Priorities for understanding, measuring and reporting impact

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Domains of interest

NIHR vision: To improve the health and wealth of the nation through research

• Health: Patient, carer, population and public benefit; addressing health inequalities; policy and practice development and change

• Wealth: Economic growth, efficiency, and effective use of resources; building and maintaining capacity and skills

• The value we add, the difference we make
Domains of interest

• Academic
• Education and training
• Cultural
• Political
• Economic
• Legal
• Societal
• Health and wellbeing
• Environmental
• Other…

Inputs to the research

Processes and activities associated with the research

Outputs or products of the research

Outcomes or immediate effects of the research

Impacts (such as changes, action)
Why us understanding research impact important to us?

As a public funder we need to:
• be accountable and transparent about how we use resources
• have evidence to make the case for continued and/or additional investment in research
• undertake analysis to understand our portfolio and the outputs, outcomes and impact of that portfolio

See Morgan Jones and Grant 2013 for more information relating to this see https://www.rand.org/pubs/external_publications/EP50298.html
But... are we missing a trick?

How can we harness our potential?

How can we:
• Be more than the sum of our parts?
• Link data systems together?
• Tell our impact stories that better reflect reality?
• Turn data into insight?

Talking is good, but action is better. What could we do that might make a difference:
• This week?
• This year?
• Over the next 2-3 years?
Researchfish Steering Board (RSB) – draft strategic priorities

- Enter information once, using it many times
- Maximising the value from the information gathered
- Working collaboratively to continuously improve the system, managing diversity to meet stakeholder needs
- Enhancing effective and consistent communication, consultation and engagement