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# Evaluation Prizes 2023

- Data Analytics in Evaluation
- Early Career Evaluator
- Innovation in Methodologies

#ukesconf23

# Partnering with Ipsos UK and RSM UK

“We are thrilled to be working in partnership with both RSM UK and Ipsos UK this year to launch three evaluation prizes - the first recognises the growing and impactful use of **Data Analytics in Evaluation**, the second the impact and efforts of **Early Career Evaluators**, and the third novel and **Innovative Methods**. We hope you will seize these opportunities and we look forward to your applications!”



*Meera Craston,  
Executive Director,  
UK Evaluation Society*

# Purpose and Overview - Evaluation Prizes

## A celebration of the accomplishments of the evaluation profession

- Desire to promote and celebrate the achievements of members of the evaluation profession, and to support their development
- Three £500 prizes
  - Data Analytics in Evaluation Prize
  - Early Career Evaluator Prize
  - Innovation in Methodologies Prize
- Eligibility: current UK Evaluation Society membership
- Simple application process
- Application deadline Wednesday 26th of July
- Winners notified end September
- Prizes presented at the UK Evaluation Society Conference in early October







**RSM**

**UK  
Evaluation  
Society**

# Data Analytics in Evaluation

Eligibility criteria and process

# Partnering with RSM UK

“RSM is delighted to sponsor the prize for data analytics in evaluation – applying data innovation to policy evaluation is an area that we are passionate about – this is an emerging field and offers the opportunity to generate new insights and maximise the impacts of evaluation.”



*Jenny Irwin,  
Partner RSM UK,  
Strategy Economics and  
Policy Consulting*

# An Introduction to RSM UK Consulting

## RSM UK Consulting

- Our Strategy Economics and Consulting team has over 70 professionals specialising in programme and policy evaluation, analytics, economics and impact assessment.
- We are part of a wider consulting team of over a thousand staff, and an integrated team at RSM UK of nearly five thousand operating from 31 locations across the UK.

## Services

- Established services in process, impact and economic evaluation. Specialist capability teams with proven data analytics approaches, quantitative, qualitative, and economic methods.
- Specialist industry focuses across healthcare, education, justice, third sector and communities, housing and regeneration, economic development, energy and environment, science and innovation.

## Experience

- A team with over 30 years' worth of experience evaluating publicly-funded services, demonstrating impacts and making recommendations to increase value for money.
- Combining expertise in quantitative and qualitative research, evaluation and data analytics, with in-depth industry knowledge.

# Data Analytics in Evaluation - Prize Description

This prize recognises the growth in the application of data innovation in policy evaluation and celebrates the opportunities this emerging field continues to create

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA\*

- Open to individuals or teams in any area of evaluation
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate innovative contributions that they as an individual or team have made in relation to the application of data analytics in evaluation. This may include innovative development/use of one or more of the following:
  - 1. Data Sources** - e.g., remotely-sensed data, satellite imagery, social media data, web scraping
  - 2. Analytical Methods** - e.g., geospatial analysis, natural language processing, sentiment analysis, machine learning, predictive analysis
  - 3. Dissemination of Results** - e.g., interactive visualisations and dashboards

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications should include:

- Your evaluation career history (max 250 words)
- The rationale for your application (500 words) including:
  - 1.** Clarity on the category/categories of innovative development/use (1-3) upon which your application is based
  - 2.** A succinct explanation about the projects/activities/action you are putting forward
  - 3.** What has changed as a result, how and why
  - 4.** An account of the specific contribution/s you made to the projects/activities/action
- Evidence to demonstrate the contributions you have made and the resultant impact, including references

\*Please note that previous UKES prize winners are not eligible to apply, and all applicants must be UKES members



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# Early Career Evaluator Prize

Eligibility criteria and process





# Partnering with Ipsos UK

“This will be the fourth time that Ipsos has sponsored the Early Career Evaluator Prize. We have seen some great evaluators come through this prize, and this year presents another opportunity for those starting out in evaluation to showcase their work and the impact they are having.

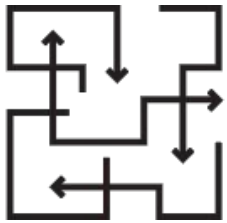
Having developed my own evaluation career through academia and consulting, I know that skilled evaluators come from many walks of life and I am excited to see this year’s entries.”



***Raynette Bierman,  
Associate Director and  
Education, Children &  
Families Evaluation Lead  
Ipsos UK***

# An Introduction - Ipsos UK Public Affairs

UK's leading and largest social research and evaluation organisation



Covers full spectrum of policy areas including Energy and Environment; Local Regeneration, Culture & Society; Health and Social Care; Security and Cohesion; Education and Skills; Technology and AI; Trade, Innovation and Enterprise; and Transport and Infrastructure.



300 multidisciplinary staff, incl. 50+ specialist evaluators and economists.



Extensive experience in large-scale, complex evaluations across all UK Central & Regional Government Departments, European and international clients across the public and not-for-profit sectors



Specialist units: Policy & Evaluation, Strategy & Advisory, International Social Research, Probability Surveys, Social Research Methods, Public Sector Communications, Qualitative Research & Engagement and Behavioural Science

# Early Career Evaluator - Prize Description

This prize recognises early career evaluators who have made a significant contribution to evaluation

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA\*

- Open to early career evaluators in any area of evaluation
- Applicants must demonstrate they have a maximum of five years of evaluation experience
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate at least one of the following:
  - 1. Impactful Work:** major contribution to evaluations that have had a transformational change on policy or society
  - 2. Effective Use of Evaluation Approaches:** in a way that (through your application) has notably increased the quality and robustness of evaluation findings
  - 3. Furthering Evaluation within a Particular Sector:** helping to embed evaluation practice and an understanding of its value within a particular sector
  - 4. Capability Building:** supporting the development of evaluation skills within a particular sector

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications should include:

- Your evaluation career history (max 250 words)
- The rationale for your application (500 words) including:
  - 1.** Clarity on the eligibility category (1-4) upon which your application is based, including information to show how your inputs led you to select the relevant category
  - 2.** A succinct explanation about the projects/activities/action you are putting forward
  - 3.** What has changed as a result, how and why
  - 4.** An account of the specific contribution/s you made to the projects/activities/action
- Evidence to demonstrate the contributions you have made and the resultant impact, including 1-2 references

\*Please note that previous UKES prize winners are not eligible to apply, and all applicants must be UKES members



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# Innovation in Methodologies Prize

Eligibility criteria and process

# Partnering with Ipsos UK

“Ipsos is delighted to be sponsoring the UK Evaluation Society prize for Innovation in Evaluation for the third year in a row.

We are working in an exciting time for evaluation, with policymakers and implementers increasingly recognising its importance. Yet, the methodological challenges of evaluating impact in a complex society persist. That’s why Ipsos recognises innovation as critical for evaluation quality and is excited to review the entries to this prize!”



*Laura Hayward*  
*Deputy Head of Evaluation,*  
*Ipsos UK*

# Innovation in Methodologies - Prize Description

This prize recognises individuals or teams that have introduced effective novel thinking with respect to methods, to the evaluation profession

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA\*

- Open to individuals or teams in any area of evaluation
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate the contributions that they as an individual or team have made in relation to at least one of the following:
  1. Enhancing/bringing together existing techniques
  2. Developing novel methods
  3. Using new technology
  4. Applying learning from another discipline
  5. Bringing new thinking/insights to an existing issue

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Your/your team's application should include:

- Your/the team's evaluation career history (max 250 words)
- The rationale for your application (500 words) including:
  1. A succinct explanation of the specific methodological innovation or novel thinking you/the team are putting forward
  2. What has changed as a result, how and why
  3. An account of the specific contribution you/the team made to the projects/activities
- Evidence to demonstrate the contributions you/the team has/have made and the resultant impact, including references

\*Please note that previous UKES prize winners are not eligible to apply, and all applicants (individuals and team members) must be UKES members



A man in a blue shirt is sitting at a desk, working on a laptop. The background is a wooden wall. A cup of coffee is on the desk to the left of the laptop.

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# Assessment and Submission Process

Eligibility Criteria and Process

# Assessment Criteria and Process

Each application will be judged on its individual merit and the strengths of the supporting evidence provided

## ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- Clarity of applicant's communication of achievement
- Demonstration of evidence for what you claim to have achieved
- Quality of innovation (in what way is it innovative)
- Support from 1-2 credible referees
- Scale of impact
- Depth of impact

*Please note that any applications that exceed the prescribed word limits will be assessed on the basis of the initial 250/500 words provided in each section. Any excess content will not be considered.*

## ASSESSMENT PANEL AND PROCESS

- The assessment panels will comprise both Ipsos UK or RSM UK Evaluation Directors and UKES Council Members
- The prizes will be awarded to the individual or team assessed as best overall within the relevant prize category
- In the event that no applications in a prize category meet the required standard, no prize will be awarded in that category

# Timeline and Submission Process

Each application will be judged on its individual merit and the strengths of the supporting evidence provided

## APPLICATION AND ASSESSMENT TIMELINE

- Application deadline Wednesday the 26th of July
- Prize winners notified end of September
- Announcement of prizes at the UK Evaluation Society Conference in October

## SUBMISSION PROCESS

- Please send your application to [hello@evaluation.org.uk](mailto:hello@evaluation.org.uk), **Subject: Conference Prize**
- All applications should include:
  - Name of main applicant/s and the organisation/s they are affiliated with
  - E-mail contact address
  - Title of submission
  - Confirmation that the applicant/s hold current UK Evaluation Society membership
- Confirmation of receipt of your application will be provided





**Thank you**

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