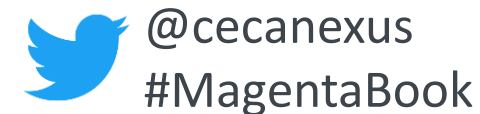




Handling Complexity in Policy Evaluation: Introducing the Magenta Book 2020 Supplementary Guide on Complexity

Tuesday 3rd March 2020

Church House, London



Steven Finch, Chair of Cross-Government Evaluation Group
Head of Evaluation, Department for Transport

Why we need a new edition of the Magenta Book and a Supplementary Guide on Handling Complexity in Policy Evaluation



HM Treasury



Government
Analysis

Magenta Book 2020

Steven Finch, DfT

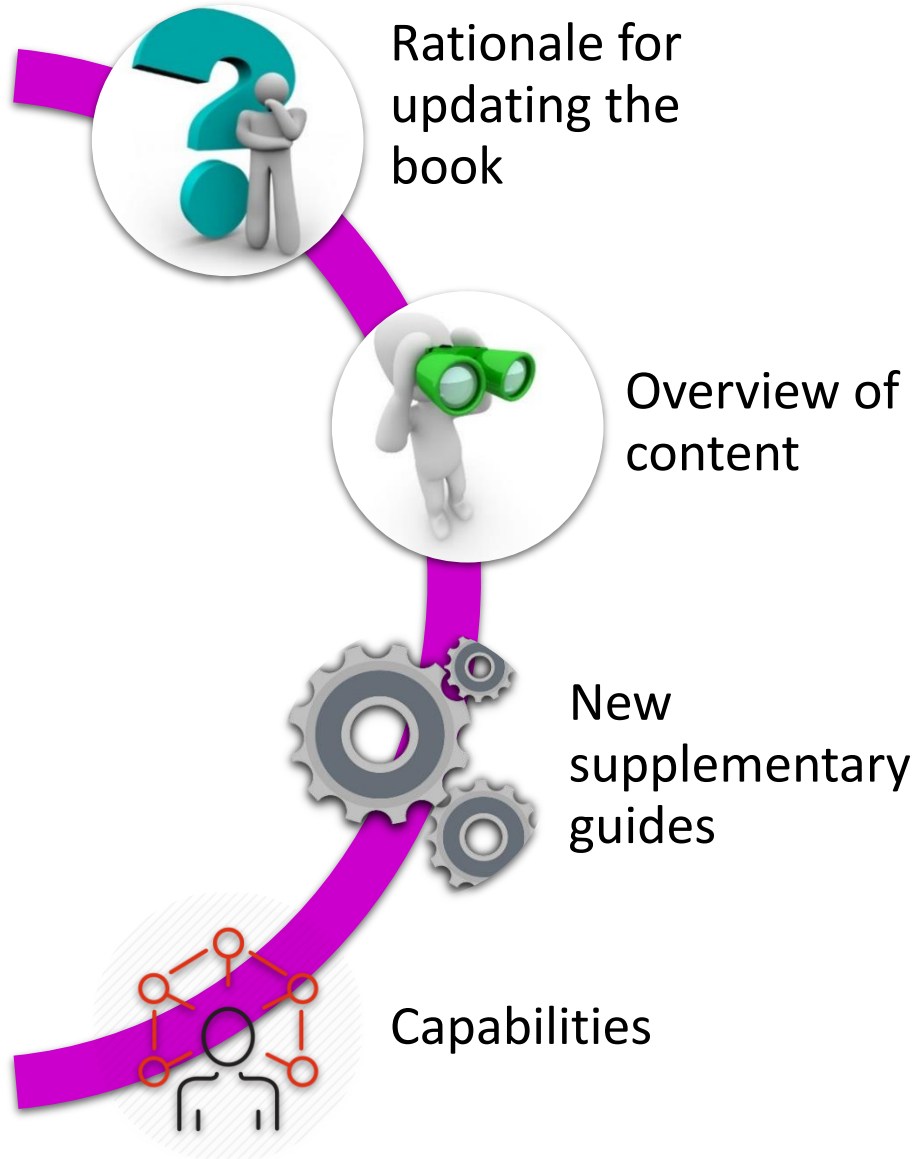
Chair, Cross-Government Evaluation Group

Why do we need the Magenta Book?

- Guidance for government policy and analysis professionals
- To help them build evaluation into an intervention's design and delivery
- So that they obtain high quality evaluation evidence
- That helps them to:
 - better target interventions,
 - reduce delivery risk,
 - maximise the chance of achieving desired objectives and
 - increase our understanding of what works;
- To support delivering value from public spending and improved outcomes for citizens.

Magenta Book 2020

What's new?



Rationale for Updating

- Experimentation
- What works
- Methods ++
- Complexity
- Green Book
- Value for spending



Overview of content

- 1: Why, how and when to evaluate?**
- 2: Evaluation scoping**
- 3: Evaluation methods**
- 4: Data collection, data access and data linking**
- 5: Managing evaluations**
- 6: Use & Dissemination**
- 7: Evaluation capabilities**



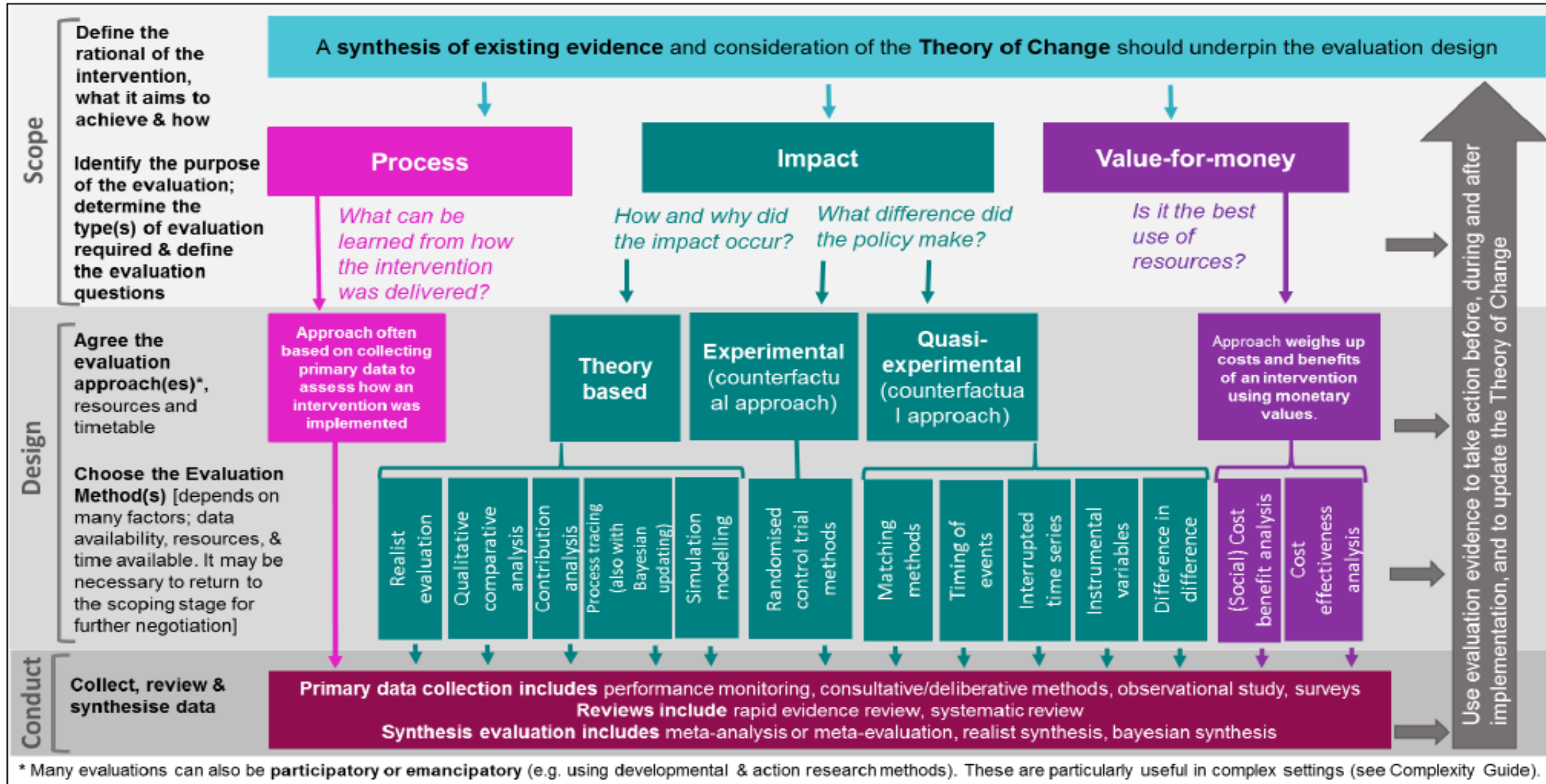
Overview of content

Approaches and methods

- **Process evaluation**
- **Impact evaluation**
 - Experimental and quasi-experimental
 - Theory-based
- **Value-for-money evaluation**
- Synthesis
- Generic research methods



Approaches and Methods



New supplementary guides

- Quality in Qualitative Evaluation (remained)
- Realist Evaluation *(new)*
- Handling Complexity in Policy Evaluation *(new)*
- Government Analytical Evaluation Capabilities Framework *(new)*
- Guidance for Conducting Regulatory Post Implementation Reviews (PIR) *(new)*.



Capabilities

Framework and self-assessment tool

Government Analytical Evaluation Capabilities Framework

To assess knowledge and skills needed at each stage of evaluation activity

- Introduction
- FAQs
- Framework

Government Analytical Evaluation Capabilities Framework

Evaluation Manager Self-Assessment

The assessment below and "skill score" (on the results page) are designed to help you think about your current evaluation capabilities and where you have strengths, or areas for development. For each statement select your level of experience: basic, working, detailed or expert knowledge. The results will help you think about where you might want to focus your learning and development.

Skills area	Evaluation skill or capability	I would rate my current experience as...					Reset the responses
		No knowledge or experience	Basic or limited knowledge or experience	Working knowledge and practical experience	Detailed knowledge and significant experience	Expert knowledge and experience	
Scoping	Understanding and communicating the rationale for evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't forget to answer every statement
	Understanding and constructing a theory of change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Identifying the right evaluation design for the policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't forget to answer every statement
	Producing a proportionate and appropriate evaluation plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Leading and managing	Leading and managing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Home page | Self-Assessment | Results | Action Plan

Scoping; Leading and Managing; Methods; Use and Dissemination



HM Treasury



Government
Analysis

Magenta Book 2020

Steven Finch, DfT

Chair, Cross-Government Evaluation Group