

Evidence-informed policy and practice: taking the account and agenda forward

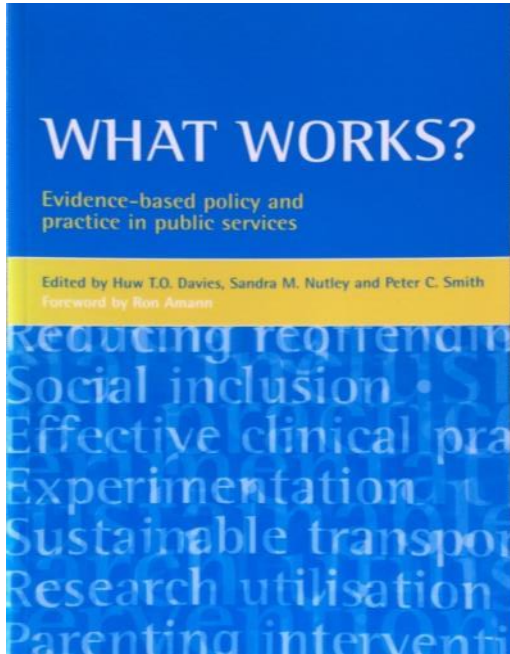


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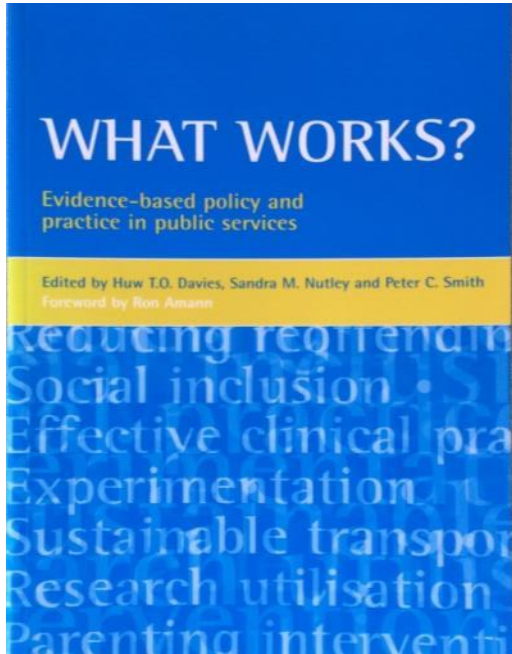


Policy Press, 2000

Context

- ‘What counts is what works’
- Relative optimism
- Substantial investment in evidence-informed policy and practice (EIPP)





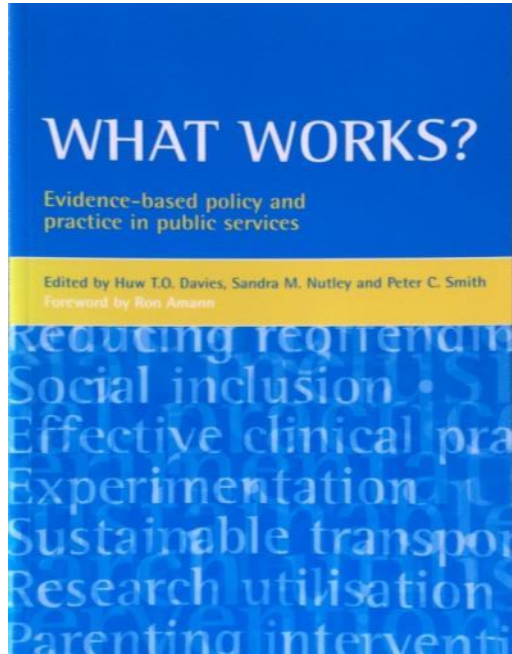
Policy Press, 2000

Key features

- UK-focused
- Traced developments in 8 policy areas
- Considered 5 cross-cutting themes
- Written for broad audience
- Broadly supportive of WW agenda

Reach

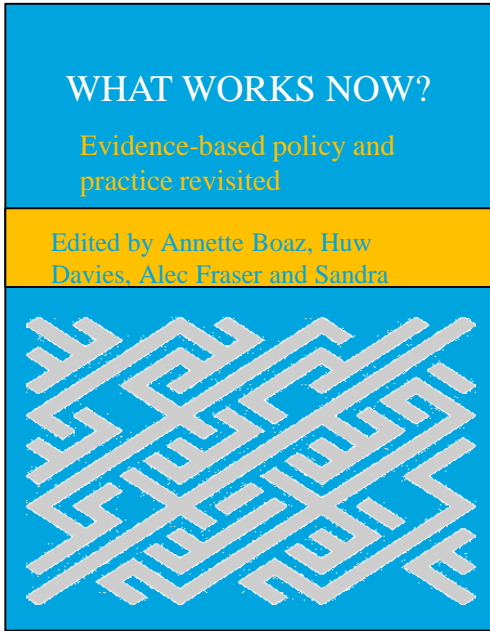
- Widely purchased
- Became a reference point for debates about EIPP



Policy Press, 2000



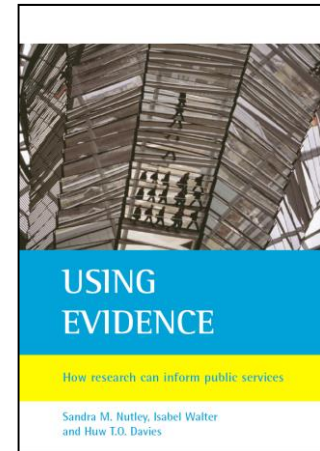




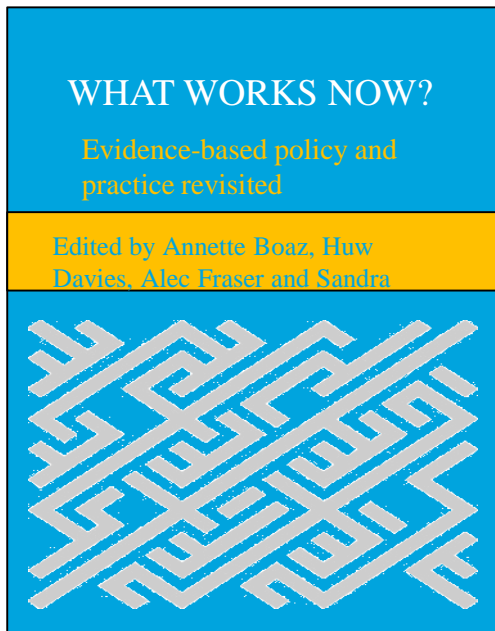
Policy Press, 2018/9

Aim

- Overview of current state of field and key changes since 2000
- More a successor text than an update



Policy Press, 2007

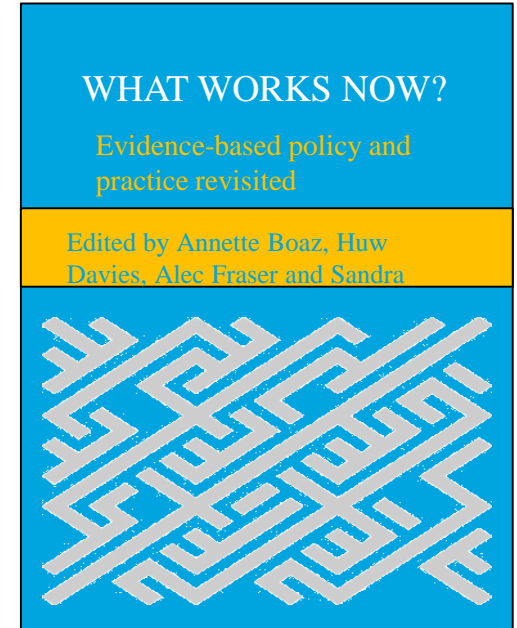
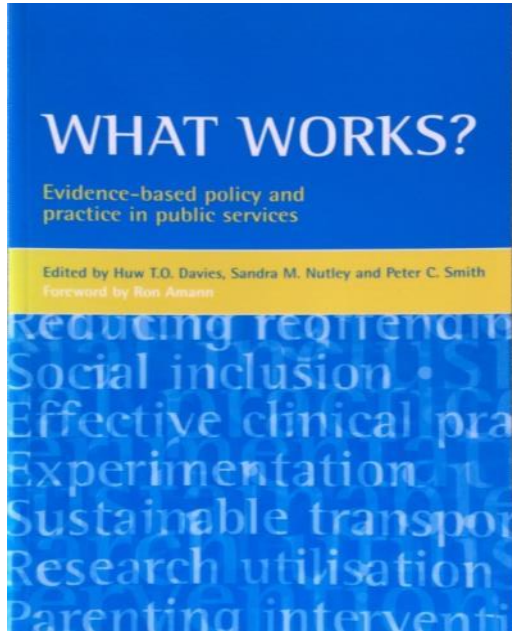


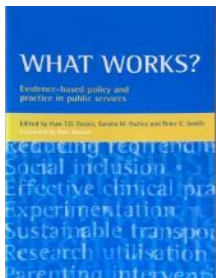
Policy Press, 2018/9

Key features

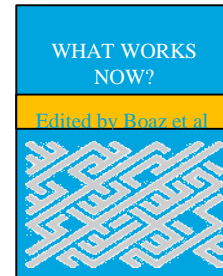
- Still cross-sector but amended line-up
- Still UK-focused but more international commentary/ comparison
- Partly reframed thematic analysis
- Still aimed at broad audience
- Still supportive of broad EIPP agenda

Reflections on what has changed

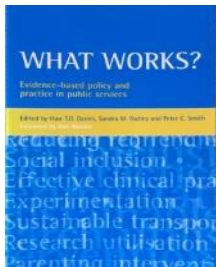




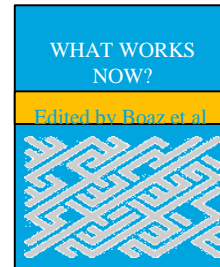
Research, policy & practice drivers and funding arrangements influencing EIPP



- Greater need to demonstrate impact (e.g. REF and government outcome monitoring frameworks)
- More explicit, evidence-related registration and promotion criteria for professionals
- Deep public expenditure cuts



Increased range of initiatives and resources to support EIPP



- More advocacy & practical guidance resources
- Better access to relevant evidence
- Wider range of books and articles covering different angles and subject areas
- UK still a leader?



"The **What Works Network** will bring a real **step-change** to our evidence **generating capabilities**"
Danny Alexander, Former Chief Secretary to the Treasury



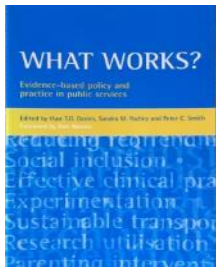


A lot has remained the same



- Many EIPP initiatives still centrally-driven (but not so directive?)
- Still focused on what works and RCTs (but some widening of questions and forms of relevant knowledge)
- Continuing emphasis on evidence push
- Continuance of sector & disciplinary silos
- Support for EIPP undermined by actions of key players and evidence rhetoric co-opted by vested interests





There are pockets of innovation



- Promising bottom-up and partnership-based initiatives around EIPP
- Greater appreciation & examples of inter-disciplinarity & joined-up working to achieve EIPP
- Innovative funding programmes for understanding and improving evidence use

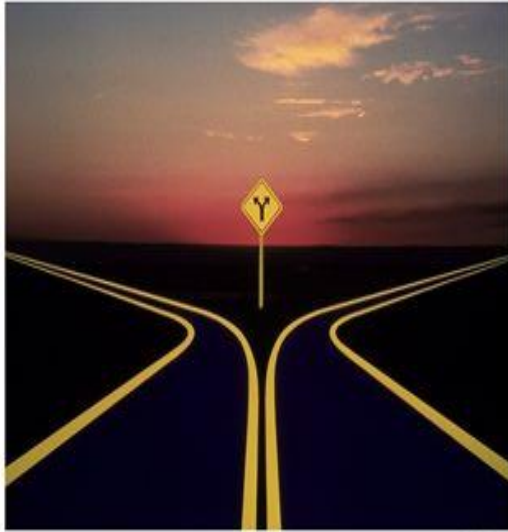
research
in practice

Sustainability
agenda

CLAHRCs



The next 20 years?



Future directions partly depend on:

- Impact of current political climate
- Future public spending decisions

Hopes:

- Bottom-up initiatives and research-practice partnerships blossoming
- Greater marshalling of knowledge & evidence to answer more than what works