



The Planning Inspectorate
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Evidence Based Planning and Monitoring

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Evidence: Use and Abuse

- Evidence - What is it?
- Need & Role
 - Policy making
 - Decision making
- Use
 - Understanding it
 - Acting on it
- Monitoring
 - Milestones
 - Measures



Evidence: What is it?

- Research
 - Results have wide application
- Surveys
 - Area specific: housing; employment; retail
- Monitoring
 - Noise; odour; traffic – impacts
 - Policy outcomes - milestones
- Modelling
 - Data based; physical; computer
- Standards – noise; visibility; etc
- Reasoned opinion based on fact
 - Not assertion!

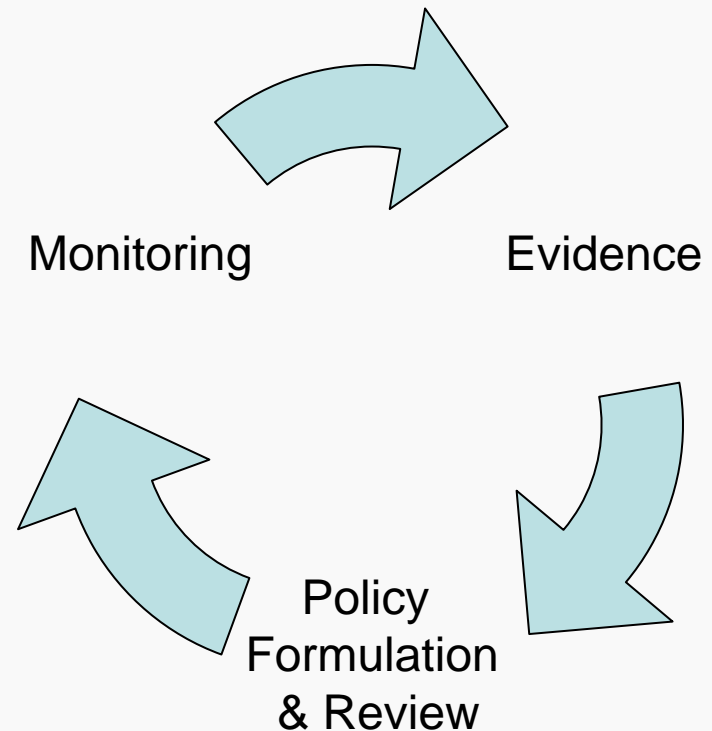


Need & Role

- Evidence first
 - Leading to policy development
 - Leading to the decision
 - Not vice-versa
- National Policy
 - National
 - Evidence → leading to political decisions
 - Climate change
 - Refining policy
 - Monitoring outcomes → Evidence

Need: Evidence & Local Policy

- Plan-led system
 - address area's needs
- Local Development Plan
 - Must be Evidence based
 - Lead to policy formulation
 - Not to justify afterwards
- Applies to all policy
 - SPG, AHDP
- Evidence should be used immediately
 - Not necessary to wait for policy





Need: Evidence & Decision making

- Cannot be based on Assertion
 - Challengeable
 - Expensive!
- Reasoned opinion, based on fact & analysis
 - Defensible
 - Cheaper!
- Support decisions in advance of policy
 - Affordable housing



Evidence: Using and Applying

- Understanding is the Key
 - Methodology
 - Assumptions
 - Caveats
 - Flaws, Gaps
- Act on it
 - Honestly
 - All of it
 - Do not ignore the inconvenient or difficult
- An indication of the right option/decision



Monitoring

- More than counting numbers
- Quality of results
 - Rural exception sites
 - Density
 - Funding sources
 - Land values
- Measures of success (Milestones)
 - Meaningful
 - Realistic