

Evidence into practice: a local view

Christina Gray

Director of Public Health

Evidence into practice – a local view

- The Public Health Project
- Three key principles
- Evidence in action
- Navigating the territory



“The **art** and **science**
of preventing disease, prolonging life and
promoting health through the **organized efforts**
of **society**”

(Acheson, 1988; WHO)

The democratic principle

- Elected members are the council
- Cabinet is the 'executive'
- Actions and decisions are publicly accountable
- And formally scrutinised
- Different views, perspectives, experiences
- Resource allocation

'organised efforts



The Narrative Principle

'Society...'

- Beliefs
- Behaviours
- Custom and norms
- Culture
- Perspective
- Context
- Power
- Multiple legitimate realities
- Complexity
- Systems



The (Social) Scientific Principle

'art and science'

- Development of human knowledge
- Betterment of society
- Weight of evidence
- Peer review
- Cause or association or insight
- Systematic Inquiry



Spot the evidence

PUBLIC HEALTH IN ACTION

Joint action on Period Dignity

<https://www.bristolonecity.com/one-city-plan/>

- Where is the 'evidence'?
- Creating a shared purpose
- Mobilising commitment, energy, resources
- 20% of Bristol's children in low income homes
- *'the central role of women in society has ensured the stability, progress and long-term development of nations'* WHO

BRISTOL
ONE CITY

What evidence matters locally?

- Efficacy
- **Impact**
- Outcome
- **Economic**
- Predictive
- Quantitative
- Qualitative
- Lived experience
- Proxy
- **Retrospective** / prospective
- Short term /Long Term





Metatheory

Our theory of theories ?

Epistemology

How do we know?

Paradigm

How do we see and interpret?

Research method creates knowledge.



But there are multiple realities at play, all of the time.

We all need to be paradigm literate and pragmatic to get evidence into local practice.