

Tel: ..... Fax: .....

email (important\*): .....

Twitter Username: .....

Tweet Out: .....

I permit @SSRGUK to mention my registration to the event on Twitter

**Payment:** I enclose a cheque/please invoice (please mark 'x' in box):

**FEES:** SSRG member £90  Other £159\*

*\* Includes a 1 year membership to SSRG*

**PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO 'Social Services Research Group'**

**We regret that refunds can't be made after 20th March 2014**

Address for invoice (if different): .....

.....

Purchase Order No: ..... Please tick if purchase order is not required:

Please state if you have any access, diet or communication requirements:

.....

.....

Please return this form to: [jackie.watson@thinkingwisp.co.uk](mailto:jackie.watson@thinkingwisp.co.uk)

Jackie Watson, Wolvercott, The Street, Swannington, Norfolk, NR9 5NW

Tel/Ansaphone: 01603 261 951 (office hours only)

\* Confirmation and other information will be sent by email. Please state if you do not have an email address.

**CONFERENCE ORGANISER:** David Henderson [dhender421@aol.com](mailto:dhender421@aol.com)

# Knowing or Believing?

The Impact of Evidence and Ideology on Social Care and Health Policy, Practice and Performance

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## Programme

9.00: Registration and Coffee

9.50: Introduction: **Martin Stevens**, *Chair SSRG*

10.00: Welcome

10.10: Austerity, 'Transformation' and the Crisis in Social Work and Social Care  
**Michael Lavalette**, *Liverpool Hope University*

10.50: Break

11.15: Concurrent Sessions

(a) The Politics and Practice of Policy Piloting: Three Examples from Health and Social Care  
**Stephanie Ettelt**, *London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine*

(b) Inequalities in Children's Services Intervention Rates: New Evidence, Further Questions  
**Paul Bywaters**, *Coventry University*

(c) The Role of Evidence in Developing Guidelines and Quality Standards at NICE for Adults and Children Social Care **John McLean**, *NICE*

12.15: Lunch and **SSRG AGM**

1.15: Concurrent Sessions:

(a) Using the Adult Social Care Outcomes Tool (ASCOT) in the Assessment and Review Process  
**Cheryl Page and Louise Johnstone**, *Cumbria CC*

(b) Self-directed Support - Does the Evidence Support the Theory?  
**Colin Slasberg**, *Social Care Consultant*

(c) Accountability Without Control – An LA Perspective on 'Making a Difference for Children and Families' **John Pearce**, *Trafford MBC*

2.15: Concurrent Sessions: The Future?

(a) Do Personal Budgets Increase the Risk of Abuse? Potential and Challenges in Using Existing Data to Inform Policy

**Shereen Hussein Kings College and Mohamed Ismail**, *Analytical Research Ltd*

(b) Is Child Protection Shaping the Social Work Profession: Views from USA, Canada, Europe and England? **Mary Baginsky**, *Kings College*

(c) "The Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing": How Small Community and Voluntary Organisations Can Demonstrate Impact **Carolyn Barber**, *Wayfinder Associates*

3.15: Break

3.30: Reflection or Reaction: Factoids and Zombies  
**Jill Manthorpe**, *King's College London*

4.15: Discussion/Depart

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*The organisers and SSRG reserve the right to make any necessary amendments to the programme. In the event of cancellation by a speaker we will endeavour to offer alternatives.*

## Who Should Attend?

This event is intended for a wide audience, including managers, researchers, planning and evaluation staff and practitioners in

- local government
- health bodies
- the voluntary sector
- the independent sector
- universities and colleges

As usual with SSRG events, the seminar is intended to encourage discussion and networking.

## The Venue

**The New Academic Building, 54  
Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3LJ.**

The closest London Underground station is Holborn. Maps and accessibility information can be accessed at:  
<http://www.lse.ac.uk/mapsAndDirections/Home.aspx>

Travel Information from main line stations etc can be found at:  
<http://www.tfl.gov.uk/>



40th Anniversary  
1972-2012

*SSRG was established in 1972 by like-minded professionals working in social care, health and academia as a network to share information and good practice.*

*Forty years on, SSRG continues to be run by people who are dedicated to taking these principles forward, and do so as an unpaid add-on to their regular day job [www.ssrq.org.uk](http://www.ssrq.org.uk)*